

## Welcome to this edition of Brighton & Hove Local Safeguarding Children Board's Newsletter

Welcome to this edition of Brighton & Hove Local Safeguarding Children Board's Newsletter. I think it's fair to say that this newsletter is fast becoming the central reference point for all matters on Children's Safeguarding. Through the power of Twitter it is also being read outside of the city and we have had some fabulous feedback on it. Follow us [@LSCB\\_Brighton](#) for safeguarding tweets.

This month we focus on emotional wellbeing. You will remember that the last week of February was Eating Disorders Awareness Week, and 1<sup>st</sup> March was Self Harm Awareness Day. Reflecting on this we have included news about mental health provision for under 18s and, of course, focused on the emotional wellbeing of children & young people, including work to improve mental health & reduce self harm in our city.

A really important event this month is the launch of the WiSE Up campaign on the 28<sup>th</sup> March. Sexual Exploitation is one of our key priorities and we are delighted that this campaign is going to really spread the word that this dreadful form of abuse DOES happen in our city, on our doorsteps. Often people either don't recognise the signs or don't know who to report their concerns to. This initiative will really promote understanding of what Sexual Exploitation is and how to report it. The LSCB has just established a new scrutiny sub group to ensure that services work together to protect children from Sexual Exploitation. Responsibility for commissioning services to tackle this is taken by the Violence Against Women & Girl's Board and we will work closely with them to ensure that vulnerable children are protected.

At our Board this month, as well as signing up to the [Pan Sussex Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy](#) & Pan Sussex eSafety Strategy, we also approved the new Missing (from home, education and care) policy, heard updates on the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub developments & the Early Help arrangements. We were delighted too to approve the [LSCB Communications Strategy](#) which is part of our effort to reach out to communities & particularly young people, so we can hear what they want most from the LSCB partners and get their views on how that should be delivered. The same ambition exists for our agencies too. Too few people who work within the statutory organisations and elsewhere really know about the Board and how it can support their efforts to make children safer. **Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility** and it is our job to ensure that that is understood and outstanding joint working is the norm in our city.

Graham Bartlett  
Brighton & Hove LSCB Independent Chair



## WiSE Up Campaign Launch



On 28 March 2014 the WiSEUp Campaign will be launched at Komedia.

This partnership between [The WiSE Project](#), & Sussex Police aims to raise awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation amongst workers in the Night Time Economy in Brighton & Hove. It encourages them to notify the police if they 'spot the signs'. It mirrors the National Working Group's '[Say Something if You See Something](#)' campaign, which was developed to raise awareness within venues, takeaways, leisure centres, shopping centres & other premises which can be used for the purpose of grooming and/or sexual exploitation to spot the signs and most importantly know how to respond.

The event will also launch some beer mats & other materials that were developed by the young people WiSE work. These show the signs of exploitation & promote healthy relationships to young people. The WiSE Project is a service for 13-25 year olds who are experiencing sexual exploitation or are at risk of experiencing it. They can also offer advice & guidance for those working with young people who are vulnerable to CSE. For more information please contact [wise@sussexcentralymca.org.uk](mailto:wise@sussexcentralymca.org.uk)



## Learning From National Serious Case Reviews

### The Anderson Family Suffolk, January 2014

#### Background

Three children and their mother died in April 2013. The children were aged 3 years, 2 years, & 13 months at the time of their deaths and mother was 7 months pregnant. Evidence suggests mother killed the children prior to committing suicide by jumping from a multi-story car park. The family were known to a variety of child care agencies from the time of mother's first pregnancy up until the deaths of all three children. There were two periods of time when Child Protection Plans were in place for one or more of the children. Plans identified concerns in respect of possible physical and emotional neglect, and were in place at the time of all the children's deaths.

Issues identified include: adversarial relationship between parents & professionals from outset, parental non-attendance at health appointments & child protection meetings, lack of stimulation & infrequent opportunities for children to interact with others leading to social, language & emotional development delays, and professional uncertainty over mother's mental & emotional health.

To read our briefing please click [here](#)

or visit [www.brightonandhovelscb.org.uk /prof\\_safeguarding\\_information\\_updates](http://www.brightonandhovelscb.org.uk/prof_safeguarding_information_updates)

See the full report at: [suffolksafeguardingchildrenboard.onesuffolk.net](http://suffolksafeguardingchildrenboard.onesuffolk.net)

### Feedback from SCR Seminars

Thank you to everyone who attended our seminars on Learning from National Serious Case Reviews: Implications for Practice, at the end of January. We had some great feedback on the format & content and are planning to do more themed sessions in 2014 – watch this space!

At the first serious case review seminar a member of staff mentioned struggling with teenage parents they were working with. Leia Monsoon, Teenage Life Coach with Brighton & Hove City Council contacted us after the session & we met up to find out more about her work with teenage parents.

Leia and Paul Salvage, both work as therapeutic life coaches with young parents, some of whom have children on child protection or child in need plans. Some of the young parents are themselves subject to plans. Leia and Paul help young people understand why social services are involved with their child & to explore how they feel about social services (especially if they have had experiences of social services themselves). The coaching looks at how to move forward, to explore goals, blocks, strengths & interests. It is a free service for parents between the ages of 16-25.

Leia & Paul are based at 62-63 Old Steine, 5 days a week. Referrers tend to be predominantly teachers & health professionals but anyone can refer to the service by emailing

[leia.monsoon@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:leia.monsoon@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

### Reports on the Experiences of Young LGBTQ People

February was LGBTQ History Month, and we would like to inform you about two reports that explore the needs of LGBTQ young people. Local support is available to young LGBTQ people from Allsorts Youth Project: [www.allsortsyouth.org.uk](http://www.allsortsyouth.org.uk)

METRO's Social Research Project **Youth Chances** shows that over half of LGBQ respondents (53%) knew they were LGBQ by the age of 13, and over half of trans respondents (58%) knew they were trans by the same age. You can read the early findings into the experiences of young LGBTQ people [here](#) or visit [www.youthchances.org](http://www.youthchances.org)



LGBTQ young people can be at more risk online as they may not be given e-safety information in school which explicitly addresses their concerns, or because they're scared to raise worries for fear of being judged about their sexual orientation. Stonewall have written new guidelines **Staying Safe Online** to help parents & teachers take very simple steps to make their e-safety work relevant to **all** young people, & to highlight how the best schools are already doing just that. They have also released **Free**.



## Have you booked onto the LSCB Multi-Agency Training?

### **Working Together to Safeguard Children 1: Developing a Core Understanding:**

24<sup>th</sup> April, 11<sup>th</sup> June, 15<sup>th</sup> July, 11<sup>th</sup> September, 15<sup>th</sup> October, 18<sup>th</sup> November & 10<sup>th</sup> December

### **Working Together to Safeguard Children 2: Assessment, Referral and Investigation:**

30<sup>th</sup> April, 17<sup>th</sup> June, 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 18<sup>th</sup> September, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, & 27<sup>th</sup> November

### **Working Together to Safeguard Children 3: Child Protection Conferences and Core Groups:**

7<sup>th</sup> May 2014, 19<sup>th</sup> June, 17<sup>th</sup> July, 23<sup>rd</sup> September & 6<sup>th</sup> November

### **Domestic Violence & Abuse: The Impact on Children & Young People:**

8<sup>th</sup> May, 17<sup>th</sup> July, 11<sup>th</sup> September & 20<sup>th</sup> November

### **Mental Health & Children's Services: Working Together with Families:**

23<sup>rd</sup> April & 18<sup>th</sup> September

### **Substance Misuse & Parenting Capacity** 8<sup>th</sup> July & 11<sup>th</sup> November

### **Working with Parents with a Learning Disability** 16<sup>th</sup> October

### **Safeguarding Children Assessment Workshops** 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, September & 7<sup>th</sup> October

### **Safeguarding Children with Disabilities** 18<sup>th</sup> September 2014

**Dates still to be confirmed for:** MAPPA Workshop, Preventing & Disrupting the Sexual Exploitation of Children & Young People, Private Fostering Awareness, and we are developing new courses for later in the year on Working with Hostile Families, Neglect, and Child Sexual Abuse.

Following on from the popular events in January 2014, look out for more in Interagency Forums in 2014. Not training as such but a great opportunity to discuss & explore various themes in bite-size multiagency sessions.

More information from [www.brightonandhovelscb.org.uk/prof\\_training.html](http://www.brightonandhovelscb.org.uk/prof_training.html)

## Working Together

We have been thinking a lot about the importance of good multi agency working, and want to hear your thoughts. Please complete our (very) short survey [here](#) and we will include the results in next month's newsletter.

## Family CAF

The Family CAF Assessment Paperwork has been revised & significantly reduced in size, it can be found together with Family Plan & Review documents at

[www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/cafresources](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/cafresources)

If you require any support with the Family CAF Process please contact

[caf@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:caf@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or call 292632.

They can provide help by:

- Advising of contact details for Lead Assessor / Professional
- Advising of links / contacts in a range of services to support you build your TAF
- Offering practical guidance / support regarding supporting individual families
- Providing training
- Family CAF Mentoring service

We will focus on the Family CAF in next months newsletter and how good Multi Agency working is key to ensuring positive outcomes for children.

## Domestic Abuse = Child Protection Issue

Thank you for the feedback on last months feature on domestic violence & abuse. Although it is a national issue we have been asked for some local statistics to give a picture of the situation in Brighton & Hove.

**The Strategic Assessment of Crime & Disorder 2012**, shows that in 2011/12, the police recorded 80% of victims of domestic violence & abuse as female & 20% as male. Of these offences

- 74% were committed by a male against a female
- 11% were committed by a female against a male
- 9% of offences where by a male against a male
- 5% by a female against another female.

Not all instances of domestic violence or abuse are reported, and these statistics will just be the tip of the iceberg, as there are a variety of reasons victims do not speak out. For more information on the help & support available please see the Safe in The City website:

[www.safeinthecity.info/getting-help](http://www.safeinthecity.info/getting-help)

Whenever working with families always think Domestic Abuse = Child Protection Issue, & consider the impact on children on living with domestic abuse. More information is available in the Pan Sussex Child Protection & Safeguarding Procedures [here](#)

## Focus On: Children & Young People's Emotional Wellbeing

### Speak Your Mind Young People's Advocacy Project



We spoke to Sara Callarman, from **Speak Your Mind** about the work they do with children & young people with mental health issues. Sara is the Young People's Mental Health Advocate from Mind in Brighton & Hove, and also facilitates a participation group called **Mind Me Up** which meets monthly to talk about young people's mental health services & how young people experience them.

In November the group made a handout about self harm for a training session run by CAMHS for Professionals. Here are some of the comments the group members made:

- **Self Harm** is a way of **coping**
- It is **not** a sign of weakness
- It **doesn't** mean you are going to commit **suicide**
- **Not enough people** feel they can tell their GP. They may be **afraid** of what would happen, eg they worry that they may get put in **hospital**
- You don't **understand** unless you've been there

They gave this advice on working with young people who self harm:

- **Don't panic!!** Talk to them, Find out what's going on, what difficulty has led them to self harm?
- **Don't tell** them that they are **stupid / bad / naughty**
- It's not helpful to tell someone to **stop**, it makes you feel more stressed inside
- They **may not know why** they are self harming
- Don't say 'It's a cry for help' or '**It's attention seeking**', maybe the person needs attention!
- Teachers **shouldn't just phone parents**
- **Involve the young person** in what you are going to do & find out **what would be best** for them (their parents may panic, be angry...)
- Let the young person know what services there are & **who can help them**
- Young people need to talk about it, but they might **not have anyone** they can talk to or **the right person** to speak to or **the words** to express what's happening.
- **It is a way for the young person to take control**, so if a professional takes over control it may make it worse

If you know a young person aged 11-19 who has a mental health issue & might like some advocacy about mental health services, education, housing etc. please get in touch and Sara can explain more about what she does. **There are a few spaces available for young people to become part of Mind Me Up**, if they would like to take part, give their point of view & perhaps take part in interviews for CAMHS staff. Contact Sara at [sara.callarman@mindcharity.co.uk](mailto:sara.callarman@mindcharity.co.uk) or phone or text 07952233865

### Intention & Motivation: Understanding Why People Self Harm

We asked Dr Andrew Briggs, Head of Child & Adolescent Psychotherapy at Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust about his work with young people who self-harm:

“One reason for my becoming interested in training as a mental health professional was the puzzle presented by people who injure themselves emotionally & physically. During my training I learnt to think about behaviour as conveying meaning; that people who self harm may do so because this is their form of communicating emotional & mental health difficulties. At that time eating disorders were categorised as self-harm, and there was little distinction clinically between self-harmers & those who were unsuccessful in their attempt at suicide. Once trained I worked with a great many young people referred to CAMHS via accident & emergency departments. I began to see a very clear distinction between each individual's intention & motive for harming themselves. Over the years I have probably seen as many self-poisoners as self-cutters. These distinctions, however, seem crude to me as they do not help us understand the meaning of the choice of harmful action to each individual.

Several years ago I was invited by the National Collaborating Centre for Mental Health to be part of a group writing the **National Clinical Guidance on Self-Harm: Longer Term Management (NICE Guideline 133)** published in 2012. This guideline acknowledges the distinction between the intention & motives of adults & young people, and therefore the need for different approaches to assessment, management and treatment. I am looking forward to completing the first draft of the self-harm pathway for Kent ChYPS, working with experienced colleagues to write protocol that reflects the recommendations from NICE Guideline 133.”

## Right Here: Young People & Self Harm in Brighton and Hove

Young volunteers from award-winning wellbeing project *Right Here Brighton and Hove* have recently launched their much-needed research report identifying local people's perceptions and understanding about self-harm. An accompanying guide to support anyone affected by self harm has been produced.

**Self Harm research** The team's in-depth research was conducted last year at a number of focus groups with young people and educational/medical professionals who work with them. The report found that many people had a reasonable understanding of what self harm is; essentially, that it is not necessarily an indication of mental health issues, but that someone who is self harming is likely to be experiencing severe mental distress. However, it was evident that amongst both professionals & young people, there were varying degrees of confidence in communicating with someone who may be self harming, in particular how to start a conversation, & then what to do with any disclosure that may follow. For example, one professional said "I don't know what they want from me."

If a young person has confided in you about self harm & you feel this way, Right Here urges you to simply ask the young person what it is they need from you. The research also revealed a significant lack of awareness of where to signpost someone for further help, & a great need for further training in this area. Right Here is now working within a citywide working group on Young People & Self Harm, currently looking at what training packages exist – and are required – for different groups of professionals (teachers, GPs, police, parents etc) in order to increase understanding, confidence in communicating, & awareness of available services.

**Talking about Self Harm support guide** Based on their research, Right Here volunteers have also written & designed a support guide, **Talking About Self Harm**, launched to mark Self Injury Awareness Day on 1<sup>st</sup> March. The guide aims to increase understanding & communication, & includes sections on keeping yourself safe, ideas to help & confidentiality. Guides are being distributed to schools, colleges, youth clubs, community centres and GP surgeries. The research report and guide can both be downloaded from [www.right-here-brightonandhove.org.uk/selfharm](http://www.right-here-brightonandhove.org.uk/selfharm). Email Rose Allett at [rose.allett@sussexcentralymca.org.uk](mailto:rose.allett@sussexcentralymca.org.uk) to make sure you're on the Right Here mailing list, or pick up copies at YMCA, Reed House, 47 Church Road, Hove.



"We know self harm is an issue in Brighton & Hove but young people themselves researching this issue has opened up conversations we had never had. Right Here's research report is professional and insightful and I am impressed by its quality. Their self harm resource for young people is well-designed and speaks directly to young people about an issue that is so often unspoken. I hope we can build on this work and encourage greater awareness and responsiveness to young people's mental wellbeing." **Alison Nuttall, Strategic Commissioner for Brighton & Hove City Council Children's Services**

"I wish I'd had a guide like this 6 years ago. I know many parents will benefit from this, I just hope they find the time to read it, use it & understand the pressures & worries on our children in today society."

**Father of a Service User**

**Guide for Parents and Carers** Right Here has also recently launched a support guide for local parents & carers concerned about a young person's emotional & mental health. It includes tips on communicating with young people, local support services & how to look after yourself.

By using real-life experiences, Right Here hopes the guide will reduce the isolation & distress that is expressed by the parents & children they work with. The parents' guide can be downloaded from

[www.right-here-brightonandhove.org.uk/parents](http://www.right-here-brightonandhove.org.uk/parents)

## Useful Links & Resources

[www.b-eat.co.uk](http://www.b-eat.co.uk) provides support to help young people & adults overcome their eating disorders

[www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk) is a charity committed to improving the emotional wellbeing & mental health of today's youth with resources for parents/carers & professionals as well as children & young people.

[www.selfharm.co.uk](http://www.selfharm.co.uk) a project to supporting young people impacted by self-harm, providing a safe space to talk, ask questions and be honest. They also provide **training** to raise awareness for professionals.

Public Health England have a good handbook on Self-Harm in Children & Young People available [here](#) & sign up to the **eBulletin** from Child & Maternal Health Intelligence Network & Young Minds for the latest updates

## Suicide Prevention Strategy & Self Harm in Brighton & Hove

Brighton & Hove has had a high rate of death by suicide in adults for many years compared to other areas of the country<sup>1</sup>. The city also has double the national average rate of hospital stays for self harm with 1330 people admitted in 2011/12<sup>2</sup>. Admissions of young people to the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital following self harm have nearly doubled from 41 in 2010 to 77 in 2013.



### Suicide Prevention Strategy Group

The Public Health Outcomes Framework will measure local suicide rates & rates of admissions for self harm over the coming years. Reducing self harm is in the scope of the local Suicide Prevention Strategy, as around half of people who die by suicide have a history of self-harm, and it is one for four priorities for the Suicide Prevention Strategy Group. Brighton & Hove is working towards becoming a **Suicide Safer City**, where barriers to talking about suicide are reduced and awareness of how to help is improved.

Alongside this Alison Nuttall, the Commissioner for Children & Young People's Mental Health Services, chairs a multi-agency group to reduce self harm among children & young people. They are currently developing a strategy as well as undertaking:

- **Right Here** produced a peer-led review of young people's understanding, beliefs & experiences of self harm in the city. The **report** was published in February 2014, and you can read about Right Here's supporting work above. They will also run peer-led workshops at local schools, colleges, youth clubs & residential houses.
- The development of a tiered training programme for school & college staff, & other professionals
- There is strategic & operational engagement with the Early Help development work in the city & the development of the Public Health schools work which has a focused area regarding emotional wellbeing

Wider work by the public health team, including work on the Public Health Schools Programme, will have an impact on young people's wellbeing. The Happiness & Mental Wellbeing Strategy in development by the CCG and City Council is also likely to strengthen investment in mental wellbeing for the city.

1. Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2013 at <http://bhlis.org/needsassessments>

2. Public Health England: Health Profile Brighton & Hove 2013 <http://www.apho.org.uk/resource/item.aspx?RID=127194>

## CAMHS STEPPS Programme

Child & Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS) in Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust offers a range of treatments & strategies to help young people who harm themselves, including a range of psychotherapeutic interventions to support the young people, their family & carers.

Members of the team are currently working with young people delivering a group based intervention called 'STEPPS' which stands for Systems Training for Emotional Predictability & Problem Solving. This is an adaptation of the adult STEPPS programme for adults with a diagnosis of Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD). Young people should not be diagnosed with BPD, instead we think in terms of a presentation of Emotional Intensity Disorder (EID). This is when a young person presents with difficulties in managing their emotional regulation.

Young people with EID may experience very intense emotions & sometimes have difficulty regulating them. This may result in them managing their emotions by engaging in risky or harmful behaviours. Living with EID is extremely challenging for the young person & for those who care about them. It is our hope that the STEPPS programme will help young people understand their emotions & triggers and learn to communicate their feelings in a non harmful way to themselves or others, enabling them to take back a sense of control & wellbeing.

The programme consists of two groups & runs for 18 weeks. A parents & carers group runs alongside the group for young people. The group for young people uses an educational approach based in cognitive behavioural therapy CBT theory, which helps young people learn new skills & activities to manage their emotional responses to challenging situations. The parent/carer group enables learning about the content taught in the young people's session, and enables the parents & carers to reinforce the positive coping strategies that are being learned. Alongside this young people receive 1to1 therapeutic support to develop & reinforce the application of the new skills.

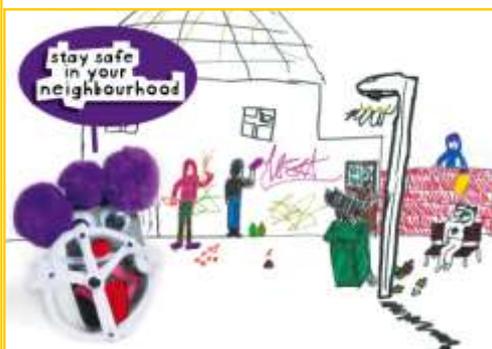
The pilot scheme will be reviewed in July 2014 following completion of the programme. The team are positive & optimistic about the development of this work within Children & Young Peoples Services across the Trust.

## Safety Net's Work to Improve Emotional Well-Being for 8-13 Year Olds



Local charity **Safety Net** promotes safety & wellbeing for children, young people & families at home, in school and across local Brighton & Hove communities. Their vision is to build communities where all children, young people & adults have the right to feel safe & the responsibility to keep others safe.

**Community Safety & Children's Concerns** Their consultation work with children aged 8-13 shows that emotional health & well-being is impacted by a wide range of safety issues, both in school & out in local communities. Children's concerns include worries about their friendships & peers, as well as community safety issues in their neighbourhoods. Safety Net works with children to address these problems and to provide them with skills to support them to be more resilient & have better strategies for dealing with safety concerns. They asked over 1,000 children aged 10 -11 about their main worries & what makes them feel unsafe in their neighbourhoods. Their main concern was seeing adults who have been drinking, taking drugs or smoking, closely followed by being offered alcohol, drugs or cigarettes by older young people & their peers. Children were also worried about their personal safety when out & about, including fears about stranger danger, being robbed or feeling threatened by older young people. At home children talked about being worried because of adults arguing, not being heard & being bullied by a sibling.



In response to this, Safety Net has been working with Local Action Teams to make sure that adults are aware of the impact community safety issues have on children's emotional health & well-being. This work has led to many positive actions including the removal of graffiti, alcohol licensing & street drinking improvements, and partnership approaches with local pubs. Personal safety sessions for Year 6 children have been developed & Safety Net has worked with the **CAFTA** Team (Communities & Families Tackling Addiction) and PSHE Lead Teachers to produce a schools resource called '**Staying Safe in my Community**'. This supports teaching & learning in primary schools around drug, alcohol & tobacco education. A new termly newsletter on children's safety is also being distributed to parents & carers via local primary schools.

**Bullying & Emotional Wellbeing** Brighton & Hove's Safe and Well at School Survey indicates a decrease in the number of children & young people reporting bullying in schools. However, despite the positive results for many children, Safety Net still found that bullying in & out of school was cited as a major worry by over 35% of the children that they talked to, with cyber-bullying a growing concern for many. Children are most often referred to Safety Net for support because of self-esteem or behavioural issues resulting from bullying, peer & friendship difficulties, or problems at home.

In response to this, Safety Net now runs a number of support schemes for children who have experienced bullying or who are displaying bullying behaviour. These initiatives include supporting schools with **Buddy Schemes** (which are part of a whole school bullying prevention scheme), **SNAP** (the Safety Net Assertiveness Project group work programme), and SNAP-Its, 1 to 1 support sessions teaching skills & tools to improve resilience, as well as managing friendships & conflict). All of these programmes use the **Protective Behaviours** personal safety programme to support children's emotional health & well-being by building resilience, confidence and safety skills. Safety Net is also offering Protective Behaviours as a whole school approach and as a course for families called '**Feeling Good, Feeling Safe**' to support family well-being.

In over 90% of cases, after having worked with Safety Net, children report feeling safer, having more knowledge of who to can ask for help, being more confident & having improved self-esteem & well-being. For more information on their work please visit their website [www.safety-net.org.uk](http://www.safety-net.org.uk)

**Young Survivors Group 13-19** Safety Net's Young Survivors Group supports young people who have experienced sexual abuse or are vulnerable to sexual abuse. The programme is based on Protective Behaviours and focuses on skills & techniques to assist young survivors to make safe choices in the future. Working on the main themes of 'We all have the right to feel safe' & 'There is nothing so awful that we can't talk with someone about it', the programme uses creative techniques, art and music to facilitate dialogue & peer to peer support. Future courses during 2014-16 will be run over weekends or as residential, as well as weekday evenings, offering up to 6 groups per year, including young men's groups. Safety Net are taking referrals continuously for young people between the ages of 13-19, and the next group will run in the Easter Holidays 2014.

For more information on the group please contact Melanie Parr or Jo Bates on 01273 411613 or email [melanie.parr@safety-net.org.uk](mailto:melanie.parr@safety-net.org.uk)



Twitter

Follow us

@LSCB\_Brighton to stay up to date with our latest news & information to help you keep children safe in our city.

## National Safeguarding Day: 28<sup>th</sup> February

This National Safeguarding Day we took the opportunity to remind our partners to take time to STOP, LOOK & LISTEN to improve their safeguarding policies.

STOP abuse, promoting awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation, Neglect & Child Sexual Abuse.

LOOK with professional curiosity & challenge complacency.

LISTEN to the child's voice, & make their story the centre of what we do.

## Safety with Straighteners

The Electrical Safety Council and **Child Accident Prevention Trust** (CAPT) have launched a major campaign to raise awareness of hair straightener burns in a bid to tackle the growing number of young children who are seriously injured by them. Hair straighteners can get as hot as an iron. So hot, in fact, you could cook your breakfast on them.



It is believed that hair straightener burns have doubled in recent years. Most injuries occur when crawling babies and toddlers grab at them, step on them, sit on them or pull them down. Straighteners can stay hot enough to burn up to 15 minutes after they have been switched off. Despite this, most parents don't know just how dangerous they can be. Over a third report leaving hair straighteners to cool down on the floor, on furniture or over a door handle.



CAPT have a [campaign page](#) on their website, with advice for practitioners including a video of **bacon & eggs** being fried on hair straighteners.

## Pet Advice for Parents



There have recently been some very sad cases where children have been killed by family dogs, and we need to remember that it is **never** safe to leave a dog alone in a room with a child. Even friendly & trusted dogs may react badly to a baby, or 'play' may get out of hand.

All dog's need some help adjusting to a new member of the family and **The Dog's Trust** have good advice on preparing for new arrivals. The **RSPCA** also have some tips to keep children safe & dogs happy, & NHS Choices have produced a useful video with a Health Visitor giving guidance for parents [here](#).

## Protective Behaviours Conference

To mark 20 years of working with Protective Behaviours in Brighton & Hove, Safety Net will be holding a conference on "**Early Help & Protective Behaviours: Testimony & Impact of Current Practice**" at the Brighthelm Centre on June 19<sup>th</sup> 2014, from 9am-2pm.



The conference will demonstrate why Protective Behaviours is as relevant as ever to the current agendas with Early Help & Resilience building achieving better outcomes for young people & families. As well as the research & evidence behind the approach, they will look at examples of how Protective Behaviours has been used effectively in practice to make a difference to the safety & well-being of children, young people & families. Guest speaker, Holly-Ann Martin is back by popular demand to talk about the experience of using the approach as a sexual abuse prevention strategy with aboriginal communities in Australia.

To book your place at the conference please visit: <http://pbconference.eventbrite.co.uk/>

## Useful numbers:

Brighton & Hove LSCB office: 01273 292379 [LSCB@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:LSCB@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

Designated Doctor Safeguarding Children: 01273 265788

Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children: 01273 574680

Brighton & Hove Police Child Protection Team: 101

Local Authority Designated Officer: 01273 295643

