



Knowsley Safeguarding Children Partnership
Consultation document

Introduction

Legislative changes introduced through the Children and Social Work Act 2017 will see the replacement of Local Children Safeguarding Boards (LCSBs) with local safeguarding partners.

There has been a revision of the 'working together' guidelines, which came into effect in the summer of 2018. The legislation will bring about significant changes in the way we safeguard and protect children.

There has been extensive consultation through the LSCB to ensure Knowsley is equipped and ready to meet these changes

This document sets out the proposed structure and governance arrangements for Knowsley Safeguarding Children Partnership (KSCP), which will replace the Knowsley Safeguarding Children Board (KSCB)

How will the changes affect safeguarding partners in Knowsley?

Under the new changes the responsibility locally rests with the three safeguarding partners who have a shared and equal duty to make arrangements to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area. All three safeguarding partners have equal and joint responsibility for local safeguarding arrangements

The three safeguarding partners for Knowsley Safeguarding Children Partnership are;

- Merseyside Police
- Knowsley Clinical Commissioning Group
- Knowsley Council.

The new local safeguarding arrangements will build on the strengths of the existing safeguarding board, in particular the partnership ethos and commitment for learning. Streamlined systems and processes, as well as a focused performance framework will facilitate the delivery of a robust business plan. To complement this, a revised structure, which is set out below, will be implemented. This will enable safeguarding partners to work together to identify and respond to the needs of children in the area;

Strategic Forum

This strategic forum will provide the required strategic direction and governance around the development and delivery of local safeguarding arrangements.

The strategic Forum will meet three times per year. Each meeting will focus on a specific theme based around the key strategic priorities contained within the business plan.

Core Business Group

The core business group will support the delivery of the business plan.

To ensure that the safeguarding arrangements are providing leadership and strategic focus on the areas of neglect, domestic abuse and child exploitation, three thematic leads for each of these strategic priorities have been agreed who will be accountable for driving activity set out in the business plan 2019-1020.

It will meet bi monthly to review the progress of the business plan and will be accountable to the Strategic Forum.

Safeguarding Review and Learning Group

The role of the Safeguarding Review and Learning Group will be to facilitate the effective management of serious child safeguarding review cases, which in their opinion raises issues of importance in relation to their area.

The group will also act as the conduit at a local level for the delivery of serious child safeguarding review cases, which are undertaken by the national panel.

The group will also coordinate other local reviews, which do not meet the criteria for serious child safeguarding reviews but present learning opportunities that will enhance our capabilities to safeguard and protect children.

The group will be responsible for developing and driving the implementation of a training plan, influenced by the strategic priorities of the local safeguarding arrangements and from learning identified within serious child safeguarding review cases

Policy and Performance Group

The role of the Policy and Performance Group will be to report against a performance framework that is focused on improving outcomes for children and is aligned to the priorities identified in the business plan. The group will also consider and respond to emerging issues and risks as identified by key safeguarding partners.

They will also be responsible for developing and implementing appropriate thresholds, policies and procedures.

The group will have a key role in driving the audit and inspection process including multi-agency audits and managing the governance around recommendations falling out of the any review and/or audit process.

The Safeguarding Review and Learning Group will manage the arrangements for commissioning and publishing national and local safeguarding practice reviews

.How will we independently scrutinise the effectiveness of the arrangements?

KSCP has chosen to retain an independent chair with the aim of providing independent rigor and scrutiny of arrangements in Knowsley.

The independent chair will be invited by the Core Business Group to provide additional scrutiny at agreed milestones, highlighting areas of good practice and areas for development in Knowsley children safeguarding arrangements

KSCP will seek to undertake a peer review process on an annual basis, with a focus on the following three key elements;

1. Effectiveness – What is the impact of the new multi-agency safeguarding partnership?
2. Efficiency – How efficient is the new multi-agency safeguarding partnership in working together to achieve their strategic priorities?
3. Leadership – How effective is the new multi-agency safeguarding partnership in influencing outcomes to safeguard and promote the welfare of children

Consultation – Partners require your views!

Views on the new safeguarding arrangements for are sought. When you have considered the new safeguarding arrangements please complete the short online questionnaire by following the link:

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