



## CHILD PROTECTION INFORMATION FOR LSCB MEETING ON 9/12/10

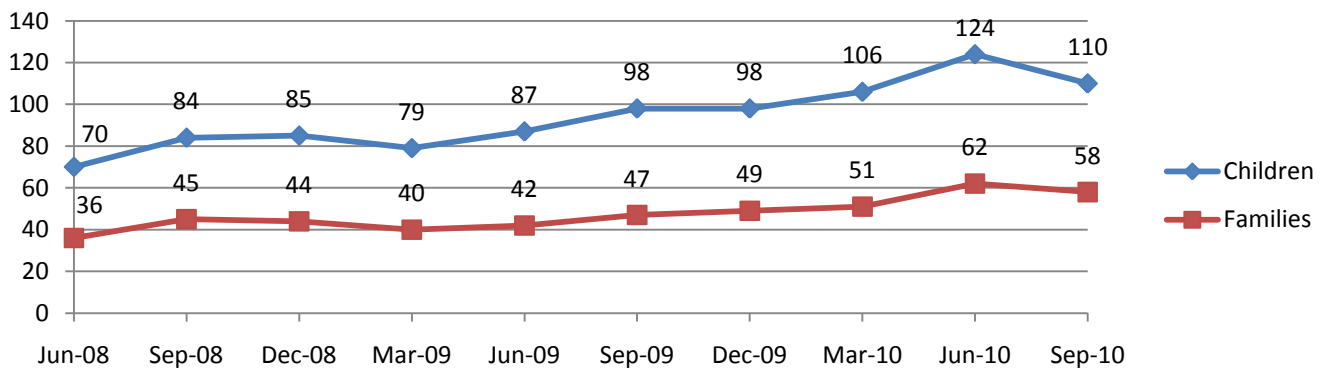
Information from 01/04/10 to 30/09/10

Children subject of Child Protection Activity from 1/4/10-30/9/10	
No. of children subject of Section 47 enquiries that were concluded in the period.	127 children
No. of children considered at Initial Child Protection Conference (ICPC)	61 children / 42 ICPCs
No. of children made subject of child protection plans from the 42 ICPCs	55 (includes 7 unborn)
No. of children not made subject of child protection plans from the 42 ICPCs	6 children from 4 families
No. of children subject of ICPC who have previously had a CP Plan	9 from 5 families
No. of children considered at the 80 review conferences	153 from 80 families
No. of children whose CP Plan concluded	53 from 34 families
No. of review conferences held on time	100%
How long subject of a CP Plan at 30/9/10: a) Less than 1 year b) Between 1 – 2 years c) Over 2 years	a) 82 children b) 20 children c) 8 children (3 families)
Total no. of conferences / children: a) Initial b) Review	122 / 214 a) 42 considering 61 children b) 80 considering 153 children
Parental / family members attendance at the 122 conferences:	108 conferences had at least 1 family member attend = 89%
CP Plan sent out within 48 hours to all core group members	100%
Distribution of conference minutes within 15 working days	36/121 on time (30%)
Children subject of a cp plan with a qualified allocated social worker	100%

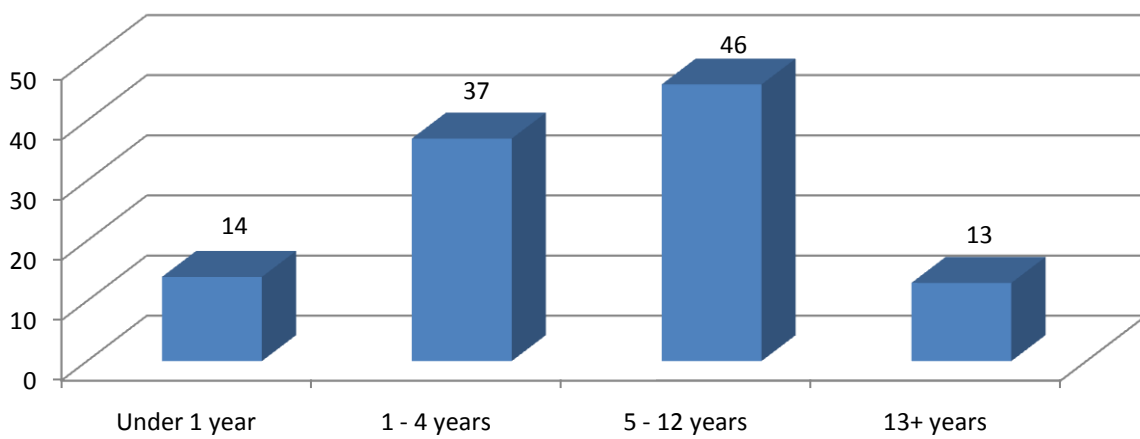
### Details of the 124 Children with Child Protection Plans as of 30/9/10

- **Genders** – 47 girls and 60 boys + 3 unborn
- **Disability** – 3 boys of whom 1 has Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) & Attention Deficit Disorder, although none are open to the Disabled Children’s Team. Of the other 2, one has a brain injury & one has physical disabilities.

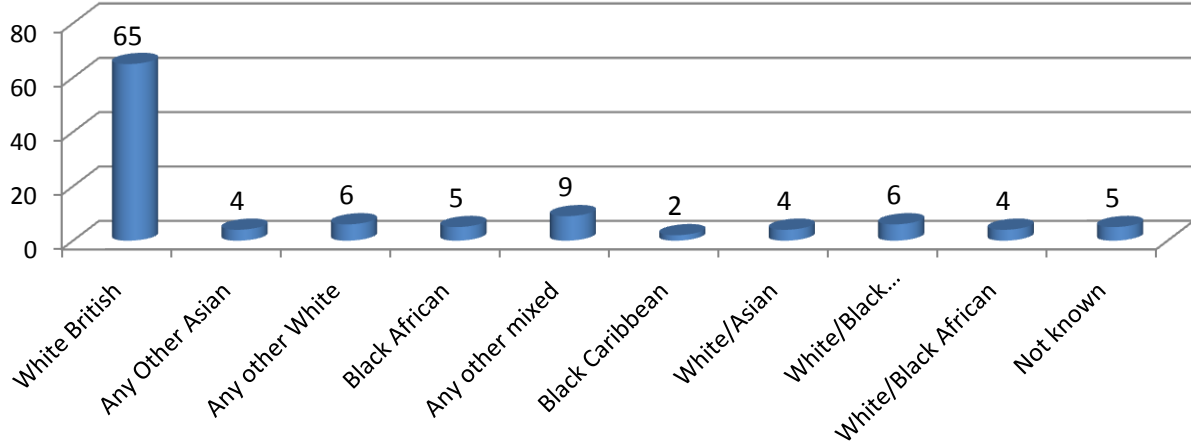
**Numbers of Children/Families subject of child protection plans, quarter ending:-**



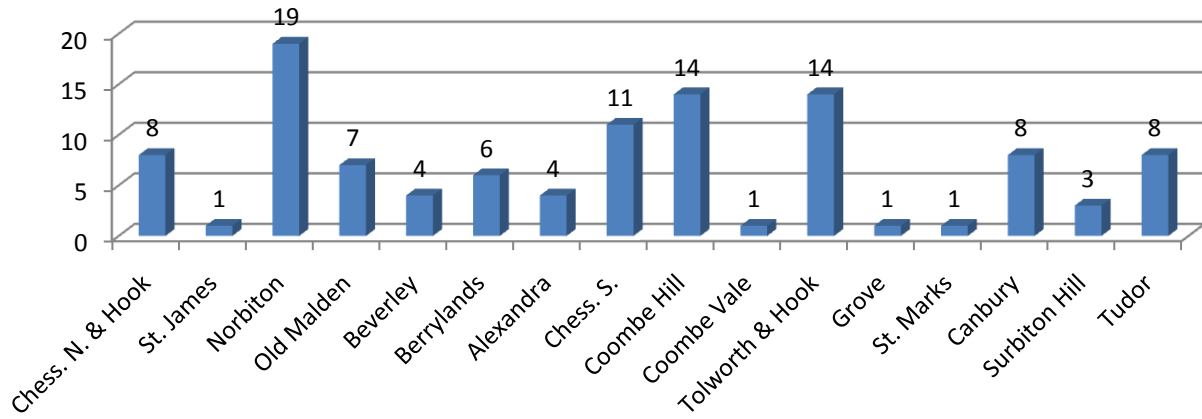
**Age spread of children subject of child protection plans as of 30/9/10**



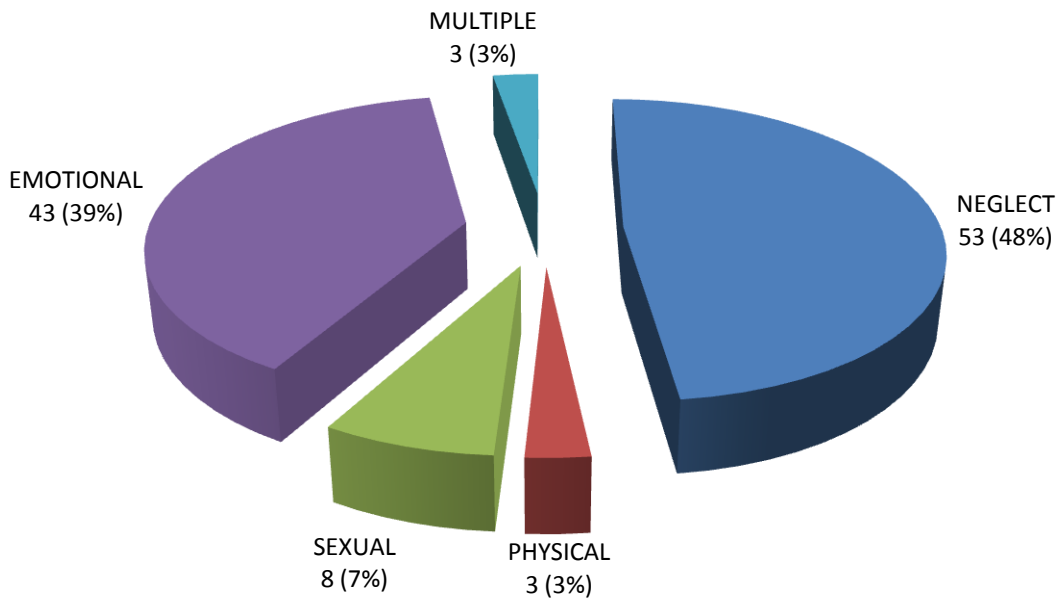
**Ethnicity spread of children subject of child protection plans as of 30/9/10**



**Children subject of child protection plans as at 30/9/10 by Ward of home address at point of initial conference**



**Children subject of child protection plans by category of abuse as of 30/9/10**



<b>Significant Factors affecting the 61 Children (including 7 unborn) &amp; their Families subject of the 42 Initial CP Conferences held 01/04/10 – 30/9/10</b>	
Parent thought to have an undiagnosed mental health difficulty	3/42
Parent with a diagnosed mental health illness	9/42
Parent receiving a CMHT service	5/42
Parent receiving inpatient treatment for mental health illness under Section	0/42
Domestic abuse either currently or previously a factor	28/42
Injunction, bail restrictions in place, offender cautioned or in custody	5/42
Previous child removed or not in parents' care	8/42
Care proceedings actual or likely	5/42
Lone parent	20/42
Parent is / was in care and /or a care leaver	6/42
Parent previously subject of a child protection plan	3/42
Parent aged 21 or under	6/42
Child with a disability	3/42
Looked after child, either now or previously	1/42
Large families (4 plus children)	1/42
Drug misuse	11/42
Alcohol misuse	11/42
Drug & alcohol misuse	5/42
Parent receiving treatment for substance misuse	5/42
Neo natal substance misuse, actual or likely	0/42
Parent involved in internet offending	0/42
Parent deemed to pose a risk to children in general	2/42
Parents subject to statutory supervision (Probation)	6/42
Parent has been resident in the UK for less than 5 years	2/42

Parent with a diagnosed learning disability or believed to have one	5/42
Housing problems including arrears	11/42
Non / poor school attendance	12/42
Child previously been subject of a CP Plan in Kingston	9/42
Child or sibling previously been subject of a CP Plan in another L.A.	1/42
Family have moved home / LA several times (newly recorded significant issue)	5/42
Supportive extended family (newly recorded significant issue)	10/42
Transfer in conference from another LA (newly recorded significant issue)	2/42

### Key Trends in Child Protection Activity 01/04/10 – 30/09/10

- Over the last 3 years, child protection activity has continued to steadily increase although during the last quarter the increasing trend seems to have turned. In the year ending March 2007, 48 children were subject of child protection plans. This number increased to 62 in the year ending March 2008 and 79 end of March 2009. At the end of September 2010, 110 children were subject of cp plans, whilst at the end of this first quarter the number had increased to 124.
- Nationally the number of children being made subject of a cp plan for the year ending March 2007 was 25 children per 10 000 population under 18, increasing to 27 per 10 000 population at the end of March 2008. Kingston's figure increased from 15 per 10 000 for the year ending March 2007 to 20 per 10 000 year ending 2008. At the end of March 2010 this figure had risen further to 32.5 per 10 000 population under 18.
- More children with child protection plans means more review conferences taking place and therefore this number has continued to rise over the last few years from 79 (reviewing 119 children) in year ending 2008, to 133 (reviewing 255 children) year ending 2010. During the first half of this year 153 children have been reviewed at 80 review conferences.
- This huge increase has impacted upon the child protection service and minutes have been delayed in being sent out. To try to redress this, minutes are being shortened although a digital recording is made of each conference. It is therefore imperative that all professionals invited to conferences submit a written report and those agencies that do not will be named as needing to do this in the child protection plan. As part of the Council's restructuring, funding for an additional part time child protection administrator has been agreed which will be a great help.
- The numbers of unborn babies being subject of conference has remained stable over recent years and at the end of March 2010, 15 unborn babies had been considered at initial conferences and made subject of a cp plan. Drug & alcohol misuse and domestic abuse all continue to be significant factors. During this first half year 7 unborn babies have been subject of initial conferences.

- There has been an increase in the number of very young parents and last year there were 7 mothers aged less than 21 years of age. This represents a significant 12% of mothers. This half year 6 families (14%) had a parent aged 21 or under.
- Greater awareness of domestic abuse and better services continue to lead to increased numbers of families where domestic abuse as an issue is identified. Domestic abuse as a factor in children subject of initial conferences last year affected 55% of families. In the years ending 2008 and 2007, this figure was just under 50%. Many of the families affected by domestic violence are also affected by alcohol and housing and have unborn children. During this half year, two thirds of the 42 families were affected by domestic abuse.
- Despite the large proportion of domestic abuse, only 5 families (11%) were protected either by an injunction, bail conditions, custody of the perpetrator or the perpetrator had received a caution at the time of the initial conference. It is an expected outcome of the cp planning process that as the plan progresses, more families will be protected by an injunction etc.
- Last quarter the category of 'Emotional abuse' for the first time ever was the most frequently used category, accounting for 46% of categories and nudging 'neglect' into second place at 43%. However this trend has been reversed in the last quarter and as usual 'neglect' just nudges ahead of 'emotional abuse' as the most used category. Historically 'neglect' has been the most frequently used category for some years. However better identification of domestic abuse has occurred over the past 3 years, leading to greater numbers of children having a cp plan for this. 'Sexual' and 'physical abuse' account for 8% & 3% each. Three children (from 1 family) received a cp plan under more than 1 category ('neglect' and 'emotional' abuse).
- Drugs and / or alcohol misuse continue to affect a significant proportion of families considered at initial conferences. Last year about 59% of families considered at initial cp conferences were affected by a parent with substance misuse. However only 6.9% were receiving any treatment at the time of the initial conference, although an expected outcome would be for this figure to increase as the cp plan progressed. This half year the figure is 64%.
- In the year ending March 2008 care proceedings were either underway or likely to occur in 12% of the families. At the end of last year this figure stood at 15.5%, in line with a national increase of public court proceedings following Baby Peter's death and the subsequent public enquiry. The figure for this half year is 12% although further into the period of cp planning it is likely that there will be other families moving into the public law arena.
- A significant number of nearly 20% of families have had a child in their care removed or voluntarily placed with alternative carers. Last year this figure was 18%.
- Last year only 4 children (or 7%) had been previously subject of a cp plan compared to 6% in 2008. The figure for this half year is 8%, which includes a mobile family of 4 children. Nationally at the end of March 2008, 14% of children had previously been the subject of a cp plan.
- Last year just one of the children who ceased to be subject of a plan had been the subject of a plan for over 2 years and so far this half year this figure stands at 5 children, which is 4.5%. Nationally

this figure at the end of March 2007 was 6%. The child protection service manager monitors children as they go into their second year subject of a cp plan and reports to DMT on a regular basis.

- This half year one of the adult carers was considered to be a 'Risk to Children'. The child protection process identifies these individuals and ensures that they are flagged on the Social Care data base.
- There were 3 children with a disability considered at the 42 initial cp conferences this half year. Last year only 2 children with a disability were considered at all 58 initial conferences.
- Housing difficulties at 26% continue to account for a significant proportion of families, although this figure is less than usual.
- The other significant but broadly consistent factor this half year is that nearly 50% of the families considered at initial conferences were headed by a single parent.
- This half year 3 new significant issues have been tracked:
  1. Families who move frequently account for 5 (12%) of the 42 families.
  2. There have been 2 initial cp conference as a result of transfers from other Local Authorities.
  3. For 10 of the 42 families (24%) there is the presence of an extended supportive family, which is often the most essential protective factor.