

# A4

## LAS Committee Reports

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### Safeguarding Committee

I attended the Safeguarding Committee meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

It was agreed that the meeting would close at 3pm instead of 4pm due to committee members various work commitments.

#### Matters Arising

1. Out of Hours referrals – at the meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> march 2012 it was agreed to pilot for telephone referrals to question crews on the need for an out of hours response together with a retrospective review of the data after a period of time. This would include a triage to ascertain risk. Staff have the appropriate training and supervision. The pilot will be evaluated in September.

2. New Enquiries – an additional column would be added to the new enquiries document to record the reason behind the safeguarding referral being made.

#### Other Items

There was considerable discussion in respect of these items. The full agenda was not able to be completed due to the discussions, time limits and unavailability of staff for agenda items.

- It was reported the referral rate was the highest ever – the end of last year referrals were around 1000 per month but are now running at 1300 per month coupled with the highest referral rate as a percentage of incidents.
- Call handlers can trigger safeguarding referrals therefore both call staff and attending crews should complete referrals as looking at the situation from different angles
- There is some delay in staff training as part of Olympic planning. At level 3 – 65% staff had received training. At present LAS are waiting for the electronic system which provides 'All in One' training for level 1. E-learning identifies staff who have undertaken the training through the use of their password
- There was considerable discussion around unborn children and it was agreed that a referral can be made if domestic violence as the unborn child has no rights/does not exist

- Incidents and serious case review papers were provided and discussed as to their progression and/or closure. The papers were then returned in line with data protection
- A question was asked how policy or changes in policy was accessed by staff – there is a need to inform staff when there are additions in policy – all training should be informed and policy included where relevant.
- The MARAC – multi-agency assessment conference re domestic abuse in the boroughs – at the June meeting it was agreed to initiate a pilot in October to December with an evaluation presented back early 2013. It was also agreed that a policy be written as a section of the safeguarding policy. The staff member was unable to attend the meeting to provide feedback.

**Lynn Strother (Vice Chair)**