

Hackney Safeguarding Children Partnership Board

Minutes (Summary)

Date / Time	26 February 2026
Chair	Jim Gamble (JG) - Independent Safeguarding Children Commissioner
Notes	Rushena Miah - (RMi) CHSCP Coordinator

Membership

Name & Role	Attendance
Carolyn Sharpe (CS) Consultant in Public Health Public Health	present
Chris Hahn, (CH) Lead Professional for Safeguarding Children ELFT	present
Cllr Anntionette Bramble (AB) Deputy Mayor Hackney	apologies
Cllr Susan Fajana Thomas (SFT) Councillor Hackney	apologies
Diane Benjamin (DB) Head of Children's Social Care	present
Dinh Padicala (DP) Director of Safeguarding ELFT	present
Donna Thomas (DT) Assistant Director Education	apologies
Dr Michael Ogundele - (MO), Designated Doctor NHS NEL	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	apologies
Jessie Rowland (JR) - Service Manager Hackney Cafcass	present
Lisa Aldridge (LA) - Programme Director Families First	present
Marcia Smikle (MS) Head of Safeguarding Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation	present
Pauline Adams (PA) - Head of Service Young Hackney	present
Rory McCallum (RM), Senior Professional Advisor CHSCP	present
Sam Martin (SM) Designated Nurse NHS NEL	apologies
Stephanie Salmon (SS) - HoPDU for Hackney and City	present
Vijay Gorania (VG) A/DCI, Central East BCU MPS	present
Vivienne Hobbs (VH) Named Doctor (Community) Homerton Hospital	present

1. Declarations of Interest - none

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as an accurate record.

2.2 The AI Minimum Standards Policy was adopted.

3. Risk Register and Operational Risk Register

The board reviewed the risk register making minor adjustments.

4. Learning & Improvement:

- The CSA report summary was completed and would be circulated shortly.
- The MVPA report was published.
- Child F - minor amendments and confirmation with father on these before publication.

Concerns were raised with regards to the DfE's SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Reforms (which had been communicated to the DfE).

5. Families First Reforms Update

The board received an update from DB with regards to the families' first reforms.

- Progress: The council is progressing with plans to implement the Families First agenda and create a Family Help Service.
- Legislation Status: The Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill has had its third reading but is still not passed.
- Go-Live Target: They are hoping to go live in April 2026, but this date is subject to interdependencies like the IT system.

New Service Model

- Structure Change: The separate assessment team and child protection team will merge into the Family Help Team.
- Remaining Services: The Director of Children's Services (DCS) and corporate parenting services will remain as they currently are.
- Key Developments: The team is developing the Multi-Agency Child Protection Team (MACPT) health role, job descriptions, and operating protocols.
- In-Person Conferences: Initial child protection conferences are moving to be held in person.

Next Steps and Future Focus

- Finalising the MACPT operating protocol.
- Designing the extra familiar harm family health team.
- Developing a trauma-informed and anti-racist whole partnership approach.
- Strengthening family-led decision making.

6. Asylum Seeking Children in Temporary Accommodation Update

Welcome Hackney, provided a six-month update regarding children in asylum accommodation in the borough. Overall there was a significant reduction in child residents in temporary accommodation. The number of children living in contingency hotels in Hackney has fallen dramatically from 54 to just 12 children.

7. Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2024-25

The Board received a summary of the Safeguarding Adults Annual Report from Claire Solley, the new Independent Chair for the City in Hackney Safeguarding Adult Board (SAB).

8. Partner Updates: With regards to the general updates, it was noted that the DIAS and IRIS service funding had been moved to green due to the successful business case developed to the ICB, which secured funding for a further year.

Cyber Security: The multi-agency position on Cyber Security was noted as one of high compliance and proactive defense, based on submissions from all partners. It was agreed that there is no current need to escalate cyber security onto the partnership risk register.

9. Any Other Business

Partners were alerted to a recent social media (tiktok) trend of 'Red and Blue Wars'. This was a fighting challenge between secondary schools being pitted against one another. Partners were advised to remain vigilant.

There was a discussion on taking part in the formation of the Child Protection Agency consultation. However, as the deadline was on 5 March 2026, it was deemed unlikely that a board endorsed response could be completed in time. Individual agencies were encouraged to respond.

END: 16:00