

# Redbridge Local Safeguarding Children Board Newsletter

PAGE 1



ISSUE 2

SEPTEMBER 2009

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

The Protection of Children in England Action Plan	1
Message from the LSCB Chair	1
Forced Marriage Briefing	2
LSCB Training Programme 2009-2011	2
Independent Safeguarding Authority Goes Live	2
Joint Roadshows	3
Combating Bullying in Redbridge	3
LSCB Annual Report 2008-09	3
Youth Participation Forum	3
Children Are Unbeatable! Alliance	3
Redbridge E-Safety Strategy	4

Welcome to the second edition of Redbridge LSCB Newsletter. Thank you to all those readers who gave us such positive feedback on our first edition. We hope that you find this edition just as useful. If you would like to write an article for the next edition of the Newsletter, please contact Veronica Small, LSCB Practice Development Manager on 020 8708 5226 or email: [veronica.small@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:veronica.small@redbridge.gov.uk)

## The Protection of Children in England Action Plan: The Government's Response to Lord Laming

On 12th May 2009, the Government published a response to Lord Laming's report "The Protection of Children in England: A Progress Report". All 58 recommendations made by Lord Laming were accepted by the Government.

Lord Laming's report recognises that Every Child Matters is the right framework for safeguarding children, but more work needs to be done to ensure that practices provide the best care and protection for children at the front door of each of the key services.

The publication of Lord

Laming's report has resulted in the raising of the profile of LSCBs nationally. There is an increased expectation that all LSCBs will have a degree of independence from local statutory partners and will be more open to public scrutiny. The Chair of the LSCB will also be expected to ensure that the LSCB has the capacity to challenge and has an independent voice.

Over the past few years Redbridge LSCB has worked hard to develop our role in implementing the safeguarding agenda.

We have developed our own Action Plan for Redbridge in

response to Lord Laming's report which takes into account all of the recommendations made.

To read a copy of "The Protection of Children in England: action plan The Government's Response to Lord Laming" go to:

[www.everychildmatters.gov.uk](http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk)



## Message from Cathie Pattison, Independent Chair

Welcome to our second newsletter telling you about your Local Safeguarding Children Board. We really do want the whole Redbridge community to be aware of all the Safeguarding activity that goes on to help ensure that children and young people in Redbridge have a happy and safe childhood. We want all communities and community

groups to get involved so if you are involved in supporting children in your neighbourhood, please let us know.

Similarly if you are aware of a gap in provision for certain groups of children, do get in touch. As we keep on stressing, ensuring the safety and well-being of Redbridge children

and young people is the responsibility of us all.

This edition gives lots of detail of all the hard work going on week in week out and so a big thank you to all the staff involved.

*"A forced marriage, as opposed to an arranged marriage, is a form of violence and an abuse of human rights"*



*"In 2007 the Forced Marriage Unit handled some 400 cases as well as thousands of enquiries. In the first 6 months of 2008, this case load increased by 80%."*

## Cross Borough Briefing: Forced Marriage Briefing 11.6.09

(Article written by Lesley Perry, Chair, Redbridge Training & Development ESG)

On 11th June 2009, Redbridge LSCB hosted two briefings on Forced Marriage on behalf of the Cross Borough Training Group, which includes Redbridge, Havering and Waltham Forest LSCBs.

The event was attended by over 100 professionals across a number of agencies and sectors including Children's Centres, Health, NELFT, Schools, CAF/CASS, Probation and Victim Support. The basis for the event was the publication in Autumn 2008 of "Right to Choose: Multi-agency Statutory Guidance for Dealing with Forced Marriage"

published by the Government.

Presentations were given by Lynne Townley, Crown Prosecution Service, Farhana Aktar, Forced Marriage unit and Yvonne Rhoden MBE, Metropolitan Police. A moving testimony was given by a survivor of a forced marriage.

Feedback from the briefings has been very positive and include comments such as "very inspirational", "helped expand my understanding of a sensitive issue and "very powerful presentation". Hopefully delegates will be more aware of how to recognise a forced marriage or someone at risk of one

and what support can be offered to victims.

Electronic copies of the presentations from the event are available from [lscb.training@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:lscb.training@redbridge.gov.uk). Copies of the Guidance can be obtained from the Forced Marriage Unit at [fm@fco.gov.uk](mailto:fm@fco.gov.uk).

The next Cross Borough Briefing "Sexual Exploitation, Child Trafficking and Hidden Harm" will be hosted by Havering LSCB and take place on 8th December 2009. Further details will be sent out nearer the time and all are welcome.

## Redbridge LSCB Training Programme 2009-2011

(Article written by Lesley Perry, Chair, Redbridge Training & Development ESG)

The second Redbridge LSCB Training Programme, covering the period 2009-2011, has now been launched.

The Programme, which was compiled by the Training and Development Executive Training Group (ESG), is very comprehensive in terms of topics and focuses on providing multi-agency training not only in the area of child protection but across the very broad area of safeguarding. The aim is that it will complement any single agency training offered in

individual areas.

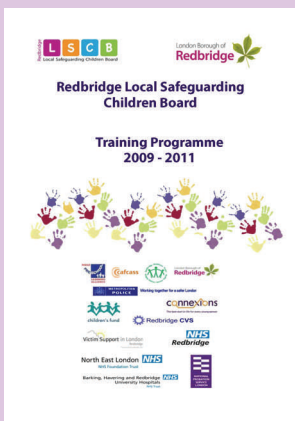
We would encourage managers and staff in your agencies to take full advantage of the training on offer. All courses will be subject to evaluation by the Training and Development ESG to ensure they achieve the agreed outcomes and continue to reflect the latest national and local agenda.

The Programme can be viewed or downloaded from [www.redbridge.gov.uk/lscbtraining](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/lscbtraining). If you have any problems accessing the

information, please contact Gemma Parish, Workforce Development Assistant on 020 8708 5641.

Your comments on the new Programme are welcome and can be sent to [lscb.training@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:lscb.training@redbridge.gov.uk).

We fully commend the Programme to you and hope that you find it relevant, of interest and great support to you in your contribution to us working together to safeguard every child in Redbridge.



*"From October 2009 employers will be able to check that individual staff members have been assessed for work with vulnerable groups"*

The new Vetting and Barring Scheme operated by the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) is launched in October 2009. The aim of the scheme is to help prevent unsuitable people from working with children and vulnerable adults. The ISA will vet every person who wants to work or volunteer with vulnerable people.

Employers will have to ensure that they do not hire anyone who is not registered with the ISA. The scheme will come into force in October 2009 with the registrations of new entrants to the workforce or those changing employment coming into effect from July 2010.

Redbridge LSCB in conjunction with Redbridge Adult Services are hosting an event in late 2009

for groups working with vulnerable people in the Redbridge community. The ISA have agreed to speak at the event to explain how the new scheme will affect employees/volunteers and employers. Details of this event will be sent out shortly. For more information on the ISA, please visit their website at:

[www.isa.gov.org.uk](http://www.isa.gov.org.uk)

## Joint Roadshows

Redbridge LSCB are holding a series of roadshows for Redbridge staff in conjunction with Fostering & Adoption Services and Workforce Development Team.

The aim of the roadshows is to raise awareness of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB), the Child Death Overview Panel, the Children's Trust Workforce Development Training Programme

and Private Fostering. We are visiting Redbridge staff at their team meetings.

We are also holding an open roadshow on 7th December 2009 in the Main Hall at the Teachers Centre, Melbourne Road. To book a place on the open roadshow, please contact Gemma Parish on 020 8708 5641 or email [lscb.training@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:lscb.training@redbridge.gov.uk).

If you would like more information about roadshows, please contact Veronica Small, LSCB Practice Development Manager on 020 8708 5226

## Combating Bullying in Redbridge

(Article written by Kathryn Gibb, Anti-bullying Coordinator, London Borough of Redbridge)

Redbridge is committed to combating bullying, wherever it occurs. To support this work Redbridge has a multi-disciplinary and multi-agency Steering Group. There is also an Educational Psychologist who is designated as the Anti-bullying Coordinator, Kathryn Gibb.

This year the Steering Group has completed a content analysis of all schools anti-bullying policies. This means that we know the strengths of policies and the areas where we can support schools to develop practice.

We have provided information for schools Restorative Justice and a summary of the Safe to Learn Suite of Guidance. This information is accessible on the London Grid for Learning

[www.lgfl.net](http://www.lgfl.net). Restorative Justice is an approach which has the promise of being a helpful way to work through a bullying incident.

There is also information on issues to consider when commissioning Restorative Justice training. 'Safe to Learn' is a set of documents published by the Department for Children Schools and Families, which focussed on ways to embed anti-bullying work in schools by responding to bullying based on Race and Religion, Homophobia, Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Disability, or which is conducted through electronic means such as text, e-mail or mobile phone.

Additionally, further information for

pupils and parents has been added to Redbridge i [www.redbridge.gov.uk](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk). This information includes information for young people on ways they can recognise and respond to bullying, as well as advice on how to tackle any bullying they may experience on the way to and from school.

The Anti-Bullying Steering group is also holding an Anti-bullying Conference, to be held on the 17<sup>th</sup> November, to coincide with Anti-bullying Week. This year's theme is '-Cyber-bullying'.

For more information, please contact Kathryn Gibb, Anti-bullying Coordinator on 020 8924 6392 or

[kathryn.gibb@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:kathryn.gibb@redbridge.gov.uk)

## LSCB Annual Report 2008-09

Our Annual Report 2008-09 has now been published. We have produced it in a different format to previous years to make it more accessible to a wider audience. We are keen to increase professionals' understanding of the LSCB's work as well as improve the public's understanding of safeguarding children in the local community.

The report gives an accurate account of our activities over the last year and looks forward to the work we will be undertaking during 2009-10. It is available to download from our webpage: [www.redbridge.gov.uk](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk)

## Youth Participation Forum

Work on the Youth Forum is progressing well and the project is on track. 15 young people from Redbridge have been recruited and trained as peer researchers. They have obtained 235 completed questionnaires from young people in Redbridge. The researchers now have the task of identifying solutions to the issues of safety for young people in Redbridge raised in the questionnaires.

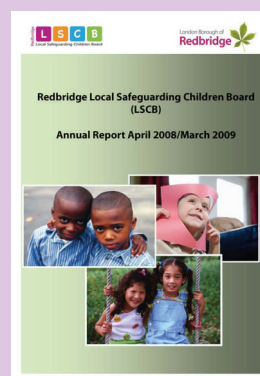
For more information, please contact Nigel Godfrey on 020 8708 8074 or [nigel.godfrey@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:nigel.godfrey@redbridge.gov.uk)

## Children Are Unbeatable! Alliance

Redbridge LSCB has signed up in support of the Children Are Unbeatable! Alliance. This group campaigns for the law in the UK to be changed so that the physical punishment of children is made illegal. The group wants parents/carers to be encouraged to use alternative methods to discipline children.

If you would like to find out more information about the Alliance, please visit their website at:

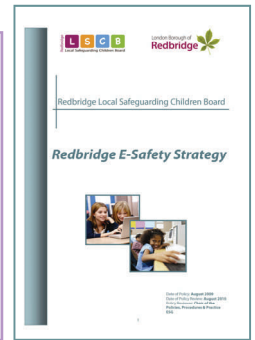
[www.childrenareunbeatable.org.uk](http://www.childrenareunbeatable.org.uk)





The E-Safety Working Group has now completed the E-Safety Strategy (including Cyber-bullying) for Redbridge. The overall aim of the E-Safety Strategy is to provide a working tool for safeguarding children and young people in a digital world. All agencies providing services to children have a duty to understand e-safety issues, recognise their role in helping children to remain safe online while also supporting adults who care for children.

We are now writing our Project Plan to drive forward Redbridge's E-Safety Strategy. If you would like more information regarding the Strategy, please contact Veronica Small, LSCB Practice Development Manager at [veronica.small@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:veronica.small@redbridge.gov.uk)



## News in Brief:

- The LSCB Training Programme 2009-2011 is now available to download from our web pages of the Redbridge i.
- The LSCB Annual Report 2008-09 is now available on our web pages of the Redbridge i.
- Cross Borough Briefing on 8th December 2009 on "Sexual Exploitation, Child Trafficking & Hidden Harm". Details of how to apply for a place will be sent out nearer the time.
- The next LSCB Training Away Day for members will be held on 30th November 2009. Further details will be sent to members nearer the event.
- Anti-bullying Conference on the 17<sup>th</sup> November, to coincide with Anti-bullying Week. This year's theme is 'Cyber-bullying'. Please contact Kathryn Gibb on 020 8924 6392 for more details.
- ISA Event in late 2009 -more details will be available soon.

## Redbridge LSCB Contacts

**Veronica Small**  
LSCB Practice Development Manager/Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)  
Ley Street House  
497-499 Ley Street  
Ilford  
IG2 7QX  
Tel: 020 8708 5226  
Fax: 020 8708 5979  
[veronica.small@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:veronica.small@redbridge.gov.uk)

**Monica Clarke**  
Coordinator to the CDOP  
Ley Street House  
497-499 Ley Street  
Ilford  
IG2 7QX  
Tel: 020 8708 5961  
Fax: 020 8708 5961  
[monica.clarke@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:monica.clarke@redbridge.gov.uk)

**Paula Cook**  
Senior Admin Officer-CDOP  
Ley Street House  
497-499 Ley Street  
Ilford  
IG2 7QX  
Tel: 020 8708 5143  
Fax: 020 8708 5979  
[paula.cook@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:paula.cook@redbridge.gov.uk)

If you have any information about what your organisation is doing to help safeguard children in Redbridge and would like to share good practice with others, please contact Veronica Small, LSCB Practice Development Manager on 020 8708 5226 or email: [veronica.small@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:veronica.small@redbridge.gov.uk)

Redbridge LSCB is continually developing our web pages. Go to the link below for a closer look:  
[www.redbridge.gov.uk](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk)