

Sefton Safeguarding Children Partnership (SSCP) Arrangements 2021



Introduction and Background

In this document we have set out how the safeguarding partners, and other organisations, including schools, will work together to safeguard children and young people in Sefton. These new arrangements are in response to the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and Working Together 2018 which replace Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCB) with new local multi-agency safeguarding partnership arrangements.

The safeguarding partnership arrangements have been improved to form the new Sefton Safeguarding Children Partnership (SCSP) and its sub-groups. We are now revising further our arrangements, originally published in 2019, in accordance with the requirements and inclusions prescribed in Working Together 2018.

Background

This document sets out how the statutory safeguarding partners, and other relevant partners in Sefton, will work together under our new arrangements. Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) specifies that in order to safeguard children and to achieve the best possible outcomes, children and families should receive services in a co-ordinated way. The guidance sets out that this is a shared responsibility between organisations, and that the responsibility for joining up functions locally, rests with the three identified safeguarding partners:

- the police;
- the local authority;
- and the clinical commissioning group (CCG).

All the above safeguarding partners have equal and joint responsibility for local safeguarding arrangements, which is underpinned by funding including through any contributions from relevant agencies.

This includes working with those organisations which have a duty under Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and any relevant agencies 'whose involvement the safeguarding partners consider may be required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children with regard to local need.' In response, Sefton's safeguarding partnership arrangements have been refined and enhanced to produce the new Sefton Safeguarding Children Partnership (SCSP) and its priority-focused sub-groups.

The new arrangements are being presented in draft to the SSCP for comments and feedback in July 2021 with a view to putting in place the new arrangements thereafter.

Our publication, therefore, gives details in accordance with the requirements and inclusions prescribed in *Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)* (p 79-80) which are for:

- arrangements for the safeguarding partners to work together to identify and respond to the needs of children in the area;
- arrangements for commissioning and publishing local child safeguarding practice reviews
- arrangements for independent scrutiny of the effectiveness of the above and which should also include:
 - who the local safeguarding partners are, especially if the arrangements cover more than one local authority area geographical boundaries
 - the relevant agencies the safeguarding partners will work with; why these organisations and agencies have been chosen; and how they will collaborate and work together to improve outcomes for children and families
 - how all early year's settings, schools (including independent schools, academies and free schools) and other educational establishments will be included in the safeguarding arrangements
 - how any youth custody and residential homes for children will be included in the safeguarding arrangements
 - how the safeguarding partners will use data and intelligence to assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help
 - how inter-agency training will be commissioned, delivered and monitored for impact, and how they will undertake any multi-agency and inter-agency audits
 - how the arrangements will be funded
 - the process for undertaking local child safeguarding practice reviews, setting out the arrangements for embedding learning across organisations and agencies
 - how the arrangements will include the voice of children and families
 - how the threshold document, setting out the local criteria for action, aligns with the arrangements
 - dispute resolution
 - reporting annually

The functions of partnership are to:

- develop policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Sefton
- agree which relevant agencies the safeguarding partners will work with; why these organisations and agencies have been chosen; and how they will collaborate and work together to improve outcomes for children and families
- agree how all early year's settings, schools (including independent schools, academies and free schools) and other educational establishments will be included in the safeguarding arrangements as relevant agencies
- raise awareness in Sefton of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, and to provide advice and guidance as to how this can be achieved;
- monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of what is done by the statutory partners and relevant agencies individually and collectively, to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to advise them on ways to improve
- use data and intelligence to assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help
- to participate in the local planning and commissioning of services for children in Sefton and to ensure that they take safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children into account
- agree how inter-agency training will be commissioned, delivered and monitored for impact and how they will undertake any multiagency and interagency audits
- undertake child safeguarding practice reviews
- collect and analyse information about each child death in Sefton and to put in place procedures for ensuring that there is a coordinated response by the authority, partners and other relevant persons to an unexpected death
- publish a threshold document setting out the local criteria for action aligns with the arrangements

Sefton Community and geographical boundary

There is a requirement in Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) that the geographical footprint for the arrangements is based on the local authority. The focus of these arrangements are children living in Sefton which includes those children placed by other local authorities within the boundary.

Sefton is an area that stretches from Southport in the North to Bootle in the South. To the east lies the town of Maghull and the west is bordered by an award winning coastline covering Crosby through to Formby and Ainsdale. The population of Sefton is 274,000. The number of children and young people living in Sefton (0-25 year olds) is 62,100 a fall of 14% (9,990) since 2001



Governance and Accountability

Whilst the safeguarding partnership has a role in co-ordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of local agencies in safeguarding children, it is not accountable for their operational work. Each member agency retains its own existing lines of accountability within its service. This means that each organisation is responsible for ensuring that its work is informed by the safeguarding partnership and that safeguarding activity is undertaken in line with its guidance. The safeguarding partnership monitors the quality and effectiveness of safeguarding in individual organisations and in the way that organisations work together.

The safeguarding partnership are the three statutory safeguarding partners

- the Local Authority Chief Executive delegated to the Director of Children's Services (DCS)
- Merseyside Police and
- Sefton Clinical Commissioning Groups, or successor body

The arrangements will be subject to annual independent scrutiny. The safeguarding partners will publish an Annual Report which will be publicly available on the Sefton Safeguarding Children Partnership website.

Relevant Agencies

The Child Safeguarding Practice Review and Relevant Agency (England) Regulations 2018 sets out the list of relevant agencies that are required to work under the auspices of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

It is important to note that:

- although safeguarding partner organisations are not referred to in the regulations, their staff are subject to the Sefton Children Safeguarding Partnership arrangements
- that certain key agencies are not listed in the regulations, as their functions are commissioned or otherwise overseen by one or more of the safeguarding partners – for example, GPs, dentists and mental health service providers are already represented variously through the inclusion of CCG's, NHS England, NHS Trusts and Foundation Trusts.
- the list of relevant agencies is intentionally focussed at a strategic, agency-based level – it is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all bodies and individuals which come into contact with children

Local statutory safeguarding partners have selected relevant agencies in Sefton based on those with whom safeguarding partners have a relationship with and those who have responsibility for and who can actively contribute to helping and protecting children in Sefton. The list of locally selected relevant agencies may change over time to reflect those present in the local footprint.

Other organisations and agencies who are not named in the relevant agencies Regulations (2018) have been included in the local Children's Multi-agency Partnership Arrangements. Examples of these are Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service, the voluntary, charity, support and services for children and families, private sector organisations, faith-based organisations and other health providers. Organisations and agencies who are not named in the relevant agency regulations, whilst not under a statutory duty, should nevertheless cooperate and collaborate with the safeguarding partners particularly as they may have duties under section 10 and/or section 11 of the Children Act 2004. A full list of relevant agencies is listed at the end of this document.

Accountability of Partner Agencies

The partnership will evidence the effectiveness of safeguarding in a variety of ways including:

- involvement of children/families, hearing and listening to their views, for example, establishing forums for children to be heard
- partners' reports through the sub-groups function
- undertaking annual section 11 and section 175 (schools) audits
- presentation and interrogation of audits and performance data
- reports and evidence from learning reviews, child practice reviews and inter-agency/single agency audits
- participation in sub-groups, training and other short-term task groups

Resourcing - How the arrangements are funded.

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) guidance stipulates that the safeguarding partners should agree the level of funding secured from each partner, which should be equitable and proportionate, and any contributions from each relevant agency, to support the local arrangements. The funding should be transparent to children and families in the area, and sufficient to cover all elements of the arrangements, including the cost of local child safeguarding practice reviews. Going forward, a new funding model will be agreed by the partners to enable the Safeguarding Partners to consider the future resourcing requirements; agree the level of funding provided by each Safeguarding Partner; and any contributions from relevant agencies. The review will take account of the statutory guidance which requires the Safeguarding Partners' funding of the arrangements to be 'equitable and proportionate'. Funding decisions will be signed off by the Sefton Safeguarding Leadership Team. There may be times when it is necessary for partners to make additional contributions to fund specific priorities.

The financial year (2021-22) will be a transitional year from the partnership, which remained as LSCB until new arrangements which came into effect on 31st October 2021.

Consequently, the funding for Year 1 reflected the LSCB model and included financial contributions from the following partners:

- Local Authority Children's Services
- Sefton CCGs
- Merseyside Police
- HM Prison & Probation Service (HMPPS)
- Schools, including independent schools and colleges

In addition, contributions in kind are provided by the local authority include accommodation and communication services provided by Sefton Council and hosting of the Business Unit with the ability to seek legal advice from the Council's Legal services when required. Any existing LSCB reserve will be transferred to the new safeguarding arrangements on 1st October 2021.

Expenditure -The cost of the posts that currently support the LSCB from the Business Unit are £208,000 and income around £230,000. These posts are subject to review and SSCP will agree a final position going forward for the new partnership requirements. The posts currently funded by the LSCB are as follows: Business Manager, Business Support, Quality Assurance Officer, and Training Officer.

Arrangements for independent scrutiny of the effectiveness of the arrangements

The independent scrutiny function as set out in statutory guidance (Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018) will provide the critical challenge and appraisal of SSCP multi-agency safeguarding partnership arrangements in relation to children and young people in Sefton. The role of the independent scrutineer will be to:

- Assess how well organisations work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to hold each other to account for effective safeguarding

- Contribute to the content of the partnership's annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements, their performance and the effectiveness of local services
- Assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families including early help
- Assess whether the three statutory safeguarding partners are fulfilling their statutory obligations
- Scrutinise the quality assurance activity (including multi-agency case file auditing and processes for identifying lessons to be learned)
- Scrutinise the effectiveness of training, including multi-agency training, to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- Assess the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements in Sefton
- Provide a rigorous and transparent assessment of the extent to which partner agencies are fulfilling their statutory duties to keep children safe
- Evaluate arrangements for the operation of the safeguarding partnership
- Support the implementation of findings and outcomes from safeguarding reviews
- Assess whether effective performance management, audit and quality assurance mechanisms are in place within partner organisations which will support the three safeguarding partners to fulfil their statutory objectives, and which will enable the partnership to identify and measure its success and impact
- Ensure that the voices of children, young people and their families are appropriately represented and heard in the work of the partnership.
- Advise the partners about any deficiencies in the multi-agency arrangements and strategies to improve the arrangements
- Ensure that any improvement work, through the Improvement Board and other statutory boards, is provided with regular reports on work undertaken by the Independent Scrutineer.

The areas for scrutiny will be set out by the Sefton Safeguarding Children Partnership and advised by the Safeguarding Partners Safeguarding Forum. A programme of scrutiny areas will be identified from the key priorities and those emerging from inspections, local and national practice reviews and policy emanating from Government such as the Department for Education.

The Independent Scrutineer also has a role to deliver the following:

- To offer mediation to the three Statutory Partners and any other local agencies in dealing with any key areas of disagreement;
- To offer independent review of any escalated concern raised by relevant agencies or on behalf of children and families when requested by the Partners;
- Make formal recommendations to the Strategic Leadership Team;
- Support a culture and environment conducive to robust scrutiny and constructive challenge.
- Provide written reports, to SLG, Health & Well-being Board, and Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committee, on the functioning and effectiveness of the safeguarding arrangements including an account of their own methodology and active guidance/ steer.

Relationship with other Boards and Structures

Effective safeguarding partnerships have strong relationships with other influential groups and boards. As the statutory body for ensuring agencies work together to safeguard children the partnership is not subservient to any other board but is responsible for holding all partners to account for their safeguarding arrangements.

The partnership will have a working and reporting relationship with a number of other Partnership Boards including the Sefton Safeguarding Adults Board, Sefton Health & Wellbeing Board and Children and Young People's Partnership Board. This relationship will ensure the SSCP is cognisant of, and has the opportunities to challenge, arrangements in relation to the safety and welfare of children and young people, for example:

- Domestic abuse including MAPPA arrangements
- Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking
- Harmful Cultural Practices, including Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
- Prevent and Channel
- Exploitation
- Health and wellbeing of Children Looked After.

This challenge will take place at the Safeguarding Children's Chairs Group and the Safeguarding Forum meetings and through updates to the relevant Safeguarding Executive Forum.

Sefton Safeguarding Forum

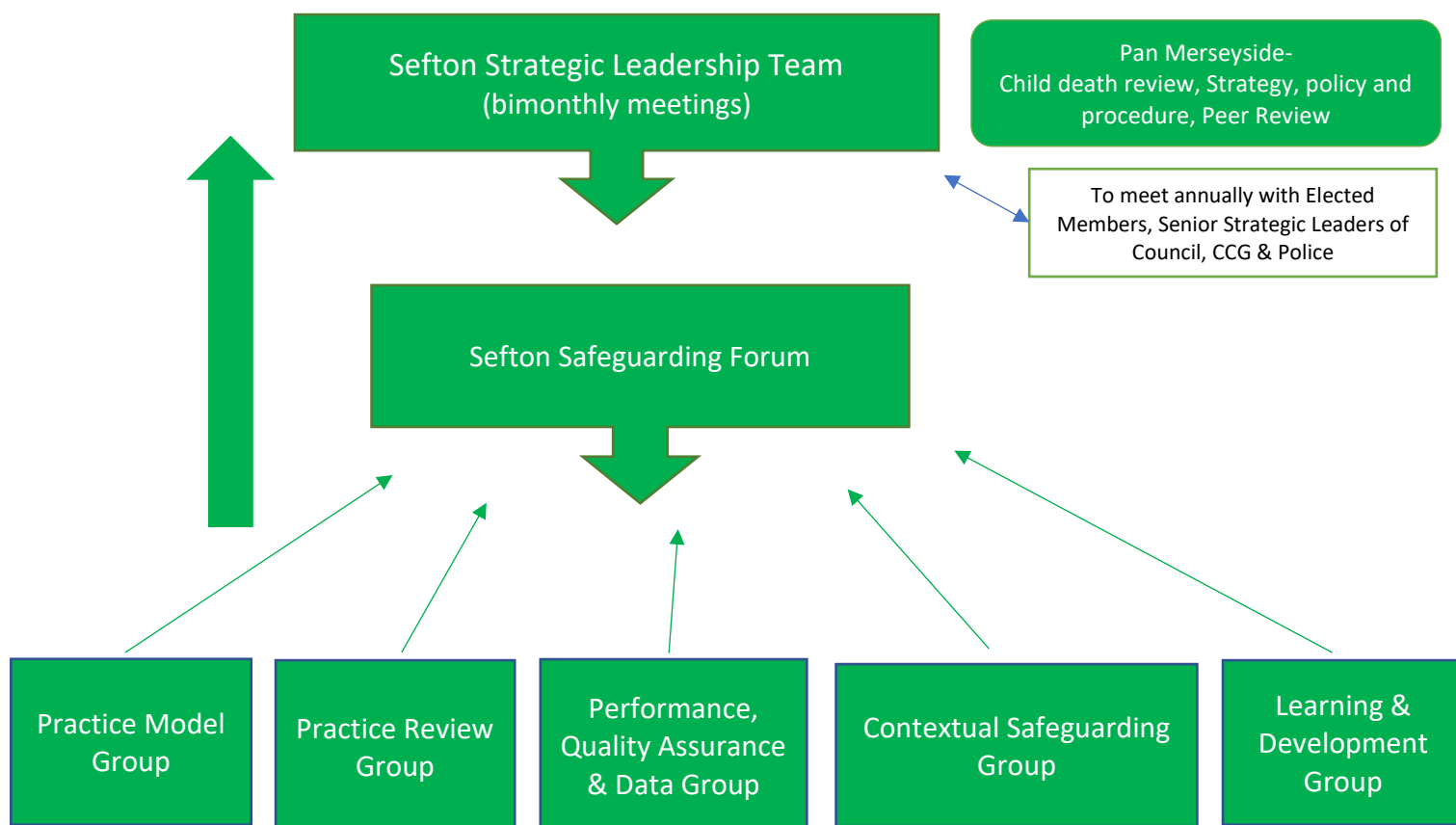
Sefton Safeguarding Forum
<p>Purpose:</p> <p>To act as the statutory and relevant agencies stakeholder group for the wider partnership arrangements. To be responsible for ensuring compliance with the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements by relevant organisations and to ensure the voice of professionals, children, families and the wider community is heard.</p>
<p>Accountability:</p> <p>The group is accountable to the Safeguarding Leadership Team</p>
<p>Responsibilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ensure each agency is aware of and compliant with their safeguarding responsibilities2. Ensure each agency participates in the Section 11/ 175 annual safeguarding audit3. Ensure agency participation as required in case reviews, audit and QA activity, work of the sub-groups etc.4. Contribute to the assessment of the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements5. Receive and ensure dissemination of relevant safeguarding information including new resources, procedures training, newsletters, learning from practice, learning from case reviews etc.6. Participate in an annual observation of frontline practice7. Attend, as required extraordinary meetings to receive reports about Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

8. Receive the Annual Report and assist the statutory safeguarding partners in identifying safeguarding risks, issues and priorities

The Forum is also charged with the overview of multi-agency inspection activity, preparation and outcomes and for monitoring actions in response to these.

Agencies	Members
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory partner agencies, including designated health and Local Authority professional safeguarding advisors • Voluntary and faith community representatives • Schools and early years providers • Chairs of sub-groups • Youth offending service • National Probation Service <p>Chairing will be undertaken by one of the statutory agencies.</p>	<p>Jane Lunt, Chief Nurse (CCGs) Chair Caroline McKenna, Interim AD Safeguarding & QA Karen Garside, Designated Nurse Natalie Daniels, Designated Doctor Matt Caton, DCI (Police) Graeme Robson, Superintendent Sefton Local Policing Laura Knights, Head of Children’s Social Care Simon Burnett, Head of Communities (Sefton MBC) Janet Marlow, Chief Officer (NPS) Margaret Jones, Director of Public Health Nigel Bellamy, Deputy Chief Executive (Sefton CVS) Deborah Hughes, Partnership Manager (SSCP) Chair of Practice Model Group Gil Bourgade –Headteacher Birkdale High School Ian Raikes - Chief Executive Officer, Southport Learning Trust Natasha Sandland – Headteacher, Marshside Primary School Sandie Edward – Headteacher, St Philips Primary (Southport)</p>

Sefton Safeguarding Children Partnership Governance Structure 2021



The Strategic Leadership Team will meet bi-monthly in order to provide leadership for the Sefton Safeguarding Forum. The purpose is to ensure the Partnership is delivering on its strategic aims and that children and young people in Sefton are effectively protected from abuse, neglect and exploitation. The role of the Strategic Leadership Team is to ensure statutory partners are discharging their responsibilities, ensuring that local arrangements are effective in engaging all relevant agencies in local safeguarding as well as setting strategic direction.

The members of the Strategic Leadership Team are:

- CCG - Chief Officer of Southport and Formby CCG & South Sefton CCG
- Sefton Council - CEO (which may be later delegated to the DCS)
- Merseyside Police – Local Police Area Commander

Business support provided by the SSCP and advisory support from the Partnership Manager

Responsibilities of the Leadership Team:

- Have accountability for the performance of partners, and relevant agencies, in working together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children/young people
- Ensure statutory partners and relevant agencies fulfil their roles and responsibilities and deliver functions and to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in Sefton
- Develop, publish and monitor, multi-agency safeguarding arrangements

- Reporting on the effectiveness of arrangements annually (once every 12-month), and making the arrangements subject to independent scrutiny at least annually
- Ensure Sefton’s arrangements are fully compliant with the requirements of Working Together (2018) so that:
- Partner organisations and agencies collaborate, share and co-own the vision for how to achieve improved outcomes for vulnerable children; organisations and agencies challenge appropriately and hold one another to account effectively; there is early identification and analysis of new safeguarding issues and emerging threats; learning is promoted and embedded in a way that local services for children and families can become more reflective and implement changes to practice; information is shared effectively to facilitate more accurate and timely decision making for children and families
- Ensure lessons are learned from the effective review of safeguarding incidents and practice reviews, through commissioning and overseeing reviews and sharing learning, including from success, leading to improvements in safeguarding practice, inspections such as Ofsted and Joint Targeted Area Inspections (JTAI).
- Responding to exceptional, unplanned events such as the 2020 coronavirus pandemic when it may be necessary to review and test out the safeguarding arrangements
- Ensure strategic links to other public boards are effective.

The Strategic Leadership Team will be chaired on a rotational basis by one of the 3 key partners by September 2021 and will meet with the Safeguarding Forum twice per year. There will also be an annual meeting to review the annual priority setting for the local safeguarding children arrangements.

Meeting schedule

The Strategic Leadership Team will receive at least quarterly reports from the Chairs of the sub groups and Safeguarding Forum in order to contribute to discussions and the Forward Plan. This will include representatives from the voluntary sector and local children and young people. The Independent Scrutineer will also be invited to report on their assurance activities.

Sub Groups

Practice Model Group

Practice Model Group (Task & Finish Group – short term)

Purpose:

To provide a framework for multi-agency practice that is used across the whole partnership which will evidence positive outcomes for children and their families

Accountability:

The group is accountable to the Safeguarding Forum and has the following responsibilities:

Responsibilities:

1. Develop and publish a framework for evidencing outcomes evidenced by improved outcomes for children, young people and their families as a result of single/multi-agency intervention through **Early Help, Child in Need and Child Protection processes**
2. Ensure evidence of improved outcomes includes feedback and views from children and young people, parents and carers and professionals

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Monitor, scrutinise and challenge the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding activity, strategies and plans to improve outcomes 4. Continuously evaluate and ensure the effectiveness of the partnership practice model 5. Identify, highlight, celebrate and share good practice 6. Commission audit activity as and when required and (agreed by the Performance and QA sub-group) 7. Publish an annual work plan 	
Agencies	Members
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of Early Help • Head of Children’s Social Care • Voluntary sector involved with early help service • Education Link • CCG • Practice and development lead CSC (practice reform) 	<p>Caroline McKenna, Interim AD Safeguarding & QA (Chair)</p> <p>Practice Lead (Sefton MBC) TBC</p> <p>Karen Garside, Designated Nurse</p> <p>Jacqueline Finlay, Locality Manager (Sefton MBC)</p> <p>Sharon Cotterall, Development Officer (Sefton CVS)</p> <p>Tracy McKeating, Locality Manager (Sefton MBC)</p> <p>Neil Moore – Headteacher Stanley High School</p> <p>Neil Frackelton, CEO, SWACA,</p>

Performance, Quality Assurance and Data Sub-group

Performance, Quality Assurance & Data Subgroup
<p>Purpose: To lead, direct and support coordinated multi-agency performance information, audit, scrutiny and review activity, which enables the safeguarding partners to assess the effectiveness of services for children in need of help and protection. In addition to develop a partnership scorecard so that the whole partnership can identify areas of improvement and development and track multi-agency practice.</p> <p>Accountability: The group is accountable to the Safeguarding Forum</p> <p>Responsibilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Oversee and co-ordinate quality assurance and auditing/testing of multi-agency safeguarding practice ensuring activity is spread across the partnership and workforce, and publish reports of findings and recommendations for the safeguarding partners 2. Oversee Section 11/175 audits and programme of accountability meetings 3. Directly undertake a maximum of three multi-agency audits per year commissioned by the safeguarding partners 4. Ensure audit activity includes feedback from children, young people, families and professionals 5. Publish and keep updated the partnership multi-agency audit framework including a common approach to auditing and calendar of audit activity 6. Receive validated data from partner agencies and scrutinise the data to identify trends and themes for the safeguarding partners and to inform priority areas of work

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. To publish a quarterly multi-agency dataset and supporting narrative and to provide highlight and exception reports for the safeguarding partners 8. To provide a quarterly report of progress for the Safeguarding Forum 9. To monitor and report on the implementation of inter-agency procedures and processes in relation to performance information 10. To work with other sub groups as appropriate to develop and disseminate 11. To identify areas of risk, record them in the risk register and escalate concerns to the safeguarding partners 	
Agencies	Members
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of Service, Safeguarding, QA • Head of Children’s Social Care • Senior Manager Early Help and Prevention • Representative from QA Performance Team (Children’s Social Care) • Detective Chief Inspector, Merseyside Police • CCG/Health Economy Rep • Head of Communities LA • Public Health 	<p>Caroline McKenna, Interim AD Safeguarding & QA (Chair)</p> <p>Deborah Hughes, Partnership Manager (SSCP)</p> <p>Laura Knights, Head of Children’s Social Care (Sefton MBC)</p> <p>Karen Garside, Designated Nurse (CCGs)</p> <p>Simon Burnett, Head of Communities (Sefton MBC)</p> <p>Matt Caton, DCI (Police)</p> <p>Helen Case, Designated Nurse (LAC) (CCGs)</p> <p>Cath Creed, Named Nurse Safeguarding (Alder Hey Hospital)</p> <p>Alan McGee/Julie Murray, Public Health Lead</p>

Contextual Safeguarding sub-group

Contextual Safeguarding Subgroup
<p>Purpose:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To ensure effective multi-agency action is taken to combat the exploitation of children and those who go missing, to develop an approach to contextual safeguarding and provide assurance to the safeguarding partners about the effectiveness of arrangements 2. To provide strategic oversight of the MACE process <p>Accountability: The group is accountable to the Safeguarding Forum</p> <p>Responsibilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Oversee the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard children from contextual extra familial risks 2. Ensure the effectiveness of the MACE process 3. Challenge and hold each other to account 4. Oversee development and completion of a multi-agency Contextual safeguarding action plan 5. Oversee the multi-agency approach to Contextual Safeguarding across the continuum of need, including training 6. Lead on awareness raising activity 7. Undertake/ commission audit and quality assurance activity

<p>8. Ensure all missing and exploitation, contextual safeguarding and related policies and procedures are fit for purpose and up to date</p> <p>9. Share strategic information and intelligence from partner agencies to identify themes and trends</p> <p>10. Receive strategic police intelligence, including that related to gang and criminal groups, and disruption activities to better understand the CE landscape in Sefton</p> <p>11. Ensure activity is understood by and informed by the voice of children and young people</p>	
Agencies	Members
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detective Chief Inspector, Merseyside Police (chair) • Head of Early Help • Service Manager, Safeguarding Unit • Education Link • Catch 22 Service lead • MASH Manager for Children’s Social Care • CCG/Health Economy Rep 	<p>Mike O’Malley, Chief Inspector (Police) (Chair)</p> <p>Dharmesh Vyas, MASH Manager (Sefton MBC)</p> <p>Tracy McKeating, Locality Manager (Education link)</p> <p>Karen Garside, Designated Nurse (CCGs)</p> <p>Simon Burnett, Head of Communities (Sefton MBC)</p> <p>Sarah Quick, Service Manager, Safeguarding (Sefton MBC)</p> <p>Vicky McKenna, Manager Catch 22</p> <p>Michelle Dean, Senior Probation Officer (NPS)</p> <p>Barry Greene, Named Nurse (Mersey Care NHS)</p> <p>Amanda Ryan – Headteacher, Hillside High School</p> <p>Keith Williams, Headteacher Woodlands Primary School)</p> <p>Paula Furlong, DI (Police)</p> <p>Chris Taylor, Inspector (Police)</p>

Learning and Development sub-group

Learning & Development Subgroup
<p>Purpose:</p> <p>To provide a coordinated local multi-agency approach to workforce development which facilitates effective safeguarding practice through learning from practice improvements.</p>
<p>Accountability:</p> <p>The group is accountable to the Safeguarding Forum</p>
<p>Responsibilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure a full and effective multi-agency safeguarding training programme is in place 2. Ensure publication and wide dissemination of the safeguarding training calendar 3. Ensure participation at the pan Merseyside Workforce Development committee and collaborate wherever possible on workstreams 4. Maintain an overview of attendance at training 5. Review safeguarding policies, procedures and guidance (including that published on the safeguarding website) in relation to training 6. Evidence the positive impact of training on the workforce, and in outcomes for children and young people

7. Develop and coordinate a collaborative approach to disseminating and embedding learning which enables the multi-agency workforce to develop requisite knowledge, skills and abilities to support effective safeguarding practice
8. Lead, coordinate and develop learning in response to findings from partnership audit, scrutiny and reviews
9. Identify themes/topics for multi-agency training, briefings, spotlight sessions and 7 minute briefings
10. Lead design and preparation for the multi-agency learning events
11. Ensure the sufficiency of the training pool
12. Identify new approaches to learning and training
13. Undertake a bi-annual training needs analysis
14. Support, as necessary, regional multi-agency safeguarding training

Agency	Member
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSCP Business Manager (Chair) • Safeguarding Training Officer • Education Link • LA Principal Social Worker and Practice Improvement Manager • CCG/Health Economy Rep 	Deborah Hughes, Partnership Manager (SSCP) – Chair Louise Roberts, Learning & Development Officer (SSCP) Sharon Cotterall, Children and Families Development Officer, Sefton CVS Tracy McKeating, Locality Manager (Sefton MBC) – Education link Karen Garside, Designated Nurse (CCGs) Eileen Allen, Southport & Ormskirk Hospital Natalie O’Hanlon – DSL/Assistant Headteacher Christ the King High School and Sixth Form Marie Bennett – DSL/Senior Assistant Headteacher (Maghull High School) Matt Caton, DCI (Police), Sefton Protecting Vulnerable People Unit Named Principal Social Worker (TBC)

Practice Review Group (PRG)

Practice Review Group (PRG)
<p>Purpose: To ensure the safeguarding partners discharge their statutory responsibility in relation to undertaking local child safeguarding practice reviews and learning reviews. Other cases that are not notifiable incidents but present opportunities for learning should also be referred directly to the Safeguarding Practice Review Subgroup for them to consider whether a single agency review or local learning review would be appropriate.</p>
<p>Accountability: The group is accountable to the Safeguarding Forum</p>
<p>Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To recommend to the statutory safeguarding partners on the need to undertake a Child Safeguarding Practice Review, multi-agency learning review or dual/single agency review

following a request from a partner organisation or the submission of a Serious Incident Notification

- To communicate with the national panel re reviews and undertake, where directed a rapid review and recommend a level of review to the panel
- To record submission of serious incident notifications from the LA
- To discharge the responsibilities for managing a Child Safeguarding Practice Review or Learning Review as set out in the partner’s Learning and Improvement Framework including commissioning an independent overview report author and identifying additional members to support the sub-group
- To support the overview report author to undertake meetings, workshops and interviews as part of the review process
- To develop resources and training to support colleagues involved in the statutory review process
- To ensure completion of the overview reports and presentation to the partnership
- To direct relevant agencies to identify actions and to construct review action plans
- To oversee the completion of action plans resulting from statutory and other reviews commissioned by the sub-group and to provide bi-monthly reports to the safeguarding partners
- To ensure learning from reviews is identified and disseminated to the partnership

Agencies	Members:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated Doctor for Safeguarding Children (chair) • LA Children’s Safeguarding • DI or DCI Merseyside Police • Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children (CCG) • LA Children’s Social Care • Legal Facilitation • Education Link <p>The membership of the sub-group will be widened as appropriate to include representatives from agencies directly involved in a case being reviewed as agreed by the chair.</p>	<p>Natalie Daniels, Designated Doctor (Chair) Karen Garside, Designated Nurse (CCGs) Caroline McKenna, Interim AD Safeguarding & QA Matt Caton, DCI (Police) Tracy McKeating, Locality Manager (Sefton MBC) – Education link Deborah Hughes, Partnership Manager (SSCP) Laura Knights, Head of Children’s Social Care (Sefton MBC) Tony Costello – Headteacher, Savio Salesian College Michelle Brabner – Principal (TBD), Southport College Nick Sheerin, HT Birkdale Primary School Lisa Orr, Legal Advisor</p>

Resolution of disputes

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 (pp 80) specifies that:

Safeguarding partners and relevant agencies must act in accordance with the arrangements for their area, and will be expected to work together to resolve any disputes locally.

The Partnership’s resolution of disputes process is clearly outlined in the Sefton Escalation Procedure on the Partnership’s website.

The guidance outlines principles and processes and when, and at what stage, concerns should be escalated to the Sefton Safeguarding Children Partnership. Partners are reminded regularly face-to-face, and in communications, that this process exists and where to find guidance.

Whistleblowing Procedures also provide an additional important route for staff to raise concerns in a safe process that protects their position, if this is a concern. The Sefton Children’s Safeguarding Partnership members will each adhere to their own whistleblowing procedures within the borough.

The Safeguarding Partnership and relevant agencies will work together to resolve any disputes locally. Public bodies that fail to comply with their obligations under law are held to account through a variety of regulatory and inspection activities. In extremis, any non-compliance will be referred to the Secretary of State.

Voice of children and families

The voice of the child is a recurring thread throughout everything that the Sefton Safeguarding Children Partnership does.

There are established mechanisms in place where children, young people and families can have their say, share their views and experiences, challenge and support local decision makers and shape and influence strategic planning, commissioning and service provision at an individual, service and strategic level. Key examples include Sefton Children in Care Council (CiCC). Emerging issues, themes, impacts and outcomes of engagement are fed into partnership arrangements as appropriate.

The SSCP deliver a rolling cycle of themed learning events and audits which include consultation with children young people and families.

Sub-groups are expected to report, in every report to the Partnership, on how the group has considered the voice of children and young people.

Each partner must include an outline in their agency Assurance Report (through section 11 and 175 requirements) of how the agency/organisation ensures that they appropriately listen and respond to the voice of children and young people, including the voices of pre- or non-verbal children. An entire section of the Annual Report relates to the voice of children and young people.

Relevant Agencies:

Sefton Local Authority Merseyside Police South Sefton & Southport & Formby CCGs Primary, Secondary, Academies, Alternative Provision, Independent Schools FE Colleges (Hugh Baird and Southport) Children’s Centres Childcare Providers/Nurseries/Childminders Merseyside CDOP NHSE Adult’s Social Care Local Housing Providers Southport & Ormskirk NHS Hospital Trust	Child and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS) Children’s Social Care Local Authority Early Help Local Authority Safeguarding & QA Service Sefton GPs Sefton Voluntary and Faith Sector NSPCC Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service Independent Fostering & Adoption Agencies Catch 22 Providers of sport (including those who provide oversight)
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Alder Hey NHS Children's Hospital Liverpool Women's NHS Hospital Mersey Care NHS Youth Justice Service National Probation Service Border Force & Immigration Services British Transport Police North West Ambulance Service (NWAS)	Home Care Services to Children Residential Homes for Children All religious organisations in Sefton All providers of extra-curricular activities to children including clubs
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