



surrey safeguarding CHILDREN BOARD

Autumn issue 2014



[News from the Surrey Safeguarding Children Board](#)



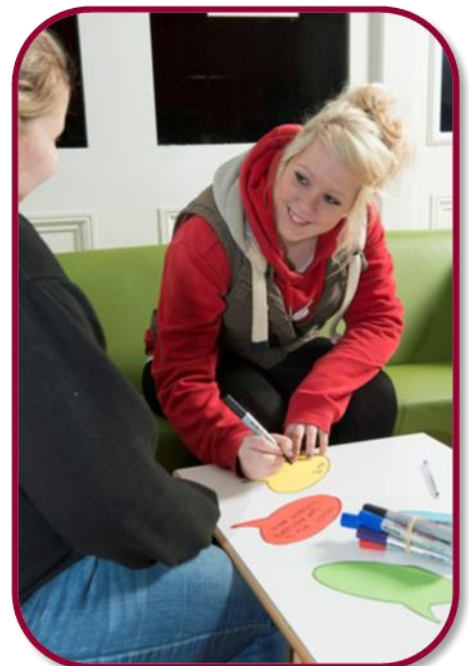
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News from the Surrey Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB)



- **Staffing update**

Stacey Westbrook joined the board support team as Training, Development and Commissioning Officer in July 2014.

Angie Tregoning, Strategic Case Review Officer retired in May 2014.

- **Website update**

The new SSCB website is now live! It can be accessed at: www.surreycc.gov.uk/safeguarding. We will continue to develop the site to make it as useful as possible for professionals, so please let us know if you have any suggestions for improvements by emailing csfcommunications@surreycc.gov.uk

- **Training update**

The new SSCB training programme has been launched on [our website](#). The programme includes foundation modules and specialist programmes. Bookings can be made for September 2014 to March 2015 using our [online booking system](#).

Recent serious case reviews (SCR) in Surrey

Three serious case reviews have been published on the [SSCB website](#) since our last newsletter:

- [Child Y](#)
- [Child S](#)
- [Child Hiers](#)

Audits

The SSCB regularly undertakes multi-agency audits. Since December 2013, we have undertaken the following audits:

- Management of parental substance misuse.
- Core group working.
- Risk management.

These audits are used to inform the work of the board. A process for undertaking audits is detailed in the SSCB [learning and improvement framework](#).

Participation

A key part of the board's responsibilities is to measure the impact of local services and to seek feedback from stakeholders.

The SSCB is working pro-actively to ensure that the voice of all stakeholders is included. If you get a chance to be involved please make the most of this opportunity.

Learning and improvement framework

Working Together 2013 requires local safeguarding children boards to develop a learning and improvement framework, Surrey's version is now [available on the website](#).

Keeping children and young people safe

Internet safety

There has been a substantial increase in instances of grooming and cyber-bullying, all of which stems from the internet. Surrey Safeguarding Children Board has now set up an e-safety sub group whose remit will include:

- To work in partnership across agencies to raise awareness and to address specific areas of concern; to prevent and respond to areas of online exploitation e.g. cyber-bullying, grooming and sexting.
- To provide advice and support to all practitioners and colleagues and the local community on safeguarding aspects of the use of IT.



As a multi-agency group we will be looking to provide training and awareness raising for young people, parents and professionals on how we can work together to keep children safe when they are online.

Anyone requiring further information can contact Ian McGraw, Education Safeguarding Advisor on 01483 518158 or email: ian.mcgraw@surreycc.gov.uk

You can find useful resources and services to signpost parents and children to below:

- [Child Exploitation and Online Protection \(CEOP\) - Thinkuknow](#)
- [Internet Matters](#)
- [How to help your child stay safe online](#)
- [BBC webwise – safety and privacy](#)

Information and resources in Surrey

Substance abuse

What are 'legal highs'?

'Legal highs' are substances which produce similar effects to illegal drugs (such as [cocaine](#), [cannabis](#) and [ecstasy](#)) but that are not controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act. These new substances are not yet controlled because there is not enough research about them to base a decision on. However, more and more 'legal highs' are being researched to see what the dangers are and if they should be made illegal.

'Legal highs' cannot be sold for human consumption so they are often sold as bath salts or plant food to get around the law.

Just the fact that a substance is sold as legal to possess, doesn't mean that it's safe - you can't really be sure what's in a 'legal high' that you've bought, or been given, or what effect it's likely to have on you. We know that the use of many 'legal highs', like [mephedrone](#), [Ivory Wave](#) and [5-IT](#), have been directly linked to emergency hospital admissions and in some cases deaths.

The main effects of almost all 'psychoactive' drugs, including 'legal highs', can be described using three main categories:

- stimulants
- 'downers' or sedatives
- psychedelics or hallucinogens.

Some drugs sold as 'legal' actually have been found to contain one or more substances that are illegal.

Help is also available to parents and carers. Websites such as [Adfam](#), [Community for Recovery](#) and [Family Lives](#) provide advice.

If parents are keen to talk to other parents with similar challenges, [Netmums](#) is a website that provides the opportunity to discuss questions or challenges they may be facing.

For local help and support contact the [Catch 22 Surrey Young People's Substance Misuse Service](#).

For more general advice for teenagers take a look at the [National Institute on Drug Abuse website \(NIDA\)](#).

Support for children and young people

Childline

[Childline](#) is available 24/7 for any child or young person who needs help. Children and young people can talk to Childline for free on 0800 1111 or [online](#). Callers do not need to give their name or identify themselves to get support and advice.



If you are concerned about a child, the information on the [SSCB website](#) will provide guidance on what to do next.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) can help

[CAMHS](#) in Surrey promotes emotional wellbeing and delivers preventative mental health services and treatment to children and young people with mental health problems. CAMHS is a partnership between Surrey County Council, Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and voluntary organisations. It supports teachers, youth workers and people working with children and young people by offering them advice and training on how to spot mental health difficulties.



CAMHS also offers advice to children, young people, parents, and carers on what can be done by way of early interventions to prevent emotional difficulties developing as well as providing assessments and therapeutic interventions when children and young people are experiencing mental health problems.

Surrey CAMHS contacts

Talk with one of the primary mental health workers (PMHW) if you're concerned about a child or young person. They can advise you on whether the case can be referred and where to get more information.

South Surrey Advisory Service: 01276 605376
(Surrey Heath, Guildford and Waverley)

North Surrey Advisory Service: 01784 884817
(Spelthorne, West Elmbridge, Runnymede and Woking)

East Surrey Advisory Service: 01737 287002
(Epsom & Ewell, East Elmbridge, Reigate & Banstead, Mole Valley and Tandridge.)

Young Minds

[Young Minds](#) is the UK's leading charity committed to improving the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people.

Parent helpline - 0808 802 5544



Support for families

Engaging with fathers – dads are important

Serious case reviews in Surrey show that there is not enough involvement with fathers and male carers; this can be for many reasons however fathers are often protective factors for children and it is important that fathers are part of assessment processes and risk management.

For information about working with dads the Fatherhood Institute has lots of good ideas and research.

Fatherhood Institute

Fathers who have a history of domestic abuse can receive help and advice from the [Fatherhood Institute website](#).



Caring Dads programme

The NSPCC runs a specialist programme for dads called '[caring dads](#)'. The programme aims to protect children through working with fathers who are violent to their partners.

It helps these fathers to:

- stop their abuse
- recognise the impact their behaviour has on their children
- improve their parenting.



Behaviour charts

If parents are struggling to manage challenging behaviour with their children, they can download useful information and resources [here](#).

Resources are designed and developed by a parent and family therapist. The site provides a unique blend of professional expertise and practical parenting.

The Family Information Service

The Family Information Service (FIS) is a free and impartial information service for families with children aged 0 to 19 (up to 25 for young people with a disability or special educational need).



It provides information about services available to families in Surrey as well as telling families about things that may affect them.

www.surreycc.gov.uk/fis

The service believes that all families should be able to make informed choices and decisions about the opportunities they have and the challenges they may face.

It aims to tell families about what is available to them in a timely way which could be before they know to ask. The FIS welcomes information from partners such as the police and health so that it can pass it on to families in Surrey. This is done to enable families to identify, and where possible, resolve any issues at the earliest opportunity.

Prevention is not always possible so FIS also provides families, and those who work with them, details about services in their area who can offer further help and support.

As much information as possible is made available through the website, directory, publications, social media and outreach work.

- [Family Information Service website](#)
- [Family Information Service directory](#)

You can like the FIS on Facebook – SurreyFIS or follow them on Twitter - @SurreyFIS.

If you can't find what you're looking for or have any questions or queries, you can contact the FIS by phone or email:

- 0300 200 1004
- surrey.fis@surreycc.gov.uk

Domestic abuse support

Claire's Law - domestic violence disclosure scheme (DVDS)

On Saturday 8 March, the domestic violence disclosure scheme (DVDS) was launched in police forces nationally, following the introduction of Claire's Law. The law was named after Claire Wood, who was brutally murdered by her ex-partner George Appleton. Appleton had a string of previous domestic violence convictions against him.

The DVDS give members of the public a formal mechanism to make enquiries (to their local police force) about an individual who they are in a relationship with, or who is in a relationship with someone they know, and there is a concern that the individual may be abusive towards their partner.

If police checks show the individual has a record of abusive offences, or there is other information to indicate the person making enquiries is at risk, the police will consider sharing this information with the person(s) best placed to protect the potential victim. The scheme will enable potential victims to make an informed choice on whether to continue the relationship, with help and support from the police to assist them when making that choice. You can find out more about the scheme at on the [Surrey Police website](#).

Agencies offering domestic abuse help

Surrey domestic abuse helpline

24 hour Helpline: 01483 776822

Website: www.yoursanctuary.org.uk

- **East Surrey Outreach Service** - 01737 771350 (Serving Reigate & Banstead, Mole Valley and Tandridge)
- **Your Sanctuary Domestic Abuse Outreach Service** - 01483 776822 (Serving Woking, Runnymede and Surrey Heath)
- **North Surrey Outreach Service** - 01932 260690 (Serving Epsom & Ewell, Elmbridge, and Spelthorne)
- **South West Surrey Domestic Abuse Outreach Service** - 01483 577392 (Serving Guildford and Waverley).

Surrey Against Domestic Abuse website

The Surrey against domestic abuse website offers help and support for anyone in the county affected by domestic abuse.

Visit www.surreyagainstda.info for more information.



Victim Support Surrey

Tel: 0845 38 99 528

Website: www.victimsupport.org

Victim Support Surrey offers support, information and advice to all victims of crime. Surrey Police put all reporting crime in touch with them. Victim Support also offers support and information to those who have or are experiencing domestic abuse or are worried about someone they know. Find out more on the [Victim Support](http://www.victimsupport.org) website or call 0845 38 99 528.

Refuge

Free phone 0808 2000 24 – 24 hour national domestic violence helpline run in partnership between Women's Aid and Refuge.

For Men

Men's advice line - 0808 801 0327 – 24 hour helpline for men experiencing domestic abuse.

For lesbian, gay and transsexual people

Call 0300 9995428 or email help@brokenrainbow.org.uk

Future newsletters

We'd like to use this newsletter as a forum for all partners to share their news and views on safeguarding in Surrey. If you have anything you'd like included please email [Amanda Quincey](#) or call 01372 833378.

We'd also like to improve and build on the mailing list, so please share the newsletter with any colleagues you think may be interested and if you know someone who'd like to receive it, please contact [Caroline Holmes](#) on 01372 833655.