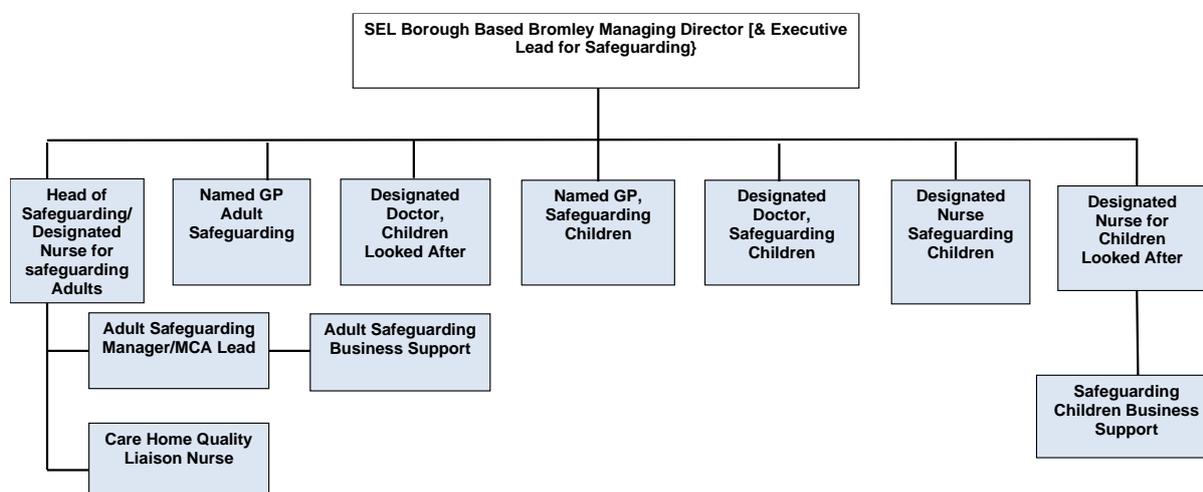


The SEL CCG (Bromley) Safeguarding Annual Report Executive Summary¹
Reporting Period: April 2020 March 2021.

This report provides assurance to the Bromley Borough Based Board and members of the public that Bromley safeguarding team has fulfilled their statutory responsibilities to safeguard the welfare of Children, and Young People and Adults at Risk.

Safeguarding forms part of the SEL CCG Nursing and Quality directorate, overall accountability for safeguarding is held by SEL CCG’s Accountable Officer, who has discharged their duty to the Chief Nurse who has Executive Governing Body responsibility for safeguarding. These functions are discharged through Borough Directors.

Bromley Safeguarding Structure.



The SEL CCG (Bromley) Safeguarding Executive Group, chaired by the Borough Based Director, reports into the Borough Based Board forming part of the governance structure for safeguarding. The Safeguarding Executive Group has a formal link to both the Bromley Safeguarding Children Partnership (BSCP) and the Safeguarding Adult Board (BSAB), through senior CCG representation.

SEL CCG (Bromley) Safeguarding Covid-19 Pandemic Response.

Safeguarding has remained business critical during the pandemic; this has enabled the Bromley Borough based safeguarding team to continue to deliver a strategic, system leadership approach, obtaining assurance through provider safeguarding continuity plans, maintaining close relationships with safeguarding leads and attendance in virtual committees and subgroups. Regular meetings with key partners identify safeguarding themes, trends, and risks. Designated Professionals have provided a vital source of professional advice across the health economy, CCG, the Bromley Safeguarding

¹ This is an executive summary of SEL CCG contribution to SEL CCG Safeguarding annual report.

Children Partnership (BSCP)², the Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) and the Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB)³.

Whilst the safeguarding team has continued to be fully staffed and functional, some safeguarding staff have directly supported the pandemic response both as part of their set roles and in temporary redeployment e.g., in the hospital discharge process, care homes support and latterly during the Vaccination Programme.

Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs).

The BSAB has a statutory responsibility under The Care Act 2014⁴ to arrange a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) when an adult dies as a result of abuse or neglect, whether known or suspected. The Bromley Safeguarding team has representation at all stages of the processes.

Child Safeguarding Practice and Learning Reviews (CSPR and LR).

- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018⁵ sets out the criteria for a Serious Practice Review (SPR). A review should be carried out for every case where abuse or neglect is known or suspected; and the child dies or has been seriously harmed. Other learning reviews can be carried out if the criteria for an SPR is not met.
- Any review should enable local partner agencies to be clear about their responsibilities, to learn from experience and make improvements in single and multi-agency working. SPRs are not conducted to apportion blame but to learn. At the end of each SPR, a final report is agreed by the BSCP and published. Learning events are then held with professionals.
- The Designated Professionals provide health input and expertise to CSPR and LR process offering strategic advice and expertise relating to health.
- The Designated Professionals for Safeguarding Children and Young People (CYP) in SEL CCG (Bromley) work closely together with the BSCP to ensure action and recommendation are monitored and any learning is shared across the system.

During 2020/2021:

There was a learning review commissioned which aligned with a Domestic Homicide Review (DHR), once the final report has been quality assured by the Home Office a summary of learning will be published.

Summaries of two LR's were published in April 2020 and can be located on the BSCP website. One case relates to a girl at risk of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). The second LR relates to a young person who died following serious assault.

Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs).

A DHR is initiated to review the circumstances in which the death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse, or neglect by a person they were related to, had been in an intimate personal relationship with, or a member of the same household.⁶

² [Bromley Safeguarding Children's Partnership \(BSCP\)](#)

³ [Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board \(BSAB\)](#)

⁴ [The Care Act 2014](#)

⁵ [Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2018](#)

⁶ [Domestic Homicide Review Statutory Review Guidance](#)

The Adult and Children Named GPs for Safeguarding are members of the Bromley DHR panels and provide support to GP Practices in their completion of Individual Management Reviews (IMRs).

Three DHRs have been commissioned during this reporting period, the final reports and any identified learning will be shared once the Home Office quality assurance process has been completed.

Key Achievements 20/21.

Safeguarding Children.

- Bromley has successfully implemented the tenth year of an Enhanced Community Service (ECS) for Safeguarding in Primary Care. The ECS is used to help support development of GP Safeguarding Children Practice leads.
- The Designated Professionals for CYP strengthened and worked collaboratively with partner agencies and health providers during the pandemic. Joint working with Public Health was a key strength during the pandemic, developing a risk stratification across the Health Visiting Service.
- The Designated Professionals developed a Multi-Agency Protocol on Bruising and Injuries to Non-mobile Babies and Children.
- The Designated Professionals for CYP continued to influence at a national, regional and local level to share information and influence some of the national directives in relation to safeguarding CYP. The Bromley safeguarding team identified that there were a greater number of Bromley infants with head injuries during the Covid-19 lockdown. Each case was thoroughly investigated and where required; appropriate actions were undertaken. This reflected a national issue around levels of non-accidental injury.
- Working in partnership with other agencies, for example regularly meeting to discuss emerging, themes, trends and respond swiftly to a changing landscape.
- The Designated Professionals continued to contribute to the strategic workstreams of the Safeguarding Partnership.
- The Designated Nurse developed a SEL wide Dataset, coordinating responses from the six boroughs. This workstream aimed to streamline the process across the six Boroughs.
- Joint working with adult safeguarding supporting the implementation of the health provider Domestic Abuse Health Forum.
- Designated Professionals worked with Integrated Commissioning and the Local Authority, participating in the procurement of the Emotional and Well-Being Service.

Children Looked After (CLA).

There were 341 Bromley CLA at the end of March 2021; 196 were placed out of Borough, and of those, 58 were placed more than 20 miles from Bromley. There were 199 CLA from other Boroughs placed in Bromley at that time and there were also 289 Care Leavers (aged 16-25). Quarterly data for Bromley's CLA during 2020-21 was included in reports to the BSCP and has also been provided to the SEL Safeguarding Subcommittee.

Key Achievements.

- Designated Professionals involved in providing guidance to Commissioners on their CLA responsibilities for example within the tendering process for a new Emotional and Wellbeing service for CYP, as well as through attendance at the Local Authority led High-Cost Placement Panel.

- The Designated Professionals have instigated regular meetings with the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) and Integrated Commissioning to gain a clearer understanding of the CAMHS offer for all CLA in Bromley, ensuring that CLA and Care Leavers are considered within the increased mental health funding allocation as indicated within the NHS Long Term Plan.
- Ongoing quality assurance of completed health assessments undertaken for Bromley out of Borough children by the CLA Designated Nurse, ensuring that Bromley's CLA continue to receive a high standard of care from commissioned services, during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The CLA Health Forum has continued over the past year, meeting quarterly, with excellent engagement from health and other partners.
- Ongoing liaison with the Designated CLA Professionals across SEL CCG to ensure all current legislation and best practice for CLA is implemented throughout.

Safeguarding Adults.

- The Care Home Quality Liaison Nurse worked collaboratively with Public Health, supporting Bromley care homes implementing government guidance on managing Covid-19, delivering training on the use of Personal Protective Equipment, Infection, and prevention control, and being part of the outbreak response team, supporting staff, residents, and families in those care settings with Covid outbreaks. The Nurse also worked to reduce vaccine hesitancy amongst health and social care staff via a local Engagement Campaign.
- The Designated Professional supported the mental capacity and best interest provision through the hospital to community discharge processes, including where safeguarding concerns were potentially delaying discharge through acute hospital to community settings.
- The Designated Professionals ensured mental capacity and best interest provision through the Vaccination Programme, through oversight of training and guidance materials, circulation of 'vaccination decision trees and training delivery to GPs through virtual Academic Half Day (AHD) presentations.
- The Designated Professionals ensured that health representation is effective and visible through the Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) victim/survivor journey by:
 - Initiating the formation of a multi-agency Bromley DVA Health Forum to support a whole health response to DVA in Bromley.
 - Contributing to the development of, and committing to the priorities set out in, the Bromley Intergenerational DVA Strategy 2020-24⁷.

⁷ [The Bromley Intergenerational DVA Strategy 2020-24](#)

- Supporting the Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) launch of the Ask for ANI (Action Needed Immediately) codeword scheme through the sharing of promotional materials, information, and resources via our health networks. The scheme allows victims of DVA to access immediate help from the safety of a local pharmacy signed up to the scheme, covering a wide proportion of the borough.
- Recommissioning the Identification and Referral to Improve Safety (IRIS) Programme across Bromley, increasing the number of IRIS accredited GP practices. IRIS is a DVA training, support and referral Programme for GPs and Primary Care staff.
- Strengthened Safeguarding practice in Primary Care through:
 - The Named GPs for Safeguarding Adults and Safeguarding Children delivered a series of joint Safeguarding Training webinars to Bromley GPs, with an average of 160 GPs in attendance at each session.
 - The ECS has been embedded, enabling assurance from GP surgeries on their safeguarding practice through the completion of an annual safeguarding self-assessment return; these inform areas where practices require further support and identify future priorities.

Bromley Borough Based Safeguarding Team Key Ambitions 21/22.

Our priorities include:

Safeguarding Children 21/22.

- To pro-actively work with the BSCP ensuring the priorities are aligned for the most effective, positive outcomes, strengthening safeguarding arrangement for CYP within the Borough.
- To continue to maintain effective assurance of safeguarding arrangements for healthcare services within the changing landscape with the introduction of Integrated Care Systems (ICSs)
- To ensure learning from CSPR’s, LR’s and DHR’s are shared across the wider system identifying themes across SEL. This will support future planning for Commissioning and the wider stakeholder workforce.
- To work in conjunction with the BSCP, SEL CCG Adults Safeguarding team, the BSAB and other partners to improve safeguarding transition arrangements for vulnerable young people into adulthood. This will include ensuring there are robust joint working arrangements between children’s and adults services.
- Training to continue via an AHD available to all GPs and Practice Nurses (PN’s).
- GP Practice safeguarding leads training and practice visits to continue with a training focus of emerging themes from the Covid 19 pandemic.

Children Looked After 21/22.

We will continue to work with Commissioning colleagues within health and social care to include provision for the physical and emotional health needs of Care Leavers aged 18-25 when commissioning services; with a focus on improving the transition to adult services, particularly from CAMHS to Adult Mental Health Services.

To ensure that the activities of the Corporate Parenting Health Subgroup reflect the health and wellbeing issues as identified by CLA and Care Leavers within their survey responses, creating additional opportunities to speak directly to the young people to discuss challenges, as well as share progress.

Contribute to the embedding of effective reporting structures for CLA and Care Leavers, across SEL CCG, as well as ensuring the voices of CLA and Care Leavers are heard within the new ICS.

To conduct a training needs analysis, with the aim of commissioning, planning, designing, delivering, and evaluating CLA training, by liaising with SEL CLA Designates and local health colleagues.

As we progress through the Covid Pandemic, the Designated Professionals for CLA will continue to ensure effective oversight of both current and prospective health implications relating to the pandemic, and any new applicable Government legislation and guidance. Raising key issues with service planners, commissioners, and service providers to ensure the needs of Bromley's CLA are considered both locally and those placed out of the area.

Continued collaboration with Local Authority colleagues and the Designated Clinical Officer for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to ensure that Bromley meets the recommendations following last year's SEND Ofsted inspection.

To contribute to the workstream looking at changes to the structure and process of Children's Funding Panels.

Safeguarding Adults.

- Working in collaboration with other health partners to develop a 'Coming out of Covid together' rehabilitation blueprint for care settings, as well as continuing to develop, support and monitor an Enhanced Health in Care Homes (EHCH) model in Bromley through Integrated Commissioning.
- Implementing the recommendations for health in the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) 2021 guidance for 'Safeguarding adults in care homes⁸', through working in partnership with providers, Bromley Local Authority, and BSAB.
- Prepare for the implementation of the new Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019, due for implementation in April 2022, by continuing with our delivery plan. The Act will replace the current Deprivation of Liberty Standards (DoLS) with the new Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS).⁹
- Continue to prioritise Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) by striving to ensure that health representation is effective and visible through the Domestic Abuse victim/survivor journey.

⁸ [The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence \(NICE\) 2021 guidance for 'Safeguarding Adults in care homes](#)

⁹ [Liberty Protection Safeguards \(LPS\).](#)

We will also work with partners to prepare for the implementation of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021¹⁰.

- To pro-actively explore opportunities to contribute to the development of adult safeguarding roles and responsibilities within the ICS as it develops across SEL.

Conclusion.

The Safeguarding team has adopted a 'life course' approach (pre-birth to end of life) and we will continue to embed a 'Think Family' approach to all of our workstreams post Pandemic, recognising the long-term effects on vulnerable groups. This will ensure a focus on the transition between children and adults, allowing for continuous service improvement within the CCG and across the health economy.

We will also continue to support the health and well-being of our staff, as well as those of our commissioned health providers, understanding that Covid 19 has been a significant challenge for the NHS.

The SEL CCG Safeguarding team (Bromley) have developed and maintained strong internal and external relationships and a trusted reputation across the BSCP and BSAB as subject matter experts. We are confident we are in a strong position to drive forward the placed based safeguarding agenda, in a changing strategic landscape as the SEL ICS develops, working with our providers, key stakeholders and in collaboration with both Safeguarding Partnerships to meet the safeguarding needs of the local population.

¹⁰ [Domestic Abuse Act 2021.](#)