

## Roma and Child Protection Working Group

**Date:** Wednesday 10th September 2025

**Time:** 2pm to 3.30 pm

**Location:** Google Meets [online] - <https://meet.google.com/vkp-oaop-iyu>

**Attendees:** Mihai, Sumayyah, Dada, Genevieve, Joanna, Iveta, Victoria, Simona

### Agenda and Minutes

Agenda Item	Previous actions	Minutes – 10th September 2025	New actions
<b>Welcome</b>  If necessary, 15 minutes to be spent discussing specific cases that we may be concerned about so we can come together and suggest ways forward.			
<b>New members</b>  Discuss updates to action points + further suggestions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Tyanna to reach out to Lawyers again with a request to help on family law issue.</li><li>● Dada to utilise her contacts at Law for Life to see if they can help.</li><li>● Dada and Mihai to revisit the conversation on kinship care with L4L.</li><li>● Tyanna to send Joanna an email about her update on Harehills on whether they are doing a</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Introduction of everyone in the meeting.</li></ul>	

	<p>safeguarding review.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Joanna will continue to find some family law contacts.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Roma Child Protection HUB for families</b></p> <p>Discuss updates to action points + further suggestions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mihai, to send a link to the Brexit page and a template for the Child Protection page so that we may begin to populate it with information. Review this next meeting for feedback.</li> <li>- <i>Page for Roma parents, advocates (frequently asked questions section should be added + interpretation and cultural competence), social workers and foster parents.</i></li> <li>● We should all do our research to find funding to write the practical guides for social workers by the next meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are now 6 different sections that we have agreed on.</li> <li>- Iveta would like to add mapping of locations where we can find Roma services.</li> <li>- Victoria agrees that some location context is useful. She also finds that the advocacy section is very useful because DfE is requiring local authorities to provide advocacy information for parents under a safeguarding case.</li> <li>- Dada has said that most of these questions are covered in the child protection guide. This would save time.</li> <li>- Information to be provided in English, Slovak and Romanian.</li> <li>- Dada suggested that it would be great to get Victoria to disseminate.</li> <li>- Genevieve included a list of resources and asked how we should format it in the lawyers section. Some resources included aren't free so do we keep it or not.</li> <li>- In terms of dissemination- can be</li> </ul>	<p>-Mihai to add the work Genevieve has done into the hub page lawyer section.</p> <p>-Mihai to contact non-Roma lawyers.</p>

		<p>sent to law firms. Can also write an article on Family Law Week to promote this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dada suggested that we should consult Denisa on this. She may be able to help what other things lawyers should know/need when working with Roma parents.</li> <li>- Mihai suggested reaching out to non-Roma lawyers to get their perspective on this too.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Roma Child Protection HUB for councils and services</b></p> <p>Discuss updates to action points + further suggestions.</p>			
<p><b>Safeguarding/public review</b></p> <p>Discuss updates to action points + further suggestions.</p>		<p>Leeds Case:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not sure yet if the case is completely closed.</li> <li>- There was an article by the BBC which was written in April about this case. According to this a final decision is yet to be issued.</li> <li>- Dada mentioned that there is a line in this article about parents and questioning why that was even included. It was almost framed in a</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dada suggested having the conversation with the lawyer to discuss concerns and solutions. (Mihai to do)</li> </ul>

		<p>way to justify what happened.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Joanna does not think this is a priority to respond to.</li> <li>- We are keeping this on the agenda and revisiting later.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Pilot: National Roma Child Protection Programme</b></p> <p>Discuss updates to action points + further suggestions.</p> <p><b>KinConnect for Roma Project</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We should all commit to a joint social media campaign using the Child Poverty briefing and posting on each of our websites.</li> <li>● Dada is to ask her colleague to make the briefing look a bit more professional.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This project will embed trained Roma advocates in children’s services to work alongside social workers, improving trust, communication, and culturally informed support for kinship carers. By supporting both families and professionals, it aims to make kinship care safer, reduce stress and conflict, and improve outcomes for Roma children and families.</li> <li>- A 3 year project. The deadline is 17th Sep.</li> <li>- Train people in local authorities.</li> <li>- Collaboration with RSG.</li> <li>- Could try incorporating the hub to improve access.</li> <li>- Joanna to have a meeting with Mihai later.</li> <li>- Simona asked what part of the UK will this cover, who is delivering it and would</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Joanna will send the final research design hopefully today.</li> </ul>

		<p>we be part of the project?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dada replied with - A collaborative project with universities, Advice Now and RSG. Olga is also involved in this project. If successful there will also be an advisory group. Organisations recruited for this would be compensated for their time.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Family First Reforms</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Forming a multiagency team working on child protection and families- would like our input on who should be in the team and what skills they need to have.</li> <li>- An opportunity to work in a way that is culturally competent. Victoria is reaching out to help design their multiagency child protection team.</li> <li>- Joanna can send a research design to Victoria.</li> <li>- They are currently working out how many practitioners and what type of practitioners should be in the team.</li> <li>- Once they are in their second stage they would then like to hold conversations regarding Roma.</li> <li>- Dada suggested for Victoria to have a look at the Child protection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mihai to send information that Victoria sent and review it before having a separate meeting with Victoria.</li> <li>- Mihai asked Simona to check with Ipswich Council to see what they are doing about this reform.</li> <li>- Mihai asked Iveta to check with Bradford Council to see what they are doing about this reform.</li> </ul>

		<p>hub for resources and the guide.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Victoria will be sending slides with some information regarding this.</li><li>- All local authorities are to have this in place by April next year.</li><li>- Mihai asked if there is a way to follow up on this. We can draft something to circulate to the local authorities to help them.</li><li>- Development of kinship care and family teams is also part of the reform.</li><li>- Victoria to send slides.</li><li>- Victoria to share questions for us to answer.</li></ul>	
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