



## CHILDREN AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE 6 July 2021

**Subject Heading:**

**Integrated Adolescent Safeguarding  
Service (IASS) Update**

**SLT Lead:**

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**Policy context:**

The IASS was formed in response to the Adolescent Safeguarding Strategy and aims to better identify and support children and young people vulnerable to exploitation in line with Communities theme. This approach acknowledges the impact of places and spaces upon young people and is consistent in delivering the Places outcomes.

### SUMMARY

As with many other London boroughs, Havering is increasingly seeing the effects of serious youth violence, the pandemic, criminal gang activity and lack of hope impacting on our children and young people. As a response Havering has developed an 'Adolescent Safeguarding' approach that focusses on the needs of 10-18 year olds (up to 25 with SEND) where risks are outside the familial context. This report updates on the progress made to date and the next steps.

Our approach is preventative, multi-disciplinary and long term, to better safeguard children and young people vulnerable to a range of exploitation factors. Our strategy is to improve current interventions by bringing services together whilst seeking to plan and intervene earlier. This two-fold approach is consistent with the Ofsted improvement plan, the Youth Justice Board Strategic Plan 2021-24 and the Community Safety partnership priorities.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to note the content of this report as an update on the borough's approach to multi-disciplinary adolescent safeguarding.

## REPORT DETAIL

1. In Havering, we are seeing the consequences of the pandemic compound existing concerns for young people. As we come out of lockdown restrictions, it is vital that we maintain our attention to the health, wellbeing and safety implications for young people who experience harm at home as well as for young people who experience harm outside of home. As children have returned to education settings, we have seen an increase in emotional wellbeing and behavioural concerns. We are conscious that deprivation factors, which are recognised as precursors for young people's experiences of extra-familial harm, have been compounded by school closures and economic uncertainty, leading to increased risk and safety factors. Extra-familial safety concerns include those online and in virtual spaces.
  - 1.1 Now more than ever, it is vital that we enable young people to sustain positive relationships via joining up our system of services that provide help and intervention for young people, and to develop better supportive and protective structures outside of our services.
  - 1.2 Havering is committed to building and embedding an early intervention approach to adolescent safeguarding for 10-18-year olds (up to 25 with SEND).
  - 1.3 We have been working to join up approaches to early intervention and safeguarding that offer social and contextual solutions to harm. Our approach makes links between factors such as exploitation, missing children, serious youth violence, trafficking, harmful sexual behaviour, and domestic abuse.
  - 1.4 Since Feb 2020, we have continued to drive forward our adolescent safeguarding strategy with a committed focus on the four priority areas:
    - 1.4.1 **Reviewing and updating operational arrangements for exploitation and missing** to make sure we have in place the right protocols and

procedures for management oversight, joint analysis, planning tools, meetings and for our early intervention offer. We have updated the IASS Outcomes and presented to the Havering Safeguarding Children Partnership (Appendix A)

- 1.4.2 **Developing the Multi-disciplinary Integrated Adolescent Safeguarding Service (IASS)** bringing together youth services (including targeted youth services); Youth Offending; Virtual school; Child Sexual Exploitation / Missing coordination; clinical health posts and analysis of data to enable earlier identification of children vulnerable to criminal exploitation and serious group violence. Teams are in place and service modelling work has commenced.
- 1.4.3 **Take collective responsibility to join up our data analysis and information sharing** to enable our integrated offer of early intervention and support that will prevent young people from harm, exploitation, and involvement in serious violence. Our data analyst has been in post since April and is in the process of agreeing access to partner agency data systems and establishing an IASS Power BI dashboard.
- 1.4.4 **Create innovative training and development opportunities to build capacity across the partnership for early intervention and adolescent safeguarding** – based in new practice approaches for professionals to improve their work with young people. Case formulation support and case-shadowing opportunities in place. Risk Identification Tool workshops delivered. Early discussion has taken place to review IASS position at the front door within Children’s Services.
- 1.5 Current and future priorities for the IASS are to continue to progress work across the four priority areas as well as reviewing our Exploitation Protocol, embedding a restorative and trauma-informed practice model and developing a communications plan and a workforce development strategy
- 1.6 Additionally our data analyst is working to improve Havering data sets with regards to the profile of young people and their presenting needs and concerns; and streamline operational risk management processes to clearly identify young people of concern.
- 1.7 A key area of work continues to be our action on disproportionality and building on the forthcoming opportunity for independent scrutiny of HSCP to ensure partnership commitment to anti-racism and tackling disproportionality and ensuring proportionate safe pathways for young people in Havering.

- 1.8 A proposal for audit of our safeguarding work with young people has been progressed via the tenacious leadership of the data and performance lead.
- 1.9 Quality Assurance work continues to drive performance and improve practice.

**IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

**Financial implications and risks:** Any potential financial risk due to work to be done described in the paper will be covered by the 2021-22 Children's budget.

**Legal implications and risks:** There are no apparent legal implications in noting the content of the report

**Human Resources implications and risks:** The recommendations made in this report do not give rise to any identifiable HR risks or implications that would affect either the Council or its workforce.

**Equalities implications and risks:** Any work undertaken within the adolescent safeguarding remit will be considered in line with the Public Sector Equality Duty to ensure there are only neutral and positive effects of implementing any future changes.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

**Appendix A**

***PARTNERSHIP APPROACH TO PERFORMANCE***

<b>THEME</b>	<b>PROCESS INDICATORS</b>	<b>OUTCOMES INDICATORS</b>	<b>NARRATIVE</b>
<b>COLLECTIVE LEADERSHIP</b>	Agency representation Child-level activity dashboard (quarterly)	NEET numbers % reduction in onward referral from IASS to:	Evaluation using Ofsted lines of enquiry?
<b>DATA ANALYSIS AND INFORMATION SHARING</b>	Population data profile (annual) Information sharing agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children’s social care</li> <li>• YJ – FTEs</li> <li>• NRM</li> </ul>	Team around young person and schools – evaluation work
<b>PREVENTION</b>	No. of schools engaged No. of school consultations	Number of CYP FPE  Reduce number of missing episodes	Deep dive with school
<b>EARLY INTERVENTION</b>	No. of CYP of concern identified via concern form with contextual risk factors No. of CYP with key professional and plan	No. of youth justice out of court disposals  % reduce reoffending	CYP-centred examples of case work  Deep dive on risk and safety factors
<b>DISRUPTION AND RECOVERY</b>	% RHIs offered within timescale No. of CYP with recovery plans?	call out for London ambulance service  % unsuccessful referrals to CAMHS (10+)	Thematic of RHI output CYP-centred examples
<b>VOICE OF CHILD &amp; DISPROPORTIONALITY</b>	Case audit of IASS (YJ, YS and AST) Case audit of CIN and CP Case audit of offer to vulnerable CYP e.g. CYP in custody, CYP in AP post-Pex	Out of court disposals  Deferred prosecutions  Increase numbers of young people who tell us they feel safe	Feedback from CYP about risk and safety in their lives CYP involved Audit of health and community safety cases
<b>WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT</b>	No. of schools engaging in training activity No. of voluntary sector workers engaging in training		Quality audit work around staff CPD and confidence