To All Partners

Merton Safeguarding Children Board
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Date: 20th June 2018

Dear Partner,

RE: NOTICE OF THE TERMINATION OF THE MSCB E-LEARNING CONTRACT.

You may be aware that in September 2017, the Merton Safeguarding Children’s Board took the decision to terminate their contract with the Virtual College and their E-Learning Offer. The reasons for this decision were:

1. There was a relatively small take up of E-learning safeguarding courses across the multi-agency system.
2. Of the small number of courses that were taken up only 40% were completed.
3. The licence placed an unsustainable administrative burden on the MSCB.

Following some concerns that some partners had not been given sufficient time to source alternative training, the MSCB extended the licence to the end of July 2018. The Board has continued to monitor the use of this training during the extension of the contract, and the factors listed above continue to be relevant.

In addition, the MSCB is in the process of transitioning from a Local Safeguarding Children Board to a Statutory Safeguarding Partnership in accordance with the Children and Social Work Act 2017. This means that the MSCB will be dissolved on 31st March 2019 and will be replaced by a Statutory Safeguarding Children Partnership on 1st April. The MSCB will not therefore be entering into any new contracts.

Therefore when this license ends in July it will not be renewed.

We recognise that some partners might want to continue to offer an e-learning option for safeguarding training, perhaps as a supplement to the face to face training offered both by the MSCB and by individual agencies. Should you wish to do so
there are a wide range of organisations offering good quality safeguarding training which you can purchase; these include:


The Virtual College [https://www.virtual-college.co.uk/courses/safeguarding-courses](https://www.virtual-college.co.uk/courses/safeguarding-courses)

EduCare [https://www.educare.co.uk/](https://www.educare.co.uk/)

High Speed Training [https://www.highspeedtraining.co.uk/available-courses/safeguarding-people.aspx](https://www.highspeedtraining.co.uk/available-courses/safeguarding-people.aspx)

The MSCB will continue to offer a wide variety of multi-agency safeguarding training including child protection awareness, recognition and referral. The Vulnerable Children Team will also continue to offer safeguarding training to Designated Safeguarding Leads, and to provide materials for schools to train their own staff on an annual basis.

Kind regards

Paul Bailey
MSCB Safeguarding Development & Policy Manager