

15 cases audited (range of ages including pre-school and some cases of Serious Youth Violence)

22 organisations participated (including 8 GP Practices and 8 Schools)

Thematic review by CHSCP Quality Assurance Leads

Audit built on findings from an **online survey** exploring the **quality and effectiveness of safeguarding practice** in respect of strategy discussions.

Key Messages for Practitioners

Prior to participating in a strategy discussion, practitioners should watch the **CHSCP video** and have to hand the **CHSCP Guidance** and **Agenda template**. This will help ensure that all necessary areas are covered, with participants having a clear understanding of the key decisions that strategy discussion should make. All can be found on the dedicated [CHSCP webpage](#) for strategy discussions.

Whilst no professional disagreement was evidenced in the cases audited, it is important that practitioners remain aware of the [CHSCP Escalation Policy](#) and are confident in its use.

Practice Strengths

There was evidence of **good timeliness** in identifying concerns and convening strategy discussions.

There was also high confidence that the **decisions and actions** made at the strategy discussion **made children safer**.

The significant majority of cases demonstrated the **sharing of sufficient information** to confidently inform decision making and planning.

There was good evidence of **information being provided in a timely manner after the strategy discussion, where this was not immediately available**.

The significant majority of cases evidenced relevant **information sharing about significant others** involved with the family.

The significant majority of cases audited were clear on the next steps and timescales for **immediate and short-term protection and support**.

Of the cases involving **Serious Youth Violence**, there was evidence that **named professionals** were being identified to support the young person, consistent with the CHSCP's Strategy Discussion guidance

Identified Areas for Improvement

Consistent use by all agencies of the **CHSCP Guidance and Agenda Template** to guide how strategy discussions are to ensure all areas are covered.

HCFS to amend its interim case recording template for strategy discussions to match the headings set out in the CHSCP Agenda template.

Improvement in the **circulation of formal minutes** of strategy discussion minutes to agencies in attendance and other relevant professionals.

Explore options to facilitate **opportunities to engage GPs**.

Improve the engagement of **ELFT at strategy discussions** by ensuring ELFT practitioners involved with families (both adults and children) are identified and invited. This improvement to be supported via the introduction of an ELFT role within the new Hackney MASH model.

To ensure that any impact arising as a result of **race and ethnicity** are consistently considered and evidenced within strategy discussions.

An action plan will be developed to detail recommendations / actions against identified areas for improvement. Monitored via the CHSCP Quality Assurance Sub-Group.