

## Newsletter, May 2024

### The Safeguarding Partnership Vision

**For every child and young person to be and feel safe, enjoy good physical, emotional and mental health, have pride in their unique identities, feel that they belong and have opportunities to thrive.**

**For adults, irrespective of age, race, gender, culture, religion, disability or sexual orientation to be able to live with their rights protected, in safety, free from abuse and the fear of abuse.**

All previous newsletters can be accessed [here](#).

**The Safeguarding Partnership produces and sources practice guidance, briefings and audit reports to support your safeguarding practice with children and adults.**

#### **In this newsletter:**

- Mental Health Awareness Week 2024
- NSPCC Talk PANTS Campaign
- NHS ICON Campaign - Preventing Abusive Head Trauma in Infants
- Updated Guidance for Safeguarding Children with Complex Needs and Disabilities
- Preventing Fatal Fires Amongst Vulnerable Adults - webinar opportunity
- Updated Safeguarding Partnership Escalation Policy
- Adult LADO: Managing Allegations Against People in Positions of Trust
- Good Local Practice in Partnership Working to Safeguard an Adult

#### **Partnership News:**

- Metropolitan Police attended “Walking in Our Shoes” training.
- Induction webinars
- Training offer for 2024-25



**Subscribe to the Safeguarding Partnership mailing list [here](#) - it only takes a minute! You will receive new briefings and newsletters as soon as they are published.**

# Mental Health Awareness Week 13th -19th May 2024



**MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK**  
13-19 MAY 2024

Mental Health Awareness Week ran from 13 – 19th May. The theme for this year was movement. Movement is important for our mental health. But so many of us struggle to move enough. We know there are many different reasons for this, so this Mental Health Awareness Week there is a focus to help people to find moments for movement in their daily routines.

We focused locally on child and adolescent mental health and put on a series of learning events for the week delivered. You can access recorded versions of these sessions [here](#). If your safeguarding lead does not have the password for our webinars, contact [safeguardingpartnership@hillingdon.gov.uk](mailto:safeguardingpartnership@hillingdon.gov.uk):



- LINK - Children and young people's mental health and the relationship between movement and emotional well-being.
- Papyrus - Spark Suicide Prevention Awareness, Resources, and Knowledge Presentation.
- CAMHS and Eating Disorders Service



Child and Adolescent Mental Health 2024

The Safeguarding Partnership has produced a briefing to support professionals in their work with children and young people with mental health needs. The briefing covers:

- Let's get talking about mental health
- Conversation tips and exam stress
- Responding to mental health concerns and suicidal feelings
- Support available in Hillingdon for children and young people's mental health
- [24 Hour Hopeline](#)
- Further reading for professionals



World Mental Health Day 2023



World Suicide Prevention Day 2023



Safeguarding Children and Adults with Mental Health 2023

**The NSPCC's Talk PANTS Campaign is Coming to Hillingdon**

The Safeguarding Partnership is currently working with the NSPCC Talk PANTS Pan London Campaign to prevent child sexual abuse and support children to seek help if they need it.

The NSPCC Talk PANTS campaign is an initiative aimed at empowering children to understand their rights to safety and to recognise the potential risks of abuse. Talk PANTS aims to teach children how they can speak up if anything doesn't feel right.

Talk PANTS is aimed at parents of children between ages 3-11, giving adults advice on how to talk to children in an age-appropriate way about sexual abuse, without using any scary words or even mentioning sex. We know that simple conversations can make a big difference, and that's what the Talk PANTS campaign is all about.

The NSPCC Talk PANTS campaign will be rolling out across Hillingdon over the coming months, if you would like to learn more about Talk PANTS and find out how your service can get involved, join us at the NSPCC's free online Professional Launch of Talk PANTS for London on the 5th June 2025.

[Click here to join us for the Launch!](#)

## NSPCC Talk PANTS Campaign

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[Click here to join us for the Launch](#)

Register your Interest to be a champion

[CLICK HERE](#)

**P** RIVATES ARE PRIVATE

**A** LWAYS REMEMBER YOUR BODY BELONGS TO YOU

**N** O MEANS NO

**T** ALK ABOUT SECRETS THAT UPSET YOU

**S** PEAK UP, SOMEONE CAN HELP



Research demonstrates that educating parents about infant crying, and the risks of shaking babies, can significantly reduce the incidence of Abusive Head Trauma in infants. Some cases of Abusive Head Trauma can happen as a result of a parent or carer losing control when the crying becomes too much to cope with.

Anyone working with parents can make a difference by sharing these key ICON messages



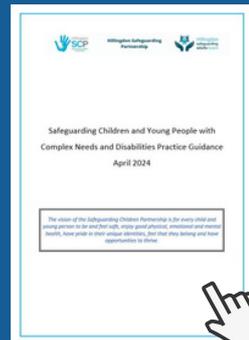
NHS North West London is rolling out the ICON programme across 8 London boroughs. ICON training of key health professionals has started in Hillingdon. Watch the local ICON Launch webinar here to find out more.



ICON have produced extensive evidence based resources for parents and professionals to support parents with infant crying accessible at [www.iconcope.org](http://www.iconcope.org)

## Updated Practice Guidance: Safeguarding Children and Young People with Complex Needs and Disabilities

Practice guidance to support your work in Safeguarding Children and Young People with Complex Needs and Disabilities has been updated in line with changes to Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023, and following both local and national reviews. Click the image on the right to download the updated guidance.

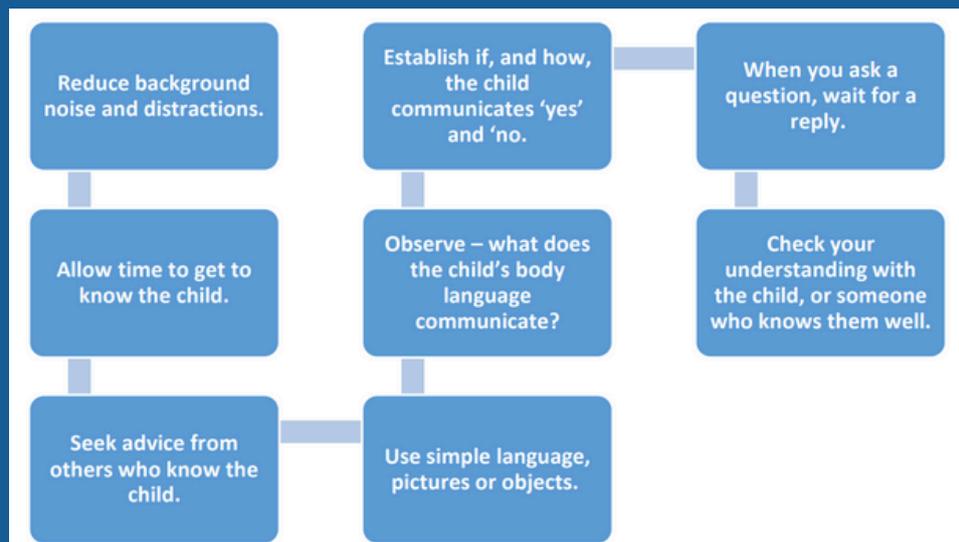


The presence of a disability increases the vulnerability of children to abuse and neglect. This is well evidenced in research and reflected across the breadth of legislation, statutory guidance, and agency policies and procedures.

Children with complex needs and disabilities are children first and foremost. This means that they should be afforded the same opportunities, rights and protections as all other children and young people.

Practitioners across all agencies should ensure that their intervention with children with disabilities is child focussed, and highlights the child's strengths. Support plans, irrespective of context, should promote the child's right to achieve their full potential.

To ensure that children can have their voices heard, follow these tips to assist in communicating with children who have speech, language, and communication needs



## Preventing Fatal Fires Amongst Vulnerable Adults

The majority of people who die or are seriously injured in fires have common vulnerabilities and risk factors. They are often known to service providers and agencies. It is the responsibility of all of us to reduce these risks where we can and help prevent fires from happening.

Dementia, learning disabilities, reduced mobility, and a range of medical equipment can increase the risks of fire and make it much harder for someone to protect themselves from it. Professionals providing support of any kind must be alert to the risks and take prompt action to manage the risks wherever possible.



### Free Lunch and Learn Webinar

Preventing Fatal Fires Amongst Vulnerable Adults

Date: 17th June 1pm- 2.30pm

[Click here to register your place](#)

This webinar aims to assist professionals and volunteers in understanding, identifying and mitigating fire risks that affect vulnerable adults. This webinar supports effective adult safeguarding and partnership working to reduce the risk of fire-related fatalities. Any and all professionals and volunteers working in Hillingdon are welcome to join.

## Updated: Safeguarding Partnership Escalation Policy

The purpose of the Safeguarding Partnership Escalation Policy is to provide a framework for practitioners and managers across the whole professional network to resolve professional differences. It is relevant to any and all organisations working with children or adults in any capacity. The policy has been reviewed and updated in Spring 2024. It contains a 4 stage escalation process to follow.

Safeguarding children and adults is a complex process requiring collaborative working across a range of professions and disciplines. At times there may be disagreement about the best course of action to take. There is sometimes a need to resolve professional differences through proportionate use of escalation.

Disagreements could arise in a number of areas including:

- Levels of need
- Roles and responsibilities
- Actions taken, or not taken
- Care planning
- Communication and information sharing

Professionals should attempt to resolve differences through discussion and/or meeting within a timescale that protects the child/adult from harm.



## What is Escalation?

If professionals are unable to resolve differences with each other, their disagreement must be addressed by more experienced / more senior staff. Effective working together depends on an open approach and honest relationships between agencies.

All professionals should be encouraged to be curious about why decisions are made and question each other if they feel a decision is wrong. Staff from any agency should feel confident and able to challenge decision-making; they will have a professional responsibility to promote the best multi-agency safeguarding practice and therefore raising such concerns is an entirely legitimate activity.

## Adult LADO: Managing Allegations Against People in Positions of Trust

The Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership Adult LADO Process has been reviewed and refreshed. The document sets out the local expectations and processes for managing allegations against people who work in a position of trust (PiPoTs) with adults. This would include anyone working in a paid or voluntary capacity with vulnerable adults.

Some allegations against PiPoTs will be addressed through a Safeguarding Enquiry pursuant to Section 42 of the Care Act 2014. Some allegations against PiPoTs will be addressed through the ALADO process. This document explains which process to use and what the ALADO process is.

There is a flow chart in appendix 3 of the process document to guide your response when managing an allegation against PiPoT.

All employers, universities, and voluntary organisations should familiarise themselves with this refreshed process.



Here is a short briefing to summarise the key points of the process.



## Good Practice - Partnership Working

The Safeguarding Adults Review Panel is a multiagency group chaired by a senior officer in the Metropolitan Police Service. The purpose of the panel is to consider whether the criteria are met for a statutory review when an adult has suffered serious harm, or died, due to abuse and neglect and there is concern about the effectiveness of multiagency working.

In April the Panel met to examine the care and support provided to an older adult where there were concerns about exploitation, neglect and cuckooing. This adult has been successfully safeguarded with the necessary support now in place.

The Panel highlighted the following areas of good practice:

- High quality information sharing between social workers, police officers, community matrons, GP and mental health services - this enabled a shared understanding of risk
- Professionals worked together to share expertise and safeguard the adult. Joint visits were undertaken regularly, across the multiagency network
- Individual workers went above and beyond their roles in the best interests of the adult concerned
- There was good use of Community MARAC
- Risk management plans were kept under review, with timely escalation to safeguard the adult concerned



## Partnership News

### Walking in Our Shoes Training delivered by children and young people with lived experience of safeguarding support

Children and young people share their journeys and life stories with professionals to encourage best practices. 10 local police officers from the Metropolitan Police recently attended bespoke “Walking in Our Shoes” training.

The police shared *“The group can be very proud of their ability to make an impact on a group of professionals. Their ability and skills leading this training are very impressive.”*

Book the free training via [Learning Zone](#).

For more information about arranging a bespoke training session for your services please email: [aknight@hillingdon.gov.uk](mailto:aknight@hillingdon.gov.uk)

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### Safeguarding Partnership Induction Webinars

The Safeguarding Partnership are delivering a series of webinars, every 6 weeks, which will provide you with information about our roles, responsibilities, priorities, and relevant legislation.

These induction sessions are suitable for professionals working with children and adults across all local services. This includes social care, housing, education, policing, probation, health, voluntary and private sector organisations. New staff or people who want to refresh their knowledge are welcome.



Click on a date  
to register for  
a session

[20 June 2024](#)

[1 August 2024](#)

28 Mar 2024

### Safeguarding Partnership Training Programme 2024-2025 is now live.

The Partnership commissions a range of safeguarding training relevant to working with children and adults. This training is free to staff in the organisations that jointly fund the Safeguarding Partnership: NHS, Police, and Local Authority. Some courses are chargeable to organisations that do not contribute financially to the partnership, and some courses are free to all.

The courses are for professionals working with children or adults across all local services. This includes: social care, housing, education, policing, probation, health, and voluntary and private sector providers.

**You need a Learning Zone account to access our training. If you don't have one, please complete [this form](#)**

**[Book on to any of our training at Hillingdon Learning Zone: Safeguarding Partnership](#)**