

MSCP Section 11 2021-22

What did we do?

The MSCP undertook a Section 11 audit during 2021-22 to help organisations in Merton undertake their own quality assurance processes regarding the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. 16 organisations submitted an audit and we held a peer review session with our Scrutineer and Young Scrutineer.

What is working well?

- ✓ Organisational safeguarding responsibilities are clearly stated and understood across the Partnership
- ✓ There is a clear line of accountability for the commissioning and/or provision of services to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- ✓ Staff across the partnership are aware of and understand information sharing procedures
- ✓ Agencies have processes in place to follow safer recruitment and allegations procedures (LADO)
- ✓ All partners reported good adaptation of services to mitigate the impact of Covid-19 on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

What needs to improve?

- ❖ More needs to be done to ensure that partners have a culture of listening to children and taking into account their wishes and feelings
 - ❖ There needs to be assurance that Equality and Diversity issues have been addressed, e.g. access to interpreters
 - ❖ Some agencies reported finding professional healthy challenge difficult
- ❖ Agencies reported difficulties in recording attendance and measuring the impact of training on practice and outcomes for children and young people



MSCP Section 11 2021-22

What action will we take?

- The MSCP's Young Scrutineer to work with each of the MSCP sub-groups to identify opportunities for the Partnership to build further on embedding a culture of listening to children and taking into account their wishes and feelings.
- The MSCP to seek further assurance from agencies that children, young people and families have access to interpreters where there are safeguarding concerns (Standard 3)
- The MSCP to consider holding 'open forums' to promote and engage in healthy professional challenge (Standard 4)
- The MSCP to continue to promote the Escalation Policy with agencies (Standard 4)
- The Policy and Training sub-group to consider the findings from Standard 6, with particular attention to the following:
 - Consider co-producing training with children and young people for multi-agency partners on children and young people's mental health
 - Continue to deliver trauma informed practice training across the multi-agency partnership
 - Consider with the MSCP's Young Scrutineer how children and young people's views inform training delivery, as well as measuring impact of training on practice.
- The MSCP to seek assurance from Police that single agency procedures follow local LADO policies where allegations are made against staff (Standard 7).
- Consider learning from this year's Section 11 process in the planning for our next S11.

