



CHESHIRE EAST

Safeguarding Children Partnership

BUSINESS PLAN 2019 - 2022

What is the Safeguarding Childrens Partnership?

The Safeguarding Partnership includes all the agencies that provide support to, work with or commission services for children and young people and includes all statutory and voluntary agencies and faith groups. Whilst agencies will have differing levels of engagement within the partnership we want to ensure that we have an inclusive approach and build on individual agencies strengths to promote and effectively safeguard the children and young people in Cheshire East.

Statutory Partners as Determined in Working Together 2018

The three local Safeguarding Partners for the Cheshire East Area are:

- Cheshire Constabulary
- The Clinical Commissioning Groups that cover Cheshire East
 - NHS Eastern Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group
 - NHS South Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group
- Cheshire East Council

The three safeguarding partners will work collaboratively with all the relevant agencies to meet the following principles:

1. The rights and interests of children will be at the heart of the arrangements
2. The arrangements will exist to improve outcomes for children and all measures of success should be toward that goal.
3. The responsibility for effective safeguarding lies with each partner agency, it does not lie with the CЕССР. CЕССР will be responsible for holding each partner individually to account for their safeguarding work, which includes their responsibility for effective multi-agency working.
4. Safeguard children by having in place policies, procedures, safe working practices and suitable, trained staff and volunteers;
5. Improve the quality of life and opportunities for all children by working together with multi-agency partners to improve outcomes for children in respect of keeping them safe from harm.

Our Collective Vision for the Children and Young People of Cheshire East

It is the right of every child and young person in Cheshire East to enjoy a healthy and happy childhood, grow up feeling safe from abuse or neglect and thrive in an environment that enables them to fulfil their potential

We aim to do this as a partnership through our collective commitment to

- **Strategic Leadership** across the partnership – to make the safety of children and young people a priority.
- **Challenge** – through focused inquiries or investigations into particular practice or issues on the basis of evidence, practitioner experience and the views of children and young people, in order for us to improve together
- **Learning** – to achieve the highest standards of development and to ensure all practitioners have the skills and knowledge to be effective. This will include listening to the voice of children and young people and using what we hear to inform best practice.

Safeguarding Children Partnership Values

The shared values that are at the heart of all we do and that we actively demonstrated through our behaviours and promote throughout our respective organisations:

As a Safeguarding Children Partnership we will:

- ✓ Actively involve children and young people and their families, as what they say will shape the way that we work;
- ✓ Listen to front line practitioners and their managers and take their views into account;
- ✓ Act in an open and transparent way and foster a culture of challenge, scrutiny and support across the partnership;
- ✓ Ensure that our staff have the skills, support and supervision to keep children and young people safe;
- ✓ Share information and intelligence that will enable us to keep our children and young people safe;
- ✓ Celebrate strengths and positive achievement and we are committed to continuously improve;
- ✓ Embed the principles of 'signs of safety across our partnership;
- ✓ Work with other strategic partnerships in Cheshire East to ensure that our plans are aligned in order to maximise the opportunities for children and young people.

The core functions of the Safeguarding Children Partnership are to:

- Undertaking scrutiny and challenge of the multi-agency safeguarding performance dashboard;
- Direct the multi-agency audit process.
- Devise and monitor action plans for service improvement following audit;
- Collate single agency audit information.
- Co-ordinate s11/175/157 Audits;
- Ensure Quality Assurance and audit mechanisms are
- Coordinate frontline practitioner visits to get the views of practitioners;
- Coordinate the Voice of Child activity; triangulate the views of children with audit findings;
- Commission child safeguarding practice reviews in line with Working Together 2018
- Oversee and endorse recommendations from these reviews and agree the actions to be taken to improve front line practice;
- To improve the quality of safeguarding work through the provision and measuring the impact of multi-agency training
- Moderate completed action plans from case reviews to provide scrutiny of the evidence

- robust;
- Ensure Quality Assurance activity is aligned to the CESC priorities;

provided and factor in any ongoing assurance into the partnership audit programme and/or performance dashboard.

Take an overview of single agency inspections to get 'early warning' regarding any weaknesses in the effectiveness of the Safeguarding Childrens Partnership.

The Safeguarding Childrens Partnership members agreed to continue these objectives as part of the development of the new arrangements

	Strategic Partnership Objective	Outcome to be achieved
1	Improving frontline practice	Competent practitioners and consistent practice. Children and Families provided with the right level of support and intervention.
2	Listening to children and young people	Childrens views are strongly represented.
3	Strengthening partnerships	Strong safeguarding culture across the system, effective scrutiny, and challenge and evidence of improved outcomes

At the development day in January 2019 the Partnership agreed the following 4 priorities.

	Priority Areas
1	Our approach to Contextual Safeguarding
2	Improving the quality and effectiveness of front line practice
3	Emotional Health and Wellbeing of our vulnerable children
4	Embedding the New Arrangements

In order to deliver the priorities the actions and indicators of success are set out below

Priority One: Our approach to Contextual Safeguarding				
Link to Strategic Objective	Action	Indicator of Success	By when	Lead
1 & 3	Develop a strategic framework for Contextual safeguarding	Set the multi-agency standards, values, principles and expectations for working together with children affected established and implemented.	Dec 19	KR
1 & 2	Develop a model for contextual safeguarding conferences	Effective model of conducting contextual safeguarding conferences is implemented.	Mar 20	LH
1 & 3	Develop an outcomes measures framework.	Implement a set of outcome measures that evidence impact and provide assurance to the Executive.	Mar 20	KR
1 & 3	Develop a recording process for contextual safeguarding on case management systems.	Effective model of recording implemented that supports multi-agency working.	Review date	KR/BH
1 & 2	Implement the Contextual Safeguarding strategy	Effective model of practice implemented that supports multi-agency working	2022	KR

Priority Two: Improving the quality and effectiveness of front line practice				
Link to Strategic Objective	Action	Indicator of Success	By when	Lead
1 & 3	Development of a joint working protocol with Adult Learning Disabilities Service for assessing parents with learning disabilities	Children's Social Care will appropriately involve Adults Services when working with parents who have a learning disability.	Nov 19	LH
1 & 3	Explore any barriers in the Escalation pathway and implement a process to facilitate its use by all partner agencies	CESCB receives routine assurance that the process is being used and identify the issues are that are being escalated.	Nov 19	RT
1 & 3	Develop a process for assessing adults who pose a risk of Sexual Harm	The quality assurance process evidences that the process is being applied in relevant cases.	Nov 19	NH
1 & 3	Update the Step up Step down process.	Quality assurance process evidences that thresholds are being properly applied with children and young people receiving the appropriate service.	Nov 19	JC
1	Ensure drug and alcohol services are engaged effectively in Child In Need Planning	<p>Children and families are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> getting the right support and advice from specialist services quickly and in a place that suits the family and child. receive coordinated support that supports a whole family approach focussed on improving outcomes for the children and young people. safeguarded by a multiagency approach to support with specialist advice and support around substance misuse. feeling empowered by building on their strengths and identifying their support networks. 		HB

Priority Three : Emotional Health and Wellbeing of our vulnerable children				
Link to Strategic Objective	Action	Indicator of Success	By when	Lead
1,2 & 3	Examine the arrangements for, and effectiveness of work to improve the emotional wellbeing and mental health of vulnerable children, those on the edge of care and Cared for Children.	Development of a multi-agency approach to support Children living with mental health issues from vulnerable backgrounds and where safeguarding concerns have been identified. To build on existing and emerging Mental health pathways to ensure a comprehensive and responsive offer of support is available for children across the Continuum of need framework and ensure that services are better aligned to the range of children and young people's needs .	June 20	DL/KM
1 & 3	Work with partners to understand the mental health needs of Children who are out of school/on part time timetables.	Key partners will understand the needs of these children in particular those with unmet needs and the board will have an agreed multi-agency action plan to address these needs.	Mar 20	KP
1,2 & 3	Review the present pathway for sharing information regarding incidents of Children and Young People (CYP) self –harming between health and education.	Development of a pathway that ensures there is timely and proportionate sharing between school and health following an incident of self harm by a child/young person.	June 20	MB

Priority Four: Embedding the New Arrangements				
Link to Strategic Objective	Action	Indicator of Success	By when	Lead
3	Transition outstanding tasks from the LSCB to the CЕССР	All outstanding actions are transitioned and the Executive is assured that has occurred.	June 19	AJ
3	Partner's engaged with the CЕССР arrangements.	All relevant agencies will sign up to the Partnership Agreement with its relevant agencies and actively participate in the work of the partnership.	Sept 19	GF
2	Adopt the TOGETHER approach to the participation of young people	The influence of children is evident with CЕССР developments and the partnership has been awarded the Investors in Children Award	Mar 20	Subgroups
3	Measure the effectiveness of the new arrangements through a number of different approaches to independent scrutiny	The Partnership will be aware of areas for further development/improvement for 2020 onwards	Mar 20	GF