

July/August 2011

LSCB Newsletter

Welcome to this edition of the Safe Network briefing. Shorter than previous editions, but still with lots of helpful information and useful links.

This edition will cover:

- An assessment of progress so far on the Core Safeguarding Standards.
- Emerging practice
- More on the Safe Network's modular training resource.
- An introduction to Child Accident Prevention Trusts 'Making the Link' project which now forms part of Safe Network's offer.

Assessing the progress of the Core Safeguarding Standards

The introduction of [Safe Network's Core standards](#) has been well received by organisations of all sizes and importantly by partner agencies such as Local Safeguarding Children Boards. Since the launch there have been over 50,000 visits to [Standards section of website](#) which in turn has generated 5,385 downloads of the [standards resources](#). The volume of interest and feedback suggest the standards will offer great benefits to the sector and ultimately children and young people.

Comments received include:

"Self assessment tool is fantastic but the site in general is very easy to use and all the information is relevant"

"Clear navigation - easy to find information in a clear and concise format"

"The check-list for organisations and all of the excellent resources, especially the example documents. For a small organisation these are invaluable!"

"It's an excellent resource, which is designed for the purposes intended, and the templates are excellent for anyone whose policies and procedures need bringing up to date or reviewing on an on-going basis."

"The amount of really useful information that is linked to tools and resources."

"Comprehensive one site stop relating to all safeguarding resources for groups"

"Nice clean website with clear links"

"Provides some useful resources I haven't been able to find anywhere else."

"It's great to have a one-stop-shop for info about what you need to do to set up an organisation/group working with children."



In addition the Safe Network's outreach activities have provided almost 700 organisations with the opportunity of 'hands on' induction to the standards and over 140 organisations have attended [Safeguarding champions training](#).

The standards are being adopted, endorsed, supported and promoted by a range of Local Authorities and their partners. The current and provisional "Honours Board" of LSCB or local Infrastructure providers for the VCS includes:

Southampton and its Association for Voluntary Services	Luton LSCB and Voluntary Action Luton	Safety Net, Brighton	Somerset
Kent and Kent Children's Fund Network	ContinueYou (see case study)	Redbridge via its VCS Network	Community First , Portsmouth
Southend LSCB and Association for Voluntary Services	Wandsworth LSCB and CVS	Bexley LSCB and CVS	Isle of Wright
Artsplan	Leicester , Leicestershire and Rutland via Voluntary Action Leicester	Greenwich LSCB and CVS	Bedfordshire Voluntary Organisations Consortium
YMCA Training	Nottingham and Nottinghamshire	Thurrock LSCB and CVS	MENTER
Solihull LSCB and Sustain	Calderdale	East Sussex	Norfolk, Momentum
Dudley LSCB and CVS	Cheshire (Chester, Cheshire West and East)	Hampshire Alliance	Young Devon and Cornwall IWO
Walsall	Telford	North Tyneside	
Warwickshire LSCB	West Berkshire	Medway CVS	Dorset Youth

Emerging practices - Education and BME

The Safe Network is working alongside of [Continyou](#) and the [National Resource Centre for Supplementary Schools](#). The partnership approach has been on building capacity and skills around safeguarding for the mentors supporting the schools and also direct work with the schools themselves. The partnership has included the following:

- Training sessions on Safe Network materials delivered to schools and support leads
- Training the trainer sessions for key supplementary schools and mentors on the safe network standards
- Coaching and support for ongoing delivery and sustained engagement through the Continyou regional lead.

• This programme has been very well-received and proved to be a sustainable mechanism to disseminate resources to diverse groups across London. The programme has developed a strong relationship with Continyou and has been positive in setting up a range of future delivery plans to cascade support and be able to collect and evaluate information on potential reach and impact.

• More on Safe Network's modular resource

• The modular training guidance 'Safe Organisations, Safe Children' is nearing completion, thus being able to share details with organisations, commissioners, infrastructure organisations and LSCBs. At present we are briefing the Safe Network champions and offering them the opportunity to try out the various modules and to think about how they will disseminate it in their local communities. Many have commented

that it will sit very comfortably alongside other training resources while others have said that they anticipate using it as it stands. The Safe Network is providing the resource to champions free of charge.

One of the special advantages of the resource is that it integrates child protection with other wider aspects of safeguarding children. This will enable voluntary and community organisations to think about topics such as bullying, preventing accidents and recruiting safely. The resource also works in conjunction with the Safe Network core standards and offers a complete off-the-shelf package of training programmes, facilitator notes, activities, handouts and powerpoint presentations that can be used either internally within one organisation or on a multi-agency basis.

'Safe Organisations, Safe Children' will be available on general distribution in a CD-Rom format as a total package.. Look out for more information on the Safe Network website or from your local Safe Network contacts.

Introducing CAPT's Making the Link project

In the first briefing we confirmed the integration of a new partner the [Child Accident prevention Trust](#) and specifically it's [Making the Link project](#). Their addition will mean that under the safe network brand we can now offer:

1. Practical support and knowledge/skills development for local commissioners and VCS organisations with an interest in tendering - to help embed sustainable, effective and cost-effective programmes of work to keep children safe from harm into the new local strategic and delivery arrangements.
2. To broaden the understanding of local commissioners of the importance of keeping children safe within the developing environment for commissioning and partnership working, and of the role and strengths of the VCS in this new environment.
3. Practical support for commissioners and VCS organisations on the social,

environmental and economic case for keeping children safe, to support cost-effective and sustainable programmes of work.

Specifically this includes:

- Mentoring support programme for local authorities and partners in four selected pilot areas
- Training workshops for local commissioners and VCS
- Master-classes
- Broadening the understanding of local commissioners using web-based resources
 - o Learning nuggets
 - o Topic briefings
 - o Good practice case studies
- Developing interactive and downloadable tools, e.g. on costs of injuries, return on investment from specific interventions, health and well-being boards
- Producing and disseminating monthly e-bulletins
- The further development and /or extension of MTL's website and its resources content.

How to apply for mentoring with Making the Link

As part of the Making the Link project the Child Accident Prevention Trust is offering mentoring support to help local authorities in England to embed child safety into the new commissioning arrangements, including joint strategic needs assessments (JSNAs), health and wellbeing boards (HWBs) and to deliver effective prevention programmes.

The Making the Link team are experts in the field of child accident prevention with specialist knowledge of the policy environment, data, strategy, programme and partnership

development. They can share this knowledge and expertise with your team via mentoring support.

What the mentoring package offers:

- Support to identify the key unintentional injury issues in your area
- Advice and guidance on the availability and limitations of data
- Guidance on mapping local needs and assets
- Support to develop strategies, plans and programmes in child accident prevention, based on research evidence and best practice
- Support in forging effective, sustainable partnerships between different statutory agencies and between the statutory, voluntary and community sectors
- Knowledge of the work undertaken by NICE on unintentional injury prevention for children, and of the broader policy environment for children's safeguarding, health and wellbeing
- Knowledge of what works in child accident prevention with disadvantaged families.

In return mentored sites will share their learning with others via case studies and 'learning nuggets' on the Making the Link website.

For Local authorities

We are currently seeking to mentor four local authorities to assist in their child accident prevention and safeguarding work. The project aims to enhance the knowledge and skills of mentees, enabling them to commission and deliver cost-effective programmes that capitalise on the voluntary and community sector's (VCS) experience and target the most vulnerable children and young people.

This mentoring project is supported by the Department for Education, as part of the Safe Network project.

While CAPT's expertise is in child accident prevention there will be wider connections with the Safe Network offering support around child protection and bullying. This will allow local authorities to gain a broader understanding on the importance of keeping children safe within the developing environment for commissioning, partnership working and of the role of VCS in this new environment.

Making the Link project capacities

The nature of our funding limits us to providing mentoring over a fixed time period to four local authority areas. Each mentoring offer provides a fixed number of free days of support. We will agree with each site how these days will be used, so as to deliver maximum impact at local level.

Apply for the mentoring project

If you work for a local authority please email us at: info@makingthelink.net

Please note that there is no requirement for your organisation to be working on child accident prevention already, as we can tailor our approach to suit your needs. There is also no requirement for the approach to come from an injury prevention lead.

We appreciate that there are links between child accident prevention and many different teams and functions within local authorities and public health including safeguarding, child death reviews, early years, integrated prevention services, community child health, health inequalities and health improvement.

More information

If you would like to have an informal discussion about either of the mentoring projects, please telephone Mike Hayes on: **020 7608 7364**.