



**West Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership
Business plan 1st Jan 2020- 31st June 2021
Review December 2020**

Vision

An assured safeguarding partnership which collectively engages with children and families enabling them to thrive.

Delivering our vision will mean that:

- Children and young people are safe from harm and able to thrive within their family units.
- Children and young people enjoy a healthy life, including good mental health and emotional wellbeing.
- Families are resilient and feel supported within their communities, via bespoke community led work to meet their needs.
- Our wider networks, including schools and colleges, keep our children and young people safe and helping to support and equip them with the skills they will need for their adult life.
- We will disrupt criminal activity and hold offenders to account, so that children and young people are protected from harm.

Statutory Framework

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 reframed the approach to local safeguarding by removing the statutory requirement for local authority areas to have a Local Safeguarding Children Board and placing a duty on three lead partners: Police, Clinical Commissioning Groups and the local authority to agree local arrangements to work together to safeguard children. The changes were introduced to enable local authority areas to work more flexibly and innovatively when developing the delivery of their local safeguarding children partnership work.

Key Priorities for West Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership

The safeguarding partnership has identified three key practice priorities and two overarching priorities:

The main practice priorities are:

1. Neglect
2. Child exploitation
3. Ensure effective multi-agency safeguarding practice

The overarching priorities are:

4. Lead and consolidate effective partnership arrangements
5. Revise and embed a learning and Improvement Framework

Shared principles that underpin our key priorities:

- **Child Centred Practice** - the partnership will ensure that children and young people have opportunities to participate and collaborate in the work of the Partnership and that the voice of children is embedded in multi-agency practice.
- **High support high challenge** - the partnership will promote a culture of high support and high challenge to develop working environments where growth and learning is accelerated.
- **Promoting Practice leadership** - the partnership will involve practitioners in the continuous learning process of quality assurance and scrutiny in a supportive and challenging way, in order to build practice leadership capacity across the partnership.
- **Restorative approach** - the partnership will take the approach of 'working with' rather than 'doing to' with key stakeholders including children and families.
- **Promoting a culture of continuous learning** - the partnership will create the environment for learning, recognising the way systems influence each other and the benefits of working together rather than in individual agencies. We will ensure that we learn from best practice, case reviews and multi-agency audits, including the monitoring of the implementation of recommendations.

Working in this way we will ensure our core safeguarding practice is of high quality, responsive to the needs of our communities and improves outcomes for children and families in West Sussex.

| Priority | Outcomes | Activity and timescale | Group responsible and mechanism |
|-------------------|--|--|---|
| 1. Neglect | Practitioners across the partnership can identify and intervene early to prevent the harmful impact of neglect on children | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and launch Neglect Strategy by March 2020. 2. Develop toolkit for practitioners by March 2020. 3. Complete voice of child project to capture the experiences of children and young people who have recently been on a child protection plan due to neglect by March 2020. 4. Capture the views of front-line professionals to inform the strategy, toolkits and inform improvements to practice by February 2020. 5. Develop multi-agency workshops for front line professionals to roll out the Strategy and toolkits by February 2020. 6. All agencies to produce action plans linked to the strategy by February 2020. 7. Develop a Neglect Impact Framework and dataset to monitor impact and progress by March 2020. 8. Pilot scrutiny event using Impact Framework by September 2020. 9. Develop a network of neglect champions by September 2020. | Neglect task and finish group established to commence work. |

Related action plans: Neglect action plans developed by each agency

Impact information: The Independent Scrutineer will lead a review of the effectiveness and impact of the neglect work using the Neglect Impact Framework

| Priority | Outcomes | Activity and timescale | Group responsible and mechanism |
|------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------|
| 2. Child Exploitation | All agencies can demonstrate how they recognise, respond and evaluate Child Exploitation | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the function and terms of reference of the group by May 2020. 2. Produce an overarching workplan by June 2020 and ensure individual action plans are in place to support improvements by September 2020. 3. Ensure clear governance mechanisms are in place to clarify how the Community Safety Partnership and Exploitation sub-group will hold each to account for key activities by October 2020. 4. Develop a plan to improve the recognition and response of professionals and communities to child exploitation by June 2020. 5. Develop opportunities to share intelligence to enable effective disruption, prevention and intervention by July 2020. 6. Develop plan to support interventions for children, young people and families who place other young people at risk by September 2020. | Child Exploitation subgroup |

Related action plans: Child exploitation subgroup action plan

Impact information: The Independent Scrutineer will lead a review of the effectiveness and impact of multi-agency practice in relation to child exploitation.

| Priority | Outcomes | Activity and timescale | Group responsible and mechanism |
|--|----------|--|--|
| 3. Ensure effective multi-agency safeguarding practice | | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify and agree core safeguarding activities that contribute to keeping children safe e.g. Core Groups, Strategy Discussions etc and develop a programme to evaluate whether the required standards are being met by June 2020. 2. Work with partners and CSC in line with the Practice Improvement Plan to review thresholds and revise our Continuum of need. Launch September 2020. 3. Develop and agree the annual Audit and scrutiny programme, aligned to priorities by June 2020. 4. Monitor the effectiveness of recommendations from SCR's and other reviews. Ongoing. 5. Ensure Learning from SCR's, Practice Learning Reviews and audit is disseminated quickly and embedded in practice. Ongoing. 6. Ensure robust tracking of recommendations from SCR's and practice learning review. Tracker in place by April 2020. 7. Oversee the Launch and embedding of the ICON programme by September 2020 undertake the first stage professional and public evaluation of impact of the programme by January 2021. | Case Review Group and Quality Assurance & Learning and Development Subgroups (formally IPAG) |
| <p>Related action plans: Action plan for CRG & Quality Assurance subgroups Impact information: The Independent Scrutineer will lead a scrutiny learning event focussing on effective safeguarding practice.</p> | | | |
| Priority | Outcomes | Activity and timescale | Group responsible and mechanism |
| 4. Lead and consolidate effective partnership arrangements | | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the strategic governance, meeting structures and membership as laid out in the new Multi- Agency Safeguarding Arrangements to ensure its fit for purpose April 2020. 2. Review the new sub-groups to ensure they are fit for purpose to deliver the business of the Partnership and can evidence clear impact of their work April 2020. 3. Develop a participation and engagement strategy to ensure that children's voices are at the core of our work, practitioners are fully involved, and we work with families to improve safeguarding outcomes by October 2020. 4. Benchmark with other partnership arrangements to identify good practice and opportunities to innovate and improve. May 2020. 5. Review the capacity of the partnership support team to ensure it is fit for purpose by April 2020. | Safeguarding Partnership Team, Lead Partners, Steering Group and Scrutineer |

| <p>Related action plans: Health and Wellbeing Board Plan, Community Safety Business Plan and Safeguarding Adults Board Business Plan and in line with the Memorandum of Understanding ensure that other Strategic Boards are held to account for delivery of shared priorities. Impact information: The Partnership will have clear governance, will be aligned to the other Strategic Boards and the work of the partnership will be directly influenced by the voices of children and young people, front-line professionals and families.</p> | | | |
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| Priority | Outcomes | Activity and timescale | Group responsible and mechanism |
| 5. Revise and embed a learning and Improvement Framework | | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revise the Quality Assurance framework and Performance data set to ensure it identifies risks and strengths in the Partnership to inform the necessary improvement activity by June 2020 2. Revise the multi-agency audit process to ensure that it is practice focused and captures the lived experience children and their families by June 2020 3. Plan the scrutiny events in line with key priorities to review progress and impact and inform future planning by June 2020 4. Develop and deliver a partnership training and learning programme based on a robust need's analysis linked to the learning from scrutiny events, case reviews and audit by May 2020 | Safeguarding Partnership Team, Steering group, Training and Development and Quality Assurance sub-groups and Scrutineer |

WSSCP – Business Plan quarterly progress report:

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|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Period covered by this report | <i>Insert quarter/year</i> | Date of Report | <i>Insert date</i> |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|

Overview/Background:

| Priority | Outcomes | Achievements in this reporting period and impact: | Actions for next reporting period: | RAG Status |
|----------|----------|---|------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. | | | | |
| 2. | | | | |
| 3. | | | | |

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| Key for RAG rating | Red = Achievement of activity is a month late | Amber = Achievement of activity will be 2 weeks late | Green = All activities are progressing as planned | Blue = Completed |
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| <p>Key Issues, Challenges and Resolution</p> <p>Any significant issues / challenges which impacted Business plan activity during the period – e.g., resourcing issues, quality problems, technical issues and external events outside the control of the WSSCB partnership.</p> |
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