



Briefing on Cumbria's New Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements – Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership

Background

Every Local Authority area has an Independent Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). LSCB's are responsible for ensuring agencies work together to safeguard children and for testing how effectively this happens.

Cumbria LSCB has fulfilled this role for our local area and has supported local safeguarding arrangements by delivering training, auditing, publishing learning, publishing procedures, undertaking reviews etc. Most of this activity can be seen on this website.

However, LSCB's will soon be replaced, and new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements are required to be in place by September 2019.

From 29 September 2019, The Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership (CSCP) will replace the current Cumbria Local Safeguarding Children Board.

Why are we changing?

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 replaces LSCBs with new local safeguarding arrangements, led by three named statutory safeguarding partners (local authorities, chief officers of police, and NHS clinical commissioning groups). The three partners will assume the responsibilities that currently sit with the LSCB. In Cumbria these partners are Cumbria County Council, Cumbria Constabulary, NHS North Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS Morecambe Bay Clinical Commissioning Group.

The safeguarding partners are required to agree on ways to co-ordinate their safeguarding services; act as a strategic leadership group in supporting and engaging others; and implement local and national learning including from serious child safeguarding incidents.

Information for new arrangements

The new CSCP arrangements have been published today (27 June 2019). This [document](#) sets out how organisations, partnerships and people in Cumbria will move from the existing Safeguarding Board arrangements to a new Partnership. It highlights how we will build on emerging strengths and build new opportunities for scrutiny, support and challenge. We believe that we have created a realistic and sustainable model, which will enable a continuing focus on critical safeguarding matters to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families. We will begin to operate these new arrangements from 29 September 2019.



Our Partnership Vision, Principles and Values

As part of our new arrangements, the CSCP commits to the following shared values and principles which will underpin everything we do:

- To be child focussed
- To work in a strength based way
- To be a learning partnership
- To value and support our workforce
- To work in partnership
- To undertake engagement and co-production
- To always ask the 'so what?' question and ensure what we do makes a difference

Key Features of the New Safeguarding Model

Executive Group

The Executive Group will be formed of senior responsible officers or their nominated representatives from the three statutory safeguarding partners and will be chaired by the existing independent chair. The Executive Group will drive forward the work of the CSCP, ensuring the vision is upheld and the priorities are delivered. The Group will review progress, assess strengths and identify areas for development.

Business Group

The Business Group membership will include the chairs of the partnership sub-groups and chairs of the Locality Safeguarding Groups, the statutory partners as well as the other 'relevant agencies' (as detailed in Working Together 2018). In Cumbria this will include representatives from education, health, district councils, criminal justice and the voluntary sector. The Business Group will develop, implement and monitor an annual plan and agree priority actions against core business; and will direct the subgroups in delivery of the plan.

Locality Safeguarding Groups

We believe the new arrangements present an opportunity to improve the consistency of our locality response to safeguarding issues. Our new arrangements will establish (on a phased approach) three Locality Safeguarding Groups based on the following locality areas: Allerdale and Copland; Carlisle and Eden; Barrow and South Lakeland. We will be working in consultation with partners to establish how the arrangements will work in practice.

Partnership Sub Groups

The Business Group will be supported to deliver the priorities through a number of countywide partnership sub groups:

- Policy and Procedures
- Learning and Improvement
- Performance Management and Quality Assurance
- Child Death Overview Panel



- Case Review
- Keeping Children Safe in Education Partnership
- Complex Safeguarding
- Early Help
- Safeguarding Hub Programme Board

How will this affect you?

The CSCP will continue to undertake the functions of the LSCB including the delivery of multi-agency training, carrying out multi-agency audits, undertaking reviews and publishing learning. The current LSCB policies and procedures will be adopted by the CSCP.

The LSCB website will remain in place until September 2019 while we update and transition all relevant information across to a new CSCP website.

The process for if you have concerns about a child remain [unchanged](#).

Opportunities for Engagement – help us shape our priorities

The safeguarding partners wish to engage with the safeguarding workforce and seek your views on our new arrangements. Between July and October 2019 there will be a number of opportunities to meet with others with safeguarding responsibilities across Cumbria to reflect, discuss and engage with future developments and plans for the CSCP.

During Safeguarding Fortnight, September 9-20, 7 practitioner forums will be held across the county, these will be used to share information on our new arrangements and take practitioners views on the partnership's priorities and the proposals around Locality Safeguarding Groups.

Further updates will be shared via a '5 Minute Briefing' which you can sign up to via www.cumbria.gov.uk/signup.