

About the London Innovation and Improvement Alliance

Who we are

The London Innovation and Improvement Alliance (LIIA) is the Association of London Directors of Children's Services (ALDCS) sector-led improvement partnership and is hosted by London Councils. LIIA exists to:

- Identify and share effective practice
- Facilitate collaboration to address ALDCS priorities
- Provide a platform for innovation
- Produce shared datasets to drive informed strategy and practice

LIIA is founded upon a Memorandum of Understanding agreed between all of London's local authorities and is funded by local authority subscription and DfE grant.

Governance is provided by the London Children's Innovation and Improvement Board, chaired by the Chief Executive with lead responsibility for children on the Chief Executives' London Committee.

What we do

Working with our partners, LIIA encourages and supports children's services to demonstrate, develop and share good practice. This has been of particular value in providing a shared children's services infrastructure to enable collaborative responses to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Our programmes support the development of children's services as learning organisations with a particular focus on the ALDCS priorities of adolescent safeguarding, SEND, finance, and workforce issues. The last year has also seen a scaling up in the work to address racial disparities in outcomes for children and in the experience of our staff.

In the last year LIIA's work has included facilitating peer challenges to improve adolescent safeguarding practice, surveying authorities to better understand the impact of Covid-19 on placements and domestic abuse, provided resilience mapping for children's services in the course of the pandemic, and commissioned research to develop responses to the sufficiency of placements for children in care.

Current projects include:

- Development of a multi-agency, pan-London **adolescent safeguarding practice framework**;
- **Pan-London Placement Commissioning Programme** which is developing collaborative responses to risk sharing on high cost low incidence placements such as those for complex adolescents, mother and baby assessments and alternatives to custody;
- Partnership with Research in Practice to develop a pan-London **digital practice framework**;
- Development of the London **Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic leadership programme**;
- Child-level data project to improve our understanding of children's services responses in London;
- LIIA website to enable wider **dissemination of learning and building a shared resource** for ALDCS networks including Lead Members.

LIIA is London's Regional Improvement and Innovation Alliance (RIIA) and works with the ADCS, London Councils, Department for Education, the Local Government Association (LGA), the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) and the eight other RIIA across the country to promote learning through collaboration which benefits children.

