



2008- 2009

Annual Report

June 2009

Bromley Safeguarding Children Board
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Foreword



**Gillian Pearson, Chairman,
Bromley Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB)**

The safeguarding of children and young people from harm is a priority for all agencies. The Laming Report: 'The Protection of Children in England' sets a solid foundation for every Local Safeguarding Children Board and its partner agencies to review safeguarding arrangements. In light of this national agenda, Bromley Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) undertook a review of its practice in Spring 2009 to strengthen further our safeguarding arrangements.

Bromley continues to promote the staying safe agenda and operates within its statutory role under the Children Act 2004. The BSCB is forging stronger partnerships with local agencies through membership of the Local Strategic Partnership Board, and closer work with the Children and Young People Trust Board.

Bromley remains committed to establishing our Borough as a place where children and young people:

- feel safe
- know where to go for support and advice
- feel able to express their concerns readily and have them addressed
- achieve their full potential.

In publishing this annual report we hope we can share the achievements of the BSCB in the last year. It is only through the dedication of individuals carrying out their duties effectively that we can safeguard all children living in the Borough.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gillian Pearson." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large loop at the end of the name.

**Gillian Pearson, Chairman, Bromley Safeguarding Children Board
Director, Children and Young People**

1. Context

National Context

The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) began their stocktake of Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCB) this year, some four years after establishing LSCBs under the *Children Act 2004* section 13. The review, lead by Lord Laming, went ahead with an additional level of scrutiny following the tragic death of Baby P, the subsequent, Haringey Serious Case Review and inspection through a Joint Area Review conducted by Ofsted. It reported in March 2009 amid a great deal of interest. Lord Laming made 58 recommendations. Some of the recommendations set out actions for LSCBs. The BSCB determined to be proactive in its safeguarding role and set about considering ways that these could form part of the BSCB 2009-2010 programme of work. A particular focus this year was the effectiveness of Local Safeguarding Children Boards and the challenge they pose to agencies. The BSCB undertook the DCSF Challenge and Improvement Toolkit in order to measure its effectiveness, plan and implement improvements to safeguarding arrangements locally.

The DCSF published national guidance to support safeguarding procedures in areas such as *E-Safety* in the Dr Tanya Byron Report and Cyberbullying and Homophobic bullying. In addition, the DCSF issued an Action Plan and consulted on guidance for safeguarding *Young Runaway*. They issued a new National Indicator to be completed by LSCBs. The Department of Health worked with wider group of health professionals, such as dentists and opticians to produce guidance on their role and responsibilities in relation to safeguarding. A number of new national performance indicators for safeguarding were announced this year.

Local Context

This year the BSCB aimed to widen its remit in accordance with the expectation that LSCBs increasingly engage in the wider safeguarding agenda.

The core business of safeguarding remained at the forefront of the programme of work. Unfortunately the Board had to investigate the death of a 1 month old child. This Serious Case Review concluded and reported to Ofsted in December 2009.

BSCB Business Plan

The BSCB's core objectives are to:

- a) *co-ordinate what is done for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area of the authority;*
- b) *ensure the effectiveness of what is done for those purposes.*

The Business Plan sets how the BSCB will achieve these core objectives. Reviewed by the Board in November 2008, the Business Plan developed into a Strategic Plan for the BSCB. This enabled the Board to be explicit about its priorities going forward. It facilitated setting BSCB priorities within the context of the National Staying Safe Action Plan, local Children and Young People's Plan and outcomes of local serious case reviews. The plan reflects the scope of activities expected in terms of governance and self evaluation.

The priority areas for action this year include:

- Domestic Violence
- E-safety
- Parental Mental Health
- Parental Substance Misuse
- Children Missing from Home and Care

2. Committee Work

Main Committee

The BSCB met three times last year to discuss a range of issues including hearing about the lessons to be learned from two serious case review investigations. Following exploration of the effective functioning of the BSCB, the Board went on to set priorities areas for the 2009 - 2010.

BSCB has a diverse membership comprising 39, which reflects a range of sectors including voluntary, health sector, adult services, criminal justice system and education. Seven sub-committees assist the BSCB in its work and the structure is being reviewed.

Executive Committee

The Executive develops the work of the BSCB at an operational level, helps to set strategic objectives for the BSCB and its member agencies and take decisions. It also sits as the Serious Case Review Sub-Committee when required.

The Committee's achievements in 2008 – 2009 were to:

- Set priorities for the BSCB
- Review the Business Plan and actively monitor the progress against the objectives,
- Monitor and set the BSCB budget,
- Commission a Serious Case Review
- Review and develop safeguarding procedures and protocols.
- Encourage agencies to report on child protection to the BSCB annually

Quality Standards Standing Committee

The Quality Standards Committee reviewed and strengthened its work plan and terms of reference to enhance the scrutiny activity of the BSCB.

In 2008- 2009 the Committee's key achievements were to:

- Produce a multi-agency audit tool.
- Conduct two multi-agency audits
- Manage the collation of information for the London Dataset pilot
- Monitor the implementation of actions in all Bromley Serious Case Reviews
- Review referred cases.

Policy, Procedures and Communication Sub-Committee

The BSCB Policy, Procedures and Communication Sub Committee is responsible for reviewing and advising on the development of safeguarding procedures and for improving communication between partner agencies.

In 2008 – 2009 the Committee reviewed the following policies and procedures:

- Anti-Bullying Strategy
- Contenance and Safeguarding
- Parental Mental Health
- Parental Substance Misuse
- E-Safety Strategy
- Children Missing from Home and Care

The committee also produced and agreed a Communication Strategy for partner agencies.

It was involved in agreeing promotional activity in the following safeguarding areas:

- Safe Parenting Handbook
- Anti Bullying Awareness
- Private Fostering Awareness Campaign

Training

The BSCB Training Sub-Committee is responsible for evaluating BSCB training, identifying training need and ensuring that basic safeguarding training is provided by agencies. This committee sets the BSCB annual training programme.

In 2008 - 2009 the Committee achieved the following:

- Developed the 2009-2010 Training Programme
- Delivered training to 675 delegates
- Organised training beyond the set programme in order to meet the requirements of two serious case reviews.
- Managed the implementation of Barnardo's Domestic Violence Training.
- Provided awareness raising opportunities through running six discussion groups - Safeguarding Forums.

Safeguarding Health Standing Committee

The Health Safeguarding Standing Committee provides a forum for a range of agencies involved in healthcare to discuss safeguarding children issues.

The Committee reviewed and developed procedures in:

- Parental Mental Health
- Parental Substance Misuse

The Committee discussed

- Health Agency Safeguarding Strategies from Oxleas and the PCT

- Joint Chief Inspector's Safeguarding Report

It identified key issues from the National Service Framework and addressed the following safeguarding issues:

- Safeguarding Children in Mobile Families
- Promotion of the use of the Common Assessment Framework among health professionals.
- The Impact of the Haringey Serious Case Review on practice in Bromley

It managed the assessment of services through the National Service Framework Standards NSF 5.

Safeguarding Education Standing Committee

The Safeguarding Education Standing Committee met six times this year. It comprises a wide range of agencies in the sector and in 2008- 2009 it undertook the following:

- The development of a process illustrated by a flow chart on private fostering referrals for the sector
- Developing a protocol on the notification of a child death that ties in with the Child Death Overview Procedures
- Agreeing a safer recruitment statement for use by all agencies
- Supported the development of a BSCB Anti-Bullying Strategy.

3. Achievements

Priorities

All LSCBs face a large and increasing workload. To manage this demand the BSCB set priorities for its programme of work for the forthcoming two years. Progress towards the achievement of these priorities is set out below.

Accountability

The second annual report on Safeguarding was submitted to the local authority Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People (CYP). By receiving regular reports the Portfolio Holder fulfils the requirements of the Children Act 2004 to know about the nature and quality of safeguarding services being delivered by the Director of Children's Services. The report describes how co-ordinated safeguarding activity is improving outcomes for children and young people in Bromley, as well as setting out BSCB achievements and the key safeguarding activity undertaken by Children's Social Care. It also sets out where challenges exist, such as recruitment of social workers and the actions being taken to address them.

Partnership

A clear relationship with the *Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)* now exists. The BSCB Chair now sits on the LSP Executive.

The BSCB continues to be involved in various aspects of the work of the *Children and Young People's Trust* and to hold them to account for their safeguarding arrangements. The BSCB presented a workshop on safeguarding at the Annual Trust Forum for a second time.

The relationship with the voluntary sector continues to be fostered as the BSCB works more closely with the Bromley Children and Families Voluntary Sector

Forum in all aspects of its development work. The BSCB gave a presentation on safeguarding at the Forum AGM and consulted with the Forum in the development of its strategies.

A partnership with the *Bromley Youth Council* was developed to ensure that children and young people have an opportunity to identify and shape safeguarding strategy and policy. The BSCB agreed to attend Youth Cabinet meetings where safeguarding issues can be aired.

The Board now has representation on the newly formed Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board. This will ensure that issues that impact on the safety of children are raised in that forum and can be addressed within Safeguarding Children Board.

Serious Case Reviews

In 2008 the BSCB commissioned one serious case review and concluded the process for and reported on another. Both involved babies under the age of one and one of the babies died. The reviews explored the engagement of and liaison between agencies involved and the services provided to the child and adults involved. The Executive Summaries of the reports are available on the BSCB website.

Lessons learned from reviews are shared with professionals across agencies. Specific briefings have been held with staff and teams involved as well as with managers. Multi-agency training was provided on the lessons from the serious case review and also specific additional training on safeguarding in the context of parental mental health issues.

All reports are sent to Ofsted for evaluation. An action plan for each case is prepared and progress is monitored by the Quality Standards and Executive

Committees. Completion of the Action Plan is monitored by the Government Office for London.

Child Death Overview Processes

In April 2008 the Child Death Overview Process came into being. The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) is chaired by Jenny Selway, Consultant for Public Health. It met three times this year, discussing 12 cases. CDOP monitors all child deaths to establish any patterns in the deaths and any lessons to be learned and reports to the BSCB Executive. The Rapid Response process, the process for managing unexpected deaths is led by the Community Paediatrician, Dr Nike Adeoye. The Rapid Responses process was actioned six times to varying levels this year. The BSCB published leaflets for bereaved parents. It provides guidance and information about what the CDOP process involves.

To reduce child deaths the BSCB published a *Safe Parenting Handbook*, an A5 booklet covering various aspects of parenting, some of which had particular relevance to Bromley Serious Case Reviews. These were issued to reception year children via schools and mothers of newborn children via midwives.

Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

A major success in Bromley is the introduction of Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). This police lead initiative aims to review and co-ordinate service provision in high risk domestic violence cases. It aims to bring agencies together to ensure that all possible strategies for increasing the safety of victims is achieved and to impose sanctions where necessary. Where a child lives in the household, professionals must assure themselves that everything is being done to ensure their safety.

In addition the Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children presents the BSCB on the local authority Domestic Violence Steering Group, extending the partnership working between agencies still further.

Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)

The police lead on the implementation of the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements in Bromley. MAPPA was set up by the government to incorporate three responsible authorities, Police, Prison Service and Probation. Their role is to manage 'Registered Sex Offenders' (RSO) and Potentially Dangerous Persons (PDP). As well as the three responsible authorities, there are five other agencies, which have a duty to co-operate, these are: social services, mental health, housing, youth offending teams and Child Abuse Investigation Teams (CAIT). They are required to share information about the people who are managed by or brought to the attention of the MAPPA group. Together these agencies ensure that for example: when a sex or violent offender is released from prison all key agencies are notified and plans set in place to ensure that children are safeguarded.

MAPPA subjects are categorised as 1) sex offender, 2) violent persons, 3) potentially dangerous persons. Within each category, there are three levels of monitoring, level 1 is the lowest risk and Level 3 the highest.

Bromley MAPPA meets monthly and is attended by all the agencies. It is chaired alternately by the Borough Detective Chief Inspector (DCI) and Senior Probation Officer. The Borough DCI reports to the BSCB Executive Committee. The BSCB also reviews the MAPPA Strategy and Workplan and the BSCB chairperson is notified of high risk cases.

Strategies

The BSCB has taken a lead on developing multi-agency strategies in two universal safeguarding areas. The first to be developed was the *Anti-Bullying Strategy*. Adapted from the London Borough of Bromley school-based 'Positive Behaviour Strategy', it provides a framework to support all agencies to engage with the issue and to be able to monitor progress. It will be reviewed in 2011 following an audit of how it is being implemented in relevant partner agencies. This strategy forms part of the Children and Young People's Trust plan.

The BSCB want young people to *e-safely*. Our aim is to promote safe use of digital technologies to children and young people, whether they are playing on line games, using a mobile phones or using the internet for social networking.

Our *E-Safety Strategy* provides a framework for professionals and agencies to promote and encourage safe practice. A multi-agency E-Safety Task Group involving police, health, education and ICT in schools developed the strategy. The strategy is based on a model produced by Brent and supported by BECTA.

A baseline audit of agency practice was conducted in November 2008. A further audit is planned for 2010. Partner agencies such as L.B. Bromley children's social care, looked after children team and youth services are reviewing their handbooks in light of the strategy to ensure that children and young people are effectively safeguarded.

Children and Young People were encouraged to become involved in the process of spreading the e-safety message. A blogsite and newsletter was established and young people invited to enter a competition to develop resources to help promote e-safety.

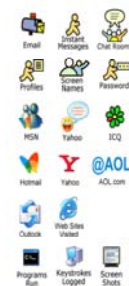
Winning entries included: Kemnal Technology College, Highfield Junior

School, The Highway Primary School, Grays Farm Primary School, St. Vincent's RC Primary School. View the winning entries at bromley.be.safe.

INFORMATION - don't give out any personal info.
NEVER - agree to meet someone.
TALKING - don't talk to strangers, its unsafe.
EMAILS - do not email people who you don't know.
ROOMS - don't go in public chat rooms.
NAUGHTY - don't ignore these rules.
EMERGENCY - if you feel uncomfortable, TELL!
TRICKS - people aren't always who they say they!



*STAY SAFE! THESE SITES
CAN BE DANGEROUS
SO BE CAREFUL!*



Entry from Grays Farm Primary School

Policies and Procedures

The BSCB adopted the London Safeguarding Children Board procedure on *Children living with Domestic Violence*. The BSCB partnered with Barnardos to deliver training on the procedure and the use of an accompanying risk assessment matrix.

The BSCB facilitated a successful partnership between the Bromley Borough Police and Children's Social Care to revise and implement the procedure on *Children Missing from Home and Care*. The revisions took place at the same time as the government reviewing its guidance on young runaways. The government also introduced a new national indicator on runaways. The BSCB is required to regularly assess local effectiveness in protecting young people and children who go missing. Two multi-agency briefings were organised to publicise the procedures and share with partners the expectations of the police and social care

in relation to this area of safeguarding. The Police are the lead agency on this aspect of safeguarding.

The *Parental Mental Health Procedure* was revised following a Bromley Serious Case Review, where a child suffered harm following the deterioration of the mother's mental health. The Primary Care Trust led the review and revisions to the procedure. The revisions clarify referral criteria and place greater emphasis on assessment that recognises the equal needs of social care and mental health concerns. Ratified by the Board in March 2009, the procedure is to be disseminated in Summer/Autumn 2009.

A key achievement resulting from this SCR and a review of the procedure was that a need was identified for improved links between the Community Mental Health Team and Health Visitors. There are now 5 Link Health Visitors, who work closely with the Community Mental Health Teams in their area.

Oxleas Mental Health Trust launched their Safeguarding Children Strategy last summer. A range of partners attended the launch event, as the Trust set out its plans for safeguarding children with mental health issues or living with parents with mental health difficulties.

Once again in response to a Serious Case Review in Bromley, where a baby tragically died, the *Procedure on Parental Substance Misuse* was reviewed and revised to ensure that professionals are clear about their responsibilities. The PCT and drug action teams worked in partnership with the BSCB to develop this procedure.

Communication

The BSCB strived to find more effective ways of sharing safeguarding messages and improving access to safeguarding procedures and policies. The BSCB

website has been re-designed to improve accessibility and ease communication with partners and the wider public. The public, professionals, parents and young people can find out about safeguarding practice, policies, training and events through the site, which is regularly updated. Social care professionals have the additional advantage of being able to access BSCB policies through the Tri-x social care electronic procedures website.

Promotion

BSCB continues to take advantage of opportunities to publicise key messages and its work through the local press. This year the Board linked up with a London-wide awareness raising campaign on *Private Fostering* in January 2008 and advertised in the local press in the corresponding week. Leaflets have been delivered to GP surgeries, schools, the voluntary sector and to professionals at various event opportunities across the borough.

Safeguarding Forums

Six *Safeguarding Forums* ran this year. These are open forums for professionals to discuss a safeguarding theme or issue. They provide an opportunity to network and discuss good practice. Themes over the year have included:

- Working with unco-operative families,
- Parental Mental Health Procedures
- Parental Substance Misuse Procedures

Training

This year the BSCB delivered 29 courses to 675 delegates. There is enhanced scrutiny of training take up by our partners. Training leads in health, the police and children and young people services of the councils are regularly provided with a list of delegates from their agency. This enables each agency to monitor

safeguarding training and maintain their records.

The needs of children with disabilities is a priority area for the BSCB over the next two years. In an effort to secure safeguarding practice among those who care for or who work with disabled children, training was provided to Escorts and Drivers from Sept 2008 – April 09.

Annual Conference

The 2008 BSCB Annual Conference focused on Bullying: 'Bromley Against Bullying'. The regional representative of the Beat Bullying campaign gave the key note address. Over 90 delegates attended the conference, representing a wide range of agencies. There were workshops from the Youth Service, Langley Park Girls School and Bromley Y. Workshops included:

- Messages on being safe on the streets from the youth service;
- Supporting resilience in children and young people by Bromley Y;
- Homophobic Bullying by national campaigner and adviser Denys Robinson and;
- Strategies to promote awareness and support in schools by Langley Park Girls School

The BSCB purchased and distributed a booklet from Parentline called *Be Someone to Tell*.

Learning from serious case reviews

Beyond the planned programme additional training needs were identified following two serious case reviews in Bromley. As a result of the Serious Case Reviews into Child P additional training on the *Impact of Parental Mental Health* was provided. The course programme was updated to ensure that it reflected the lessons learned from the serious case reviews.

To share the lessons learned following the death of Child B(08), multi-agency training sessions were delivered on dealing with apparently *compliant parents*. This training reached 38 delegates from agencies including CHIN, QA, YOT, PCT, Adoption and Safeguarding Team, Volunteer Groups and Education.

Two further courses on safeguarding *children with disabilities* were delivered this year following a multi-agency case audit and management review.

Barnardos and Domestic Violence

Action on Domestic Violence was priority for the BSCB in 2008-2009.



Barnardos Multi-Agency Training

Barnardos developed a risk assessment tool to sit alongside the revised London Child Protection supplementary procedures and training. The BSCB with Barnardos delivered comprehensive training with the aim of ensuring consistent practice of a high standard across agencies in safeguarding children and young people living with domestic violence.

Barnardos offered a successful series of training events between February 2009 and April 2009. It comprised: multi-agency awareness-raising training for everyone working with children and young people, focused two-day training to front line staff involved in making initial assessments, and a three-day training course for social workers preparing Core

Assessments. The roll out of training continues into the 2009-2010 BSCB programme of work. The success of the programme will be evaluated in Spring 2010, by a team led by child protection expert and author Martin Calder.

Publicity

The Board wanted to create an imposing and recognisable brand image, to immediately convey the message that it is everyone's responsibility to safeguard children and young people. Sixth-Form students at Ravens Wood School rose to the challenge and designed a new BSCB logo. The quality of work and their motivation was outstanding. It proved a successful partnership between the BSCB and young people.



BSCB Chair, Gillian Pearson, presents an award to runner-up, and the winning designer, Matt Goodwill

4. Performance Information

The number of children aged 5 to 14 in Bromley is around 37 thousand, which is just over 12 per cent of the population. This is precisely the same as the London average¹.

Bromley Safeguarding Children Board continues to monitor, scrutinise and provide support for agencies on their safeguarding arrangements and practice.

To fulfil this duty:

- management information and a performance dataset is monitored and reported to the Executive Committee three-times a year.
- Multi-agency audits are conducted, which review safeguarding practice as they relate to specific cases
- Plans to establish a new Safeguarding Review that draws on the findings of Laming Review.

The dataset provides an opportunity to analyse safeguarding practice. The audit reports provide an opportunity to test the quality of the practice and service.

In 2008 Child Protection data began to be collected through the Care First system.

Regional Context

BSCB remains involved in the London Dataset Pilot which is being led by the London Safeguarding Children Board. Phase II of the pilot has refined the dataset, included new national performance indicators where applicable. The collection of data and monitoring of outcomes is being taken forward through the BSCB Quality Standards Standing Committee.

RESPONSIVE SAFEGUARDING

Child Protection Plans

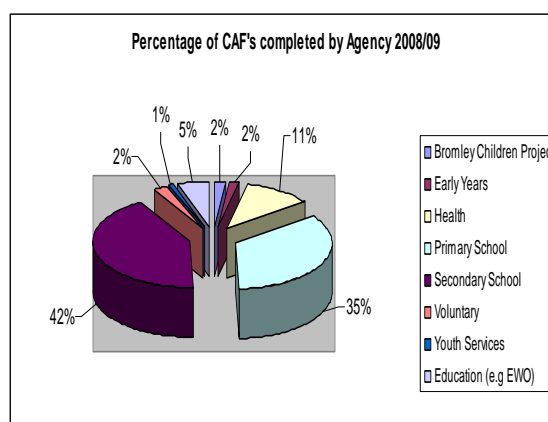
The BSCB monitors information about children who are subject to a Child Protection Plan. In the period April 2008-March 2009, 21:10,000 (under - 18 years olds) were subject to a Child Protection Plan (CP Plan). At end March 2009 167 children and young people had a CP Plan. Of these 22% were of black or minority ethnic origin. In comparison, by year end 2007 – 2008 there were 133 young people with a CP Plan in Bromley.

In the period April 2008 to March 2009, a total of 315 CP conferences were held (includes initial conferences and reviews).

Common Assessment Framework

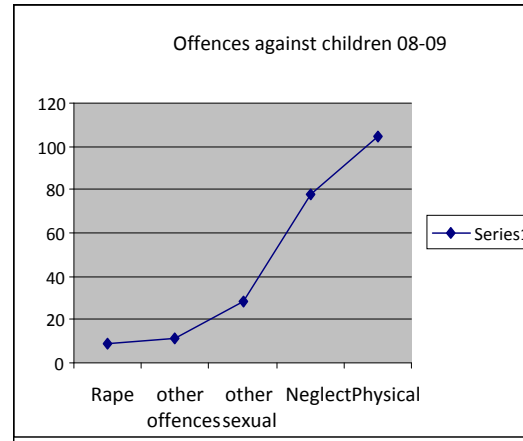
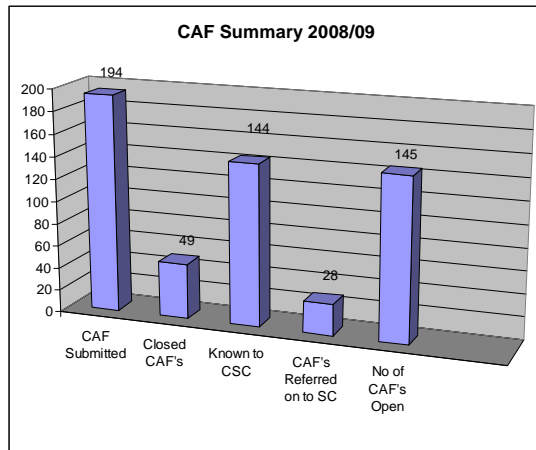
The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) team dealt with 194 enquiries in the period between April 2008 and March 2009. This represents a significant increase on the numbers submitted in the previous year.

Education establishments raised the majority of CAFs - primary and secondary schools raised 149 of them.



CAF enquiries 2008-2009

¹ Making Sense of Bromley LB Bromley 2008



The CAF team provided a programme of training about the Common Assessment Framework to inform people about how it can be used. There was training for those in the role of Lead Professional.

Police

The Metropolitan Police issue a monthly report on child protection offences to safeguarding children boards. The information relates to inter-familial offences, which includes the family, extended family, aunts, uncles, siblings, half-siblings, foster-carers, step parents and long term partners. The figures relate to the borough in which the offence occurs.

In 2008 – 2009 a total of 231 offences against children were reported. Of these the majority of offences (105) were categorised as physical, which includes offences such as grievous bodily harm, actual bodily harm, child abduction, assault, murder, common assault, harassment, use of an offensive weapon and other violence. The table below summarises data for the offence categories.

Bromley ranks 18th for child abuse offences (231 reported) among the 33 London boroughs. Excluding Heathrow, Richmond upon Thames has the lowest and Southwark leads the table with over 400. Overall the numbers of reported crimes against children increased on last year.

Child Deaths

The BSCB's collection and analysis of data about children who die in the Borough began in earnest this year with the establishment of the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP).

The CDOP investigated 22 child deaths in April 2008 – March 2009. Of these nine were unexpected.

Youth Offending

As part of its internal safeguarding procedures, the Youth Offending Team (YOT) operate a regular multi-agency risk panel to determine appropriate responses to both the assessed risk and vulnerability of young people on statutory court orders. All staff are subject to safer recruitment procedures and undertake child protection training.

TARGETTED SAFEGUARDING

Drugs and alcohol

An analysis of information about people who have been assessed as having substance misuse problems shows that over 100 children are in treatment.

Private Fostering

Four children were subject to private fostering arrangements in 2008-2009. Three were new notifications.

Mobile Families

The BSCB is aware of the safeguarding needs of children within mobile families. As part of its annual collection of safeguarding data, the London Borough of Bromley Housing department provide information on the number of families with dependent children under 16 living in temporary accommodation. The majority of those in temporary accommodation (658) have dependent children (78%).

Exclusions

Education achievement is at or above the London average and school attendance is generally good. However, a few children are permanently excluded from school. In Bromley some children may attend a Pupil Referral Unit to ensure they receive an education. Absence from school is a safeguarding issue, as children and young people may place them selves at risk of harm.

Last year the rate of exclusion per 10,000 of the school population was 0.03 % at Primary level and 0.13 at Secondary level. The represents a fall, at each level, since 2007-2008.

Youth Offending

The BSCB received data on anti-social behaviour orders and contracts relating to children. Contracts are a stage of managing behaviour prior to issuing formal orders. In April 2009, out of 15 ASBOs, 10 related to children under 18 years old. Of 32 anti-social behaviour contracts, 29 were issued to young people under 18.

The Police schools safety officers and road safety campaigns are effective in the borough. There was one road traffic accident resulting in the death of a child.

The Youth Inclusion Support Programme (YISP) work with 64 young people aged between 8-18 who are at risk of offending. The intervention aims to support the

young person and his/her carer during a three to six month period.

Missing Children

The number of children who go missing from home or from local authority care in each year is thankfully relatively small. Many are absent for a short period of time, fewer disappear for longer than a night. The risks to a child's safety increase depending on their age, their health and state of mind, alongside other factors. A child may runaway several times and those most at risk of doing so are those in care.

The Police are the lead agency for missing children and report to the Board. Last year 906 missing reports were compiled in Bromley of which 461 were children. IN the first quarter of the year the police dealt with 169 reports of missing children.

UNIVERSAL SAFEGUARDING

Safety

Ofsted conduct a national survey of children and young people's views and publish this regularly as their 'Tell Us Survey'. Although a limited sample, the survey indicates that the majority of children and young people believe Bromley is a safe place to live and attend school. However, of those who felt unsafe from being hurt by others, the following information was given:

- 27% in the local area
- 45% on public transport
- 12% going to and from school

BSCB Training

The BSCB ran a full programme of multi-agency safeguarding training this year. It commissioned 29 courses and delivered to 675 delegates. The BSCB provided additional training to address concerns raised in serious case reviews and in management reviews. These were

parental mental health, children with disabilities and learning lessons from serious case reviews. In support of the BSCB e-safety strategy, training on internet safety was provided.

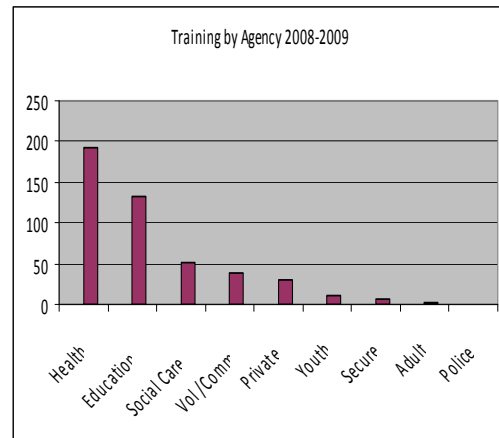
Safer recruitment training, initially targeted at schools and delivered through a National College of School Leadership designed programme, will be extended to incorporate a wider range of multi agency partners. Over a two year period to April 2009 the training was achieved by:
96% of Primary
88% of Secondary
100% of Special schools.

The Safeguarding Lead Officers for Health and Education deliver targeted training on working together to professionals in health and education settings respectively.

Each course is evaluated, attendance is monitored and training lead officers for partner agencies receive regular reports on trainee attendance. The Training

Committee evaluates the overall programme and where necessary specific courses may be changed.

The following illustrates the overall attendance by agency for the year. It reflects the size of the workforce that work in direct contact with children and young people.



5. Future Developments

Independence and Challenge

Strengthening our shared responsibility for safeguarding children is a major focus of the Board's work in the forthcoming year.

One of Lord Laming's recommendations in his report *'The Protection of Children in England'* is to ensure that the roles and responsibilities of Children's Trusts and Safeguarding Boards are clear. The Secretary of State, following the Haringey child case has agreed that Local Safeguarding Board Chairs should be independent of the main agencies in the authority. To achieve this, the Board has agreed to recruit a new chairperson. This person will be independent of any partner agency in Bromley, but will have sufficient stature and experience to steer the Board through a period of challenge and improvement.

The Board will continue to provide challenge to agencies working with children and young people. To strengthen this role, it agreed to conduct an additional programme of multi agency audit, which draws on the Laming recommendations. This will go out to all agencies in 2009-2010.

Priorities 2009-2010

In keeping with the Board's priorities, as set out in *BSC B Staying Safe Strategic Plan*, the Board's priority areas for 2009-2010 retain a focus on the area of responsive safeguarding. Additional priority areas in relation to targeted and universal safeguarding will include the following areas.

Training and briefings on Parental Mental Health and Parental Substance Misuse Procedures will support the development of Procedures developed in 2008-2009.

These events will take place in autumn 2009.

The roll out of the CAF will continue to be supported by the Board with an additional impetus planned for autumn 2009.

It will continue to monitor and learn lessons from child deaths through the analysis of each death.

Promoting the importance of protecting children living with domestic violence will continue to be a focus for 2009-2010. In spring 2010, Barnardos will evaluate the implementation of the programme and Bromley will be able to consider ways to enhance its effectiveness.

Bromley Police will roll out the London Mainstream Model for Tackling Domestic Violence. This aims to improve the criminal justice system response to tackling domestic violence. The Metropolitan Police, Crown Prosecution Service, Her Majesty's Court Service and London Probation are the key partners.

Key areas

Learning from Health Care Commission reviews will be built on, in particular to:

- Ensure that robust leadership and systems are in place regarding safeguarding children following changes to the acute sector and PCT commissioning/provider units
- Improve the quality of referrals to social care and incorporating the CAF process
- Evaluation of single agency training programmes and improving consistency of this training
- Ensuring compliance with safer recruitment legislation

- Continuing to audit the effectiveness of procedures
- Reviewing supervision practice in all health areas.

There will be a focus on safer recruitment in the forthcoming year as preparations begin for the introduction of the Independent Safeguarding Authority. Within Bromley a programme of multi – agency training and briefings will commence in the autumn 2009 as part of our universal safeguarding agenda.

Education safeguarding is always a high priority because of the level of contact between professionals and children and young people. Often attention is focused on local government schools, however, Bromley has a significant number of independent schools. As part of a government review of safeguarding in the independent schools sector, a series of meetings with them will be undertaken. This will contribute to the BSCB's evidence to the review.

Bromley police will continue to introduce systems and other innovations that keep the community safe. Bromley Police will be introducing virtual courts in autumn 2009. This will mean that suspects arrested in the morning can be placed before a virtual court in the afternoon without leaving the police station. This will assist with Domestic Violence cases where the victim will be reassured of their

safety and the process will be much quicker.

Children's Social Care will continue to review its performance in safeguarding and will continue to conduct a rigorous programme of case audits to ensure that its safeguarding practices are effective. In addition, the local authority has agreed an action plan to further strengthen safeguarding practice in social care. This will include the appointment of Child Protection Advisors to the District offices to provide day-to-day independent oversight of children subject to child protection plans. In addition, practice consultants will be appointed to front line referral and assessment teams to provide a model of professional excellence for front line staff. A model of forensic supervision is being introduced for front line managers to ensure they provide effective challenge in child protection work. The chairing of meetings for children-in-need will now be undertaken by independent chairs to bring to this area of work the same robust and independent scrutiny that exists for children subject to child protection plans.

All of these actions will place Bromley in a better position to address the government action plan that emerges from Lord Laming's Report on protecting children and young people.

6. Accounts

A summary of the accounts of the BSCB for 2008-2009

Income

Voluntary Contributions	74,215
CF/Other income	17,890
Total	<u>92,105</u>

Expenditure

Administration (inc. salary)	34,956
Training	31,450
Annual Conference	8,272
Serious Case Reviews	13,105
Publications & Communication	4,210
Total	<u>91,993</u>

BALANCE £112 (credit)

CDOP

Income CDOP

CDOP Funding 39,360

CDOP Expenditure

CDOP Spending 39,360

Appendices

London Borough of Bromley

Bromley is the largest, geographically, of the 32 London Boroughs. It covers more than 58 square miles, encompassing both highly urbanised and rural areas. As a result, this presents a number of challenges such as:

- delivering services equitably;
- providing outlets that are convenient for all residents;
- communicating across such a large and diverse area.

In 2005/06 the population in Bromley of those under-18, was 64,654 (32,946 Male and 31,708 Female), with 12.7% coming from black and minority ethnic (BME) communities. According to the Census 2001, the Borough overall is a relatively prosperous community however, there are areas that continue to exhibit high levels of deprivation and risk factors. These are found in the west (Crystal Palace, Penge and Cator and Clock House), east (Cray Valley West and Cray Valley East) and north of the borough (Mottingham and Chislehurst North, Plaistow and Sundridge).

BSCB Committee Structure

