Hackney Safeguarding Children Partnership Board
(Website Summary)

Date	**Thursday 25 September 2025, 14:00-16:00**
Chair	**Jim Gamble (JG), Independent Safeguarding Children Commissioner.**
Minutes	**Rushena Miah (RM), Partnership Coordinator CHSCP**

Membership

Name & Role	Attendance
Carolyn Sharpe (CS) Consultant in Public Health Public Health	present
Clarissa Wye (CW) Lead Professional for Safeguarding Children ELFT	present
Cllr Anntionette Bramble (AB) Deputy Mayor Hackney	present
Cllr Susan Fajana Thomas (SFT) Councillor Hackney	present
Diane Benjamin (DB) Head of Children's Social Care	present
Dinh Padicala (DP) Director of Safeguarding ELFT	present
Donna Thomas (DT) Assistant Director Education	present
Frida Lannemyr (FL) Interim Head of Safeguarding & QA	present
Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney (GSM) Director of Environment & Climate Change	present
Jacquie Burke (JB) Director Children and Education Hackney	present
Marcia Smikle (MS) Head of Safeguarding Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation	present
Rory McCallum (RM), Senior Professional Advisor CHSCP	present
Sam Martin (SM) Designated Nurse NHS NEL	present
Sia Turner (ST) - Social Worker (shadowing the meeting)	present
Vijay Gorania (VG) A/DCI, Central East BCU MPS	present
Vivienne Hobbs (VH) Named Doctor (Community) Homerton Hospital	present
Dovid Lichtig - CEO Interlink,	Apologies
Steve Waddington - Director Housing Services	Apologies

1. Minutes of the Last Meeting:
The minutes from the 29 May 2025 meeting were approved as an accurate record.

2. Declarations of Interest: No declarations of interest were expressed.

3. Risk Register and Operational Risk Register:
The risk register remained unchanged from the previous quarter, with only minor adjustments.

4. Priorities & Pledge: The draft priorities and pledge document was circulated for comment. Key changes included replacing "basic practice" with "building on foundational practice" and

adding a new priority for broader vulnerabilities. The document will proceed for sign-off if no feedback is received by the end of next week.

5. Families First Programme Update: Diane Benjamin provided an update on the Families First programme, which is progressing with a highlight delivery plan expected by April 2026. The first meeting of the seven workstreams has taken place, and the Multi-Agency Child Protection Team and MASH workstreams have been amalgamated. The Police have confirmed their commitment, and the London ICBS is expected to follow suit. Hackney intends to replicate Luton's phased approach to implementation. The integration of the Anti-Racist Charter and the Children and Families workforce strategy was highlighted as good practice.

6. Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) - Harmful Practices: AG from the Hackney Domestic Abuse Intervention Service (DAIS) reported on a programme to combat harmful practices within domestic abuse, including intrafamilial and extrafamilial abuse. Quarterly meetings are held, chaired by DAIS, with wide-ranging membership including statutory services and third-sector providers specialising in harmful practices. The group shares resources, reflects on practice, and aims to improve services and upskill voluntary organisations. A recent show and share event was held, and learning is being integrated into a quarterly training offer on faith-based abuse and HBV. An introduction to FGM and the Hackney FGM protocol is also available. Monthly harmful practices drop-ins for professionals were introduced in July 2025.

7. Children in Temporary Accommodation: CS presented a draft overview of children in temporary accommodation (TA) in Hackney, noting a growing number of households with children in TA since 2022, with increased reliance on hostels and bed and breakfasts. London boroughs have a disproportionate number of children in TA, with Hackney having the third highest in London. Health impacts include higher rates of hypertension, obesity, respiratory conditions, and mental health conditions. National research found 80 child deaths in TA between October 2023 and September 2024. Other impacts include developmental delays, poor nutrition, and challenges to educational attainment. Local support offers require streamlining, with an ongoing pilot in Woodbury Downs ward. Family Hubs/Children's Centres are actively involved in supporting families in TA. A steering group will be revived to develop a strategic approach, with draft recommendations focusing on improving health and well-being, reducing time in TA, reducing disruption, and improving support.

8. Learning and Improvement: This board received an update on local safeguarding children practice reviews. The report was noted.

9. Partner Updates - Anti-Racist Charter

There was a summary of good practice across partner agencies demonstrating commitment to embedding the CHSCP Anti-Racist Charter, including top-down commitment from Hackney Children and Families Service (CFS), Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (HHFT), Met Police, ELFT, and NEL ICB in the following areas:

Practitioner standards and workforce development:

- Equipping staff with culturally sensitive and anti-racist practice.
- Initiatives include Anti-Racist Supervision in CFS.

- Changes to supervision documentation in HHFT.
- Mandatory training in Met Police.
- Cultural competency training in ELFT and Probation.

Practice improvement and community impact:

- CFS reducing disproportionality in Section 47 enquiries.
- HHFT SALT developing the IDEALS framework.
- Met Police co-producing a Stop and Search Charter.
- HHFT Enhanced Health Visiting developing awareness of dermal melanocytosis.
- Education focusing on disproportionality in the education system.
- ELFT CAMHS reviewing data by ethnicity.
- Probation using geographical data on ethnicity.

Future ambitions included integrating this work into wider structures and measuring its impact on the workforce.

Any Other Business:
There was a discussion on the use of AI in record keeping. Partners were assured that Hackney's infrastructure was secure.

There was agreement to send out a safeguarding alert to partners that paracetamol is safe for pregnant women.