

London Adolescent Safeguarding Oversight Board

Date & Time: Friday 05 September 2025 15:00 – 17:00

Venue: London Councils, 12 Arthur Street, London EC4R 9AB

Chair: Florence Kroll

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| Date & Time: | | 05 September 2025 (15:00 – 17:00) |
| Venue: | | London Councils, 12 Arthur Street, London EC4R 9AB |
| Attendees: | | Florence Kroll, Ben Byrne, Luke Billingham, Pippa Goodfellow, Chris Miller, Bas Dickson Leach, Stephanie Royston-Mitchell, Annabel Bates, Henry Smithers, Kuda Kurashwa, Gary Connors, Daniel Phelps, Roisin Madden, Davina Smith, Sacha Sinclair, Rula Tripolitaki |
| Apologies: | | Tola Masha, Katie Mitchell, Iain Keating, David Dare, Caroline Tredwell, David Pennington, Clair L Kelland, Lydia Best, Karla Goodman, Jeanne King, Roberta Evans, Lisa Kunwar-Deer, Pinaki Ghoshal, Dean Nevill, Jess Mullen, Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, Tamsyn Basson |
| Item | Time | |
| 1. | 15.00 to 15.10 (10 mins) | Welcome and matters arising – Florence Kroll Actions from the last meeting |
| 2. | 15.10 to 15.25 (15 mins) | Education Safeguarding Subgroup – Annabel Bates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on current work and discussion on links with wider Adolescent Safeguarding work. • Taking forward our aspirations for safeguarding adolescents in education |
| 3. | 15.25 to 15.45 (20 mins) | Building Shared Understanding and Approaches to Missing Children– Jeanne King <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses to Children Missing from Care |
| 4. | 15.45 to 16.15 (30 mins) | SAIL (Safeguarding Adolescents In London) – Rula Tripolitaki <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview and demonstration of SAIL, followed by discussion and feedback |
| 5. | 16.15 to 16.50 (35 mins) | Updates on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing Criminalisation of Children in Care – Ben Byrne, LIIA • New Met for London 2 – Bas Dickson Leach, Met Police • REAL and partner sharing of race equity initiatives – Florence Kroll • London Multi Agency Child Exploitation and Youth Violence Protocol - 5th Edition consultation update - Jeanne King, LIIA • Youth Futures and Prevention Panels - Gary Connors, VRU |
| 6. | 16.50 to 17.00 (10 mins) | AOB |

Welcome and matters arising – Florence Kroll

Florence welcomed attendees and acknowledged apologies. The meeting began with a review of actions from the previous session.

- MACE Protocol: The protocol has been circulated to MACE chairs across boroughs. The revised version will incorporate structures for managing risk outside the home and align with existing panels.
Action: LIA to circulate the redrafted protocol.
- Missing Children: Florence and Ben proposed adding a dedicated item to the next agenda to address missing children, particularly those not looked after. The discussion will include the Philomena Protocol and involve police and residential care colleagues.

Education Safeguarding Subgroup – Annabel Bates

Annabel provided an update on the subgroup's development and operational progress:

- The subgroup has transitioned from an informal working group to a formalised structure, co-chaired by Annabel and John Needham.
- Membership includes colleagues from LAs, MAT leaders, and DSLs.
- Three key themes emerged:
 1. Barriers to Multi-Agency Working: DSLs face increasing challenges and lack regional forums to share best practice.
 2. Information Sharing: Schools need better access to emerging safeguarding risks (e.g. violence-fixated individuals).
 3. System Connectivity: The subgroup aims to bridge gaps between education and safeguarding structures.

Annabel reflected on her time with LASOB, noting the importance of anchoring adolescent safeguarding within education. Annabel recommended appointing two education representatives to LASOB for continuity and diversity of perspective.

Florence thanked Annabel for her work on behalf of LASOB and wished her well in her new position as DCS in Middlesborough.

Action: Annabel to reach out to SELL re: commissioning for AP for Daniel Phelps.
Action: Pippa to share NCB SEND publication and speak at next LASOB.

Building Shared Understanding and Approaches to Missing Children– Jeanne King

This item was deferred to the next LASOB meeting.

SAIL (Safeguarding Adolescents In London) – Rula Tripolitaki and Ben Byrne (LIIA)

Rula presented a demo of the SAIL platform, a multi-agency digital resource designed to centralise adolescent safeguarding guidance, data, and practice examples.

The platform is in pre-release; feedback is due by 15 September. You share your views as an individual or on behalf of your team [here](#).

An orientation event is scheduled for 10 September, 2-3.30pm. You can book your place [here](#).

Daniel Phelps described the SAIL platform as a strong and promising start, highlighting its potential to support analysis of safeguarding data across London. Rula Tripolitaki said we will be adding that the relevant adolescent safeguarding data to SAIL for the release. She also noted plans to improve navigation. Daniel confirmed he would be submitting formal feedback.

Bas Dickson Leach raised how SAIL would stay aligned with pan-London procedures and policies. Florence Kroll responded that the platform should guide users to relevant legislation, but acknowledged the need for ongoing review. The Violence Reduction Unit is also contributing to SAIL's development.

Pippa Goodfellow asked about content gaps and offered support from her networks. Rula said contributors had been asked to identify areas of interest, but a more targeted approach may be needed. Pippa suggested sharing gaps with LASOB to help identify contributors. Rula confirmed feedback will be compiled and shared with the group.

Luke Billingham and Roisin Madden stressed the importance of including diverse perspectives and reflecting debates within adolescent safeguarding. Roisin noted that embracing complexity would strengthen the platform's credibility. Florence proposed making SAIL a standing item on future LASOB agendas to ensure regular updates and accountability.

Suggestions from LASOB members to include SEND, DoLS, online harms, and youth voice.

Action: Rula to share comms plan and content gap list.

Action: Mei to add SAIL as a standing item on future agendas.

Updates

Reducing Criminalisation of Children in Care – Sasha Sinclair (MOPAC) and Ben Byrne (LIIA)

Sasha shared progress on the updated protocol:

- Final draft completed; awaiting sign-off from Deputy Mayor and LSCP Executive.
- Online launch with Deputy mayor planned for Autumn.
- A London-wide monitoring group will be established to track implementation and impact.
- The protocol now includes care leavers (18–25), addressing a previously neglected area, it has clearer local and regional accountability mechanisms and has strengthened health components.

New Met for London 2 – Bas Dickson Leach (Met Police)

Bas outlined children's commitments in Phase 2 of the Met's strategy:

- Focus on trauma-informed policing and safeguarding.
- Commitment to ending use of police stations for children under police protection.
- Appropriate police responses to missing children ensuring those with parental responsibility are fulfilling responsibilities.
- Relaunch of Operation Compass (domestic violence notifications to schools).

Race Equity Initiatives – Florence Kroll

Florence introduced the new REAL programme for aspiring leaders, replacing Leadership in Colour. The programme is more interactive and includes shadowing opportunities.

Action: LASOB members to share updates on race equity initiatives.

Youth Futures & Prevention Panels – Gary Connors (VRU)

Gary reported on the VRU's pilot panels:

- Four boroughs selected: Hammersmith & Fulham, Greenwich, Barking & Dagenham, and Enfield.
- Panels build on existing models (e.g. MACE, youth justice).
- Funded until March 2026.
- Awaiting further guidance from DCMS.

Action: Gary to share slide deck with Mei so they can be distributed to LASOB members.

AOB

National Referral Mechanism & Cross-Borough Intelligence Sharing

Roisin raised concerns about tracking children who move boroughs where NRM is being considered or has been confirmed. The group discussed the need for better data sharing and mapping across boroughs to support disruption and safeguarding.

Roisin to follow up with Duncan on how boroughs can share NRM-related information when young people move across London. Roisin and Steff Royston-Mitchell to connect separately regarding mapping and intel approaches.

Next LASOB Meeting: Friday 21 November, 2-4pm - online.