



Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership arrangements



**Coventry
Safeguarding
Children**
PARTNERSHIP



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Introduction from the Lead Safeguarding Partners

Welcome to the new Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership multi-agency arrangements. We want Coventry to be the best place for children and young people to grow up in and to support this we have our initiative 'Child Friendly Cov'. Child Friendly Cov is a campaign to ensure that Coventry is a child friendly city - a place where children and young people feel valued, supported, safe and enjoy themselves.

In this document we outline our statutory duty for joint and equal responsibility for the multi-agency safeguarding of children and young people in Coventry to:

- work together as a team to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area.
- include and develop the role of wider local organisations and agencies in the process.

As Lead Safeguarding Partners, we recognise the importance of all relevant agencies across the system in supporting children, young people and their families. We would like to express our thanks to the staff and volunteers working in the many statutory and non-statutory services across Coventry, for the work that they do every day in providing support and protection for our children and young people.



Craig Guildford
Chief Constable of
West Midlands Police



Julie Nugent
Chief Executive of
Coventry City Council



Philip Johns
Integrated Care Board Chief
Executive

Introduction

This document describes how the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in Coventry are organised. 'Working Together to Safeguarding Children - A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children' (Dec 23) sets out the requirements for multi-agency safeguarding children's arrangements.

Working Together 2023 specifies that protecting children from abuse, neglect and exploitation requires multi agency join up and co-operation at all levels. Local organisations and agencies that work with children and families play a significant and often statutory role when it comes to safeguarding children. The way in which these organisations and agencies work together is known as Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements (MASAs).

The purpose of multi-agency arrangements is to ensure that:

- there is a clear, shared vision for how to improve outcomes for children locally across all levels of need and all types of harm.
- when a child is identified as suffering or likely to suffer significant harm there is a prompt, appropriate and effective response to ensure the protection and support of the child.
- organisations and agencies are challenged appropriately, effectively holding one another to account.
- agencies seek the voice of children and families combined with the knowledge of experienced practitioners and insights from data, to provide a greater understanding of the areas of strength and/or improvement within arrangements and practice.
- information is sought, analysed, shared, and broken down by protected characteristics to facilitate more accurate and timely decision-making for children and families, and to understand outcomes for different communities of children.

- effective collection, sharing and analysis of data, to enable early identification of new safeguarding risks, issues, emerging threats, and joined-up responses across relevant agencies.
- senior leaders promote and embed a learning culture which supports local services to become more reflective and implement changes to practice.

Geography

Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership arrangements relate to the city of Coventry only, despite two of the statutory partners covering an area larger than Coventry City Council. Where appropriate however some functions may be delivered across a wider geographical footprint for example Coventry is part of the West Midlands Child Protection procedures group and jointly commissions the hosting site with other West Midlands areas.

Multi-Agency Safeguarding arrangements in Coventry

Lead Safeguarding Partners

A statutory safeguarding partner in relation to a local authority area in England is defined under the Children Act 2004 (as amended by the Children's and Social Work Act, 2017) as:

- the local authority
- an integrated care board for an area any part of which falls within the local authority area
- the chief officer of police for an area any part of which falls within the local authority area.

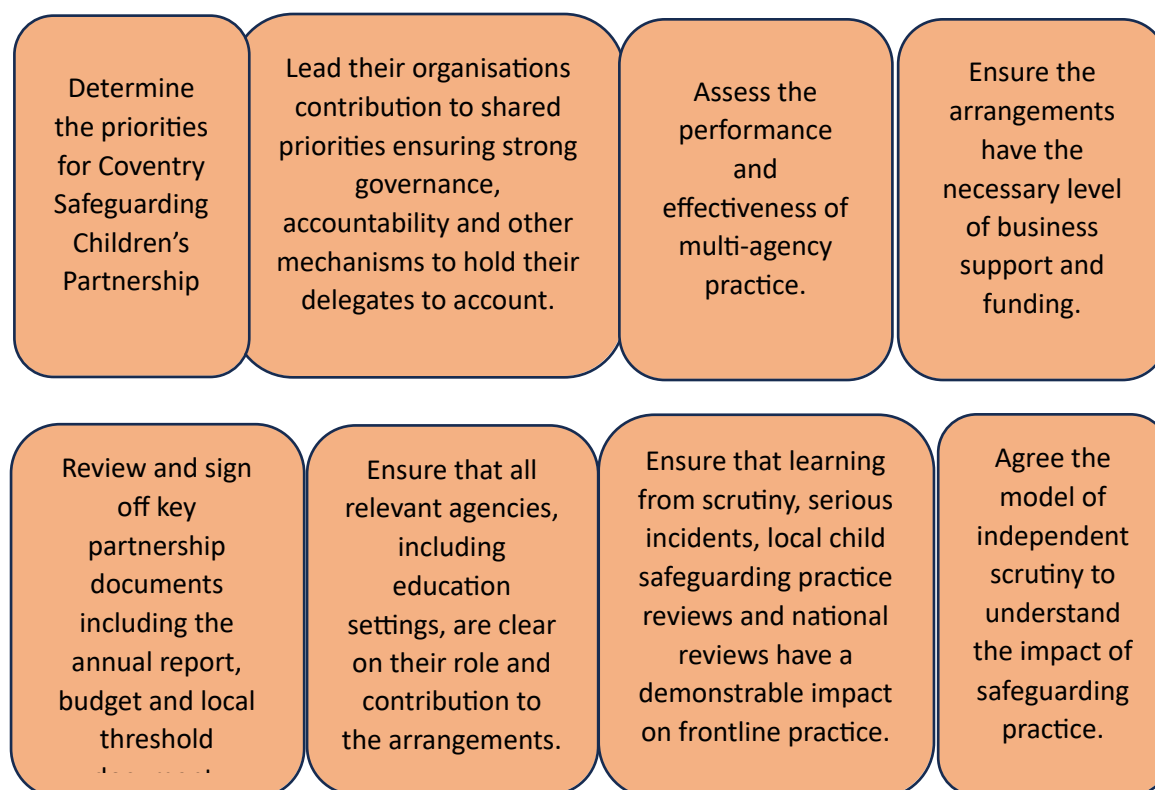
In Coventry the organisations providing these functions are:

- Coventry City Council
- Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board
- West Midlands Police

The three Lead Safeguarding Partners are:

- Coventry City Council Chief Executive
- Coventry and Rugby Integrated Care Board Chief Executive
- West Midlands Police Chief Constable

The purpose of the Lead Safeguarding Partners is to:



The Lead Safeguarding Partners will meet three times a year. The Lead Safeguarding Partners will agree on ways to co-ordinate their safeguarding services, will act as a strategic group in supporting and engaging others and will oversee the implementation of local and national learning, including from serious child safeguarding incidents.

Delegated Safeguarding Partners

The Lead Safeguarding Partners have appointed the following Delegated Safeguarding Partners:

- The Director of Children's Services and Education (Coventry City Council)
- The Chief Superintendent Coventry Policing (West Midlands Police)
- Chief Nursing Officer (Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board).

The Delegated Safeguarding Partners meet on a monthly basis as the Executive Group. The Designated Safeguarding Partners act as a team to focus on driving improvement in practice and delivering the safeguarding priorities. They also put into practice any decisions made by the Lead Safeguarding Partners. The LSP's and DSP's may delegate by exception to assist with quoracy.

The Designated Safeguarding Partners through the Executive Group will:

Deliver and monitor the multi-agency priorities to safeguard children in the local area.

Ensure close working and engagement with education and other relevant agencies.

Implement effective information sharing agreements between agencies including data sharing that facilitates joint analysis.

Deliver high quality and timely rapid reviews and local child safeguarding practice reviews.

Evidence impact of learning from local and national reviews as well as independent scrutiny is the annual report.

Ensure provision of appropriate multi agency safeguarding training and professional development.

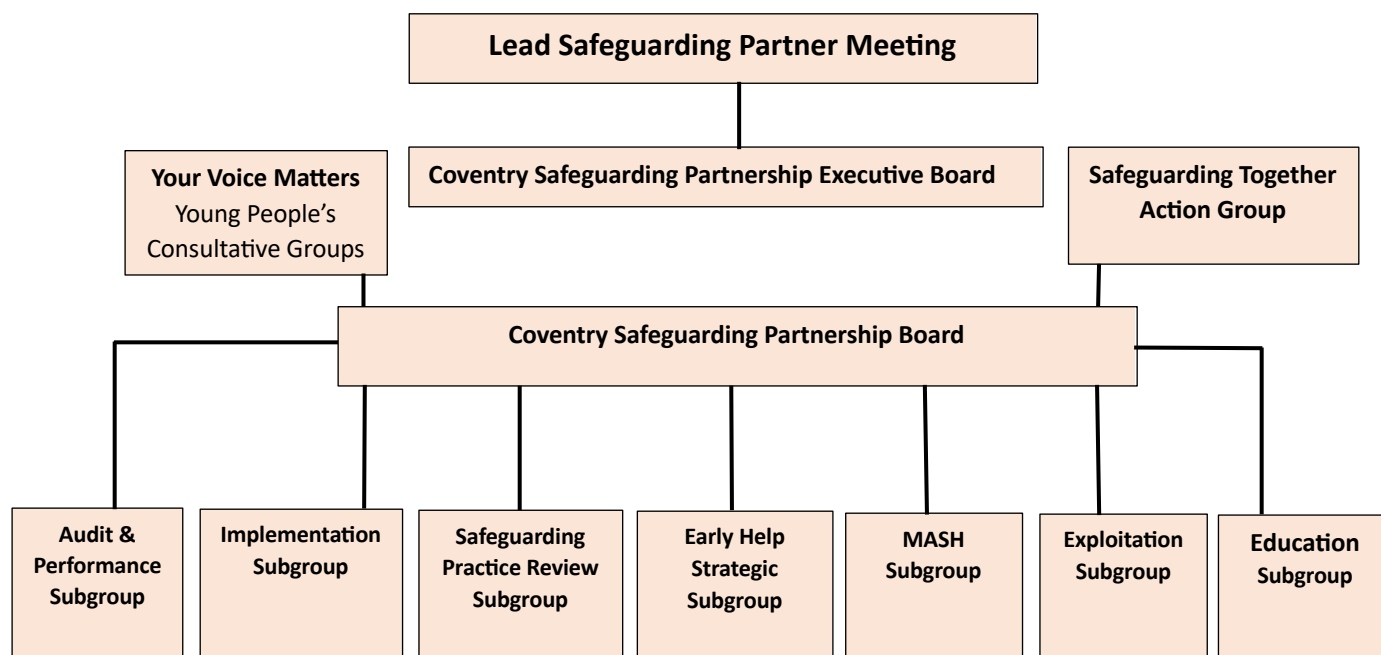
Seek feedback from children and families about their experience of services.

Co-design services to ensure children from different communities and groups can access the support they need.

Ensure effective communication across the partnership.

The Executive Group meetings are chaired by one of the Delegated Safeguarding Partners on a rotating basis. For 2024-2025 the Partnership Chair will be the Associate Chief Nurse Safeguarding, Coventry & Warwickshire Integrated Care Board.

Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership Structure



Equality, diversity and inclusion

The CSCP recognises the importance of the principles of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in everything that we do. We recognise that individuals still experience racism, discrimination and inequality in society. This impacts the physical, mental, emotional, economic, social and spiritual health of our communities. Therefore, as a partnership we will take a pro-active approach to identifying and re-dressing inequality to make sure that all children and young people have access to the same services to safeguard them and promote their welfare. To achieve this we will:

- Seek assurance from our partners that at an individual agency level they have policies to address EDI through the Section 11 and Section 175 audits.
- Develop our datasets to understand any disproportionality issues.
- Consider EDI within our awareness raising activities.
- Consider EDI within our quality assurance activities and reviews.
- Seek views from groups within the nine protected characteristics to understand their views about our services.

Independent Scrutiny

The purpose of Independent Scrutiny will be to drive continuous improvement in safeguarding Coventry children. In Coventry the delivery of independent scrutiny is partly filled by the Independent Scrutineer role. Scrutiny also exists within all levels of the partnership and practitioners at all levels have a desire to ensure that safeguarding practice is constantly improving, to protect children and young people across the City. Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership has a Quality Assurance Framework and activity undertaken under this framework will also support an understanding of the effectiveness of the partnership. An additional lens is provided by external inspections including Joint Targeted Area Inspections and ILACS.

Local arrangements for Independent Scrutiny will:

- provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in Coventry.
- provide assurance that there is effective identification, review and implementation in relation to serious child safeguarding cases.
- analyse local and national data intelligence and information to identify gaps and inform priorities.
- consider how effectively the arrangements are working for children and families, as well as for practitioners, and how well the safeguarding partners are providing strong leadership,
- provide objectivity, act as a constructive critical friend and promote reflection to promote continuous improvement.
- identify and highlight key areas of risk but also identify areas of good practice which need to be promoted and replicated.
- make recommendations to the lead safeguarding partner.

A range of mechanisms will support the Independent Scrutineer to carry out the role including but not limited to:

- Performance data
- Multi-agency audits
- Rapid reviews and Safeguarding Practice Reviews
- Quality assurance visits to key areas
- Visit to Your Voice Matters, Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership young people's group and seek the views of parents/carers.
- Attendance at key partnership meetings.
- Focus groups

Areas highlighted by Independent Scrutiny will be monitored on an action plan that is overseen by the Executive Group.

Relevant agencies

Relevant agencies are named in the 'Relevant Agencies Regulations' and are under a statutory duty to co-operate and collaborate with the Lead Safeguarding Partners. Relevant agencies are those organisations and agencies whose involvement in the safeguarding arrangements is required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Those that Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership has nominated as relevant agencies are listed in Appendix A).

Relevant agencies:

- Co-operate with safeguarding partners to improve, implement, and monitor effectiveness of the local safeguarding arrangements.
- Share information and data about safeguarding issues and concerns affecting the children involved in their organisation to contribute to local priorities.
- Ensure local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements are fully understood, and rigorously applied within their organisation.

Relevant agencies may be asked to sit on CSCP subgroups and where this occurs representatives should:

- Prioritise meeting attendance or identify a suitable representative to attend.
- Have the seniority to make decisions.
- Have access to the necessary information to inform discussions and decisions.
- Act as a conduit to other individuals or departments within their agencies.
- Be critically reflective, strengths based, child centred and impact focussed to shape and influence practice.
- Lead specific workstreams including Chairing subgroups and specific Task and Finish Groups.
- Take responsibility for identified actions and oversee these until completion.

Relevant agencies may also be asked to contribute to the creation of workforce development materials, training, audits and other quality assurance activities, Rapid Reviews and Safeguarding Practice Reviews.

Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 places a statutory duty on key organisations to self-assess the extent to which they meet safeguarding requirements. This means they have a duty to ensure their functions, and any services that they contract out to others, are discharged having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Relevant agencies will be required to undertake a Section 11 self-assessment every two years to provide assurances in relation to their duties.

Engagement with Education

Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership recognises the pivotal role that schools, colleges, early years providers and childcare settings, and other educational providers (including alternative provision) play in safeguarding children and promoting their welfare. As such the CSCP has strong mechanisms for engaging education in the safeguarding arrangements:

- The Lead Safeguarding Partners regard all schools (including independent schools, academies, alternative provision and free schools), further education colleges, early years providers, and other educational establishments in Coventry as relevant agencies.
- The Director for Children's Services and Education sits on the Executive Board and is one of the delegated safeguarding partners.
- The Education subgroup is a mechanism for educational settings to feedback about their responsibilities under Working Together 2023 and keeping Children Safe in Education, ensuring good engagement with the CSCP, identifying emerging issues and disseminating local and national learning.
- The Safeguarding Compliance in Education Officer will hold regular Designated Safeguarding Leads meetings to provide updates in respect of changes to national and local policy, changes in process and local safeguarding intelligence.
- All frontline practitioners from educational settings will have access to the Safeguarding Together Action Group STAG to receive the latest update from the CSCP and encourage two-way information sharing.
- Educational settings are able to escalate any issues to Board through a highlight report.

Youth Custody

There are no youth custody placements within the Coventry boundary.

Residential placements

Residential placements will be invited to be part of the Safeguarding Together Action Group to ensure that local and national learning is shared and to enable a two way flow of information.

Links to other Boards

Coventry has a One Coventry approach which shapes the way that the Council works with its partners to deliver the One Coventry Plan priorities including 'Improving outcomes and tackling inequalities within our communities'. Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership will work closely with other strategic Boards including: the Health and Well-Being Board, the Domestic Abuse Board, the

Community Safeguarding Partnership, the Police and Crime Board, the Safeguarding Adults Board and the Drug and Alcohol Steering Group to facilitate information sharing and identify areas of cross over or opportunities for joint working. To support this goal the officers of these strategic Boards meet once a quarter as an 'Officers of the Boards Group'.

Regional Networks

The Business Manager attends the West Midlands Multi-agency safeguarding arrangements meeting to share best practice and identify areas for collaborative working. Coventry is part of a consortium of safeguarding children's partnerships who share regional safeguarding children procedures: [Welcome | West Midlands Safeguarding Children Group \(procedures.org.uk\)](#)

Responding to serious incidents

Serious child safeguarding cases are those in which:

- abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected.
- the child has died or been seriously harmed.

The delegated safeguarding partners are responsible for the delivery of high-quality and timely rapid reviews and safeguarding practice reviews following notification of a serious child safeguarding incident.

Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership is committed to ensuring that agencies understand the events leading up to a serious incident and the ways in which they can better work together to protect children in the future.

The duty to make a notification of a serious incident to the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel lies with the local authority. If a notification is made, the CSCP Executive and the Lead Safeguarding Partners must be informed.

Coventry is signed up to the West Midlands framework for undertaking rapid reviews, following notification of a child safeguarding incident, and local safeguarding practice reviews. [LCSPR Regional Toolkit and Guidance 4 April 2023 Final.pdf \(procedures.org.uk\)](#)

Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership has established the Safeguarding Practice Review subgroup which has delegated responsibility for conducting the rapid review following notification of a serious incident and for commissioning and overseeing safeguarding practice reviews when required as well as establishing and overseeing implementation activity.

Following a Rapid Review, the Safeguarding Practice Review sub-group will make a recommendation to the Delegated Safeguarding Partners on the learning from the review and whether a Child Safeguarding Practice Review should be commissioned. It is a joint responsibility of the delegated safeguarding partners to agree the decision which is then shared with the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel.

The Safeguarding Practice Review Panel will:

1. Promptly undertake a Rapid Review in relation to Serious incident Notifications in line with regional and national published guidance in order to make a recommendation to the Executive Group about whether a Safeguarding Practice Review Group should be commissioned.
2. Seek assurance that any necessary immediate action has been taken to safeguard children and young people.
3. Identify any immediate single or multi agency learning to improve practice and monitor the implementation.
4. Have clear processes in place for working in parallel with other types of reviews and work collaboratively with those responsible for alternative types of reviews.
5. Identify the terms of reference for a Safeguarding Practice Review.
6. Agree the methodology for the Safeguarding Practice Review with the Lead Reviewer.
7. Monitor the progress and quality of the review,
8. Facilitate the involvement of practitioners, families and siblings/ other children in Safeguarding Practice Reviews.
9. Ensure the final report of a local safeguarding practice review includes a summary of recommended improvements and an analysis of any systemic or underlying reasons why actions were taken or not.
10. Act as a liaison for their agency in relation to single agency comms teams and the multi-agency plan for publication of Safeguarding Practice Reviews
11. Develop and monitor the actions to implement learning arising from the findings of the review.
12. Consider learning arising from the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel's reviews.

A communication strategy is in place for all aspects of Rapid Reviews and Safeguarding Practice Reviews [safeguarding-practice-review-communication-strategy \(coventry.gov.uk\)](https://coventry.gov.uk/safeguarding-practice-review-communication-strategy)

The Executive Group will consider how best to manage the impact of the publication of the Safeguarding Practice Review on children, family members, practitioners and others affected by the case.

The delegated safeguarding partners will make arrangements to inform the National Panel and the Secretary of State of the reason for a delay of a safeguarding practice review, or the decision and justification not to publish a safeguarding practice review.

A copy of the full safeguarding practice review will be sent to the National Panel and Secretary of State.

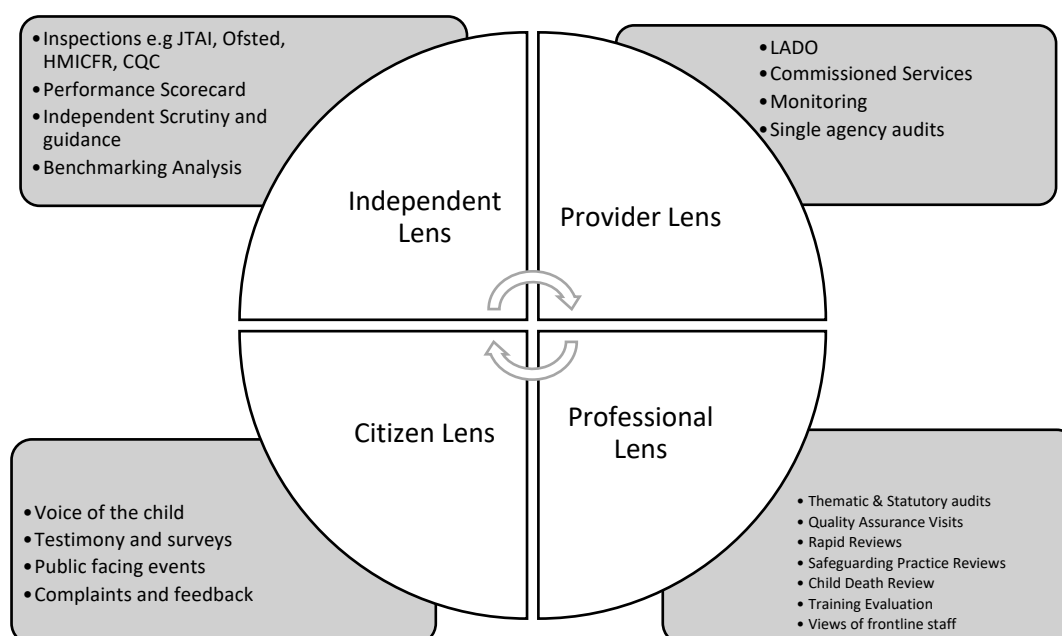
The Lead Safeguarding Partners have responsibility for ensuring that learning from National reviews and Local Safeguarding Practice Reviews has been implemented and this will form part of the independent scrutiny function.

Quality Assurance

The Coventry Safeguarding Children Partnership scrutinises and challenges local safeguarding arrangements and practice in order to ensure the quality of the multi-agency work being undertaken with children and families in Coventry is effective, and to improve services to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in the city.

The Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement Framework sets out the approach to utilising data and intelligence via a wide range of key quality and performance indicators, aligned to the CSCP priorities that are scrutinised and challenged through a robust, systematic process to assess the effectiveness of safeguarding services. The framework is based on a four lenses approach to ensuring the CSCP has in place a continuous cycle of quality assurance and improvement.

The diagram below shows the types of information viewed under each of the lenses:



Independent Lens

Information in this area comes primarily from the CSCP Performance Scorecard and from benchmarking and contextual data. The learning from inspections, although only available after an inspection occurs, also provides valuable information about the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements.

Provider Lens

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) provides regular information to the CSCP through their annual report and updates to the CSCP Executive Group. Contract monitoring activity of commissioned services can also provide safeguarding intelligence and is reported to the Audit and Performance Subgroup.

Professional Lens

The Audit and Performance subgroup oversee an annual audit programme which provides additional learning opportunities. Quality Assurance Visits are another approach to ensuring the CSCP has in place a continuous cycle of quality assurance and improvement.

Safeguarding Practice Reviews are a significant element of the professional perspective and are managed by the Safeguarding Practice Review subgroup.

Training evaluation has previously been recognised as a strength for the CSCP and this is managed through the Implementation subgroup. The tools used show that participants regularly change their practice as a result of training, and how this can impact on outcomes for children.

The Safeguarding Together Action Group (STAG) is comprised of frontline staff and the purpose of this forum is to capture the views of practitioners, to share learning from local and national reviews, to look at the effects of action on frontline practice, to increase awareness of new policy and procedures and to identify emerging safeguarding issues across the City. Regular staff surveys are also conducted which demonstrate how staff understand and apply safeguarding policy and practice.

Citizen Lens

Capturing the voice of the child, whether directly or indirectly, is an important element of evaluating outcomes for children. Coventry CSCP seek to hear the voices of children young people and do this via a group they have created called 'Your Voice Matters' aimed specifically at engaging young peoples' voices in safeguarding strategy for the city and typically meet with one school each quarter.

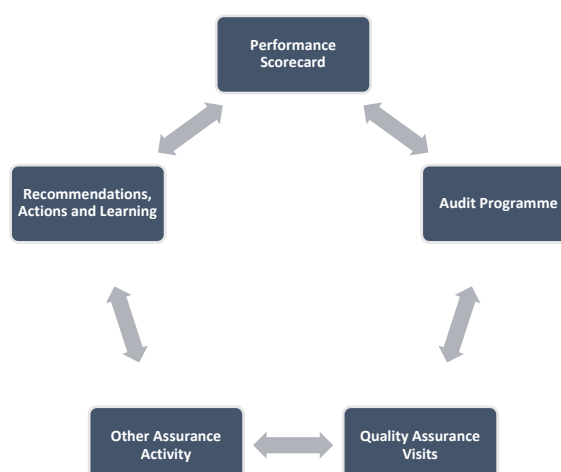
Each priority has a set of actions to ensure they are delivered, and a quality assurance schedule to test their implementation and outcomes for children and families in Coventry.

The following work strands support the delivery of effective and impactful quality assurance:

Performance Scorecard

The Performance Scorecard is a multi-agency dataset produced and analysed by the Audit & Performance (A&P) Subgroup on a quarterly basis before being presented to the Partnership Board. The data derives from all

partners represented at A&P to actively provide assurance that work is improving outcomes for children across the city and allow for appropriate support and challenge to partners on their performance, on both an individual and multi-agency perspective. It is the responsibility of partner agencies who provide data are also required to provide a written analysis alongside their data which affords the A&P



subgroup and Board members with context, accurate interpretation of the data and a deeper understanding of what the data is telling us about the effectiveness and impact of work with children and families.

The Performance Scorecard key indicators align with the CSCP priorities to ensure that the data collected can provide assurance around areas of concern; this makes the Performance Scorecard a dynamic and evolving document which is updated after each re-set of Partnership priorities.

Audit Programme

Multi-agency audits provide a valuable means of identifying strengths and areas of good practice alongside key lessons for improvement; having a systematic auditing process in place allows the CSCP to monitor the quality of practice and target areas that require further development.

The CSCP aims to conduct a maximum of 4 multi-agency thematic case file audits each year (one per quarter) reviewing specific areas aligned to the Partnership's priorities and emerging safeguarding themes in Coventry. Thematic audits follow the same general framework: and use the standard CSCP Key Lines of Enquiry or a bespoke set of audit standards based on the audit theme, designed to encompass a multi-agency approach, focus on the lived experience of children, allow for triangulation of data, review the effectiveness of practice, and capture the legal requirements of all agencies in supporting and protecting children.

Where appropriate and where parental consent has been obtained, the views of the children and young people from the audit cohort will be sought and A&P subgroup members will conduct observations of practice at multi-agency safeguarding meetings.

The CSCP is also responsible for co-ordinating statutory Section 11 (bi-annual) and Section 175/157 (annual) audits; this includes setting the audit questions, receiving the submissions, analysing the data, and producing a report that includes recommendations and/or actions for improvement for each agency.

Quality Assurance Visits

Quality Assurance (QA) Visits are carried out by the CSCP Executive Group, Children's Services Leadership Team and Lead Member in response to any emerging themes and afford them the opportunity to gain further assurance in relation to a specific service or area of practice and create a clearer line of sight between senior leaders and frontline practitioners. Visits follow a set of Key Lines of Enquiry agreed prior to the visit and include observations of practice, dip sampling and discussions with staff.

Other Assurance Activity

The Executive Group or A&P subgroup may decide to undertake an impromptu audit or other quality assurance activity at any time; this would normally be the case following a Rapid Review or Safeguarding Practice Review highlighting areas of concern or following receipt of other information indicating areas for quality

assurance focus. An example of this is the Position Statements which were requested from partner agencies during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Recommendations, Actions and Learning

The CSCP recognises the importance of using performance data and outcomes of audits to learn, improve practice and assess the impact of changes resulting from audit findings on children and young people and their families. At the end of each audit or piece of quality assurance work, a set of concise and appropriate recommendations will be made that aim to drive improvement and influence future practice. The recommendations will be formulated into a SMART Action Plan and the implementation of this will be monitored by the A&P Subgroup until completion.

Learning and improvement

Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership recognises the importance of developing a learning culture across agencies and wider partners to better protect Coventry children.

Learning is identified through a range of activities as described in the previous section. The Implementation subgroup then takes this identified learning and identifies the best way to take this forward to make improvements to the safeguarding system with a view to improving outcomes for children and young people.

The Delegated Safeguarding Partners are responsible for ensuring the provision of appropriate multi-agency safeguarding professional development and training. Locally this function is delegated to the Implementation Subgroup.

Multi-agency training

An annual training needs analysis is undertaken to inform decisions about the range of multi-agency training required by the partnership.

The CSCP delivers a programme of multi-agency training through the CSCP Training Officer, commissioned trainers and from a pool of trainers from a number of relevant agencies. The training programme can be found here:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/download/6458/cscp-training>

Evaluations of training are completed by the CSCP Training Officer and these are shared with the Implementation sub group. Details of evaluations are also published in the CSCP annual report.

The Safeguarding Together Action Group (STAG)

Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership has developed the Safeguarding Together Action Group made up of frontline practitioners from across the statutory, voluntary and community sector. The purpose of the group is to bring together practitioners working with children in Coventry and enable them to access relevant local, regional and national learning.

The group also provides an opportunity for practitioners to discuss safeguarding practice in Coventry, to identify risks and / or issues that may need to be escalated to the delegated safeguarding partners, to provide practitioner feedback on specific issues and share good practice.

Embedding learning across the system

The Lead Safeguarding Partners have responsibility for overseeing the effective implementation of learning from national and local reviews. Following the publication of a national or local review the Safeguarding Practice Review subgroup will formulate an action plan to deliver the learning, this may involve allocating key tasks to other subgroups, and will track the progress of these action plans. Any areas that are not progressed will be escalated to the delegated safeguarding partners for consideration.

Workforce Development resources

Coventry Safeguarding Partnership will develop a range of workforce development materials including podcasts, webinars, one-minute guides, e-learning and toolkits. These resources will be shared with strategic leads from relevant agencies and a request will be made for them to promote these within their agencies. The resources will also be shared via the CSCP newsletter.

Evaluating impact

The following processes will monitor the effectiveness of implementing learning:

- Training evaluation
- Performance scorecard data
- Multi agency audits
- Quality assurance visits
- Feedback from children, young people and their families.
- Feedback from practitioners via the STAG

Participation and engagement

Coventry Safeguarding Children Partnership is committed to engaging with children, young people and families at a strategic, operational and individual level. The Scrutineer has a responsibility to report on the effectiveness of the CSCP's engagement with children and families.

Your Voice Matters

Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership Business Unit will visit a different group of children and young people once a quarter at a range of locations, including schools, sports clubs and agency offices, to seek their views in relation to a range of safeguarding issues. A report will be prepared in relation to the findings and shared with delegated safeguarding partners and an overview of what has been done in relation to these findings will be included in the annual report.

Parents

CSCP agencies have a range of meetings for engaging with parents. These forums will be utilised to engage with parents along key questions in relation to safeguarding. A report will be prepared in relation to the findings and shared with delegated safeguarding partners and an overview of what has been done in relation to these findings will be included in the annual report. These forums will also be used to disseminate key information materials aimed at children and young people.

Website

The CSCP maintains a website hosting a range of materials for professionals, children and young people, and parents and carers. The CSCP website can be accessed here: [Coventry Safeguarding Children Partnership – Coventry City Council](#)

Social media

The CSCP hosts Facebook and Instagram sites, and these will be used to disseminate awareness raising materials to professionals, children and young people, and parents and carers.

Newsletters

Practitioners from relevant agencies across the partnership can sign up to receive the CSCP newsletter. [Coventry Safeguarding Children Partnership – Coventry City Council](#)

The newsletter is sent out on a quarterly basis and contains a breadth of useful and timely information, ranging from the most recent One Minute Guides, highlighting local services, promoting practice tools and referral pathways and signposting to upcoming training and events.

Information sharing

Information sharing is essential to safeguard children and promote their welfare and as such the CSCP has an information agreement in place which outlines how relevant agencies share information with the Partnership. This agreement can be found here: [Information Sharing Agreement – Coventry City Council](#)

In engaging with relevant agencies, the lead safeguarding partners will be aware of their own responsibilities under the relevant information law and have regard to guidance provided by the Information Commissioner's Office when issuing and responding to request for information.

Thresholds for intervention

The CSCP has implemented and communicated the Right Help Right Time guidance. Work will continue under the partnership to embed this document with practitioners across the city. This is the threshold document against which

practitioners are expected to base their decisions. This guidance also helps practitioners to understand and assess risk consistently and appropriately so that children and families can receive the Right Help at the Right Time. There is a focus on providing early support for children and young people and families that require support in order to prevent them moving towards higher levels of need, and to reduce the levels of need once these have been identified. The full guidance is available on the website: www.coventry.gov.uk/righthelprighttime

Disputes and whistleblowing

Coventry Safeguarding and Escalation and Resolution of Professional Disagreements is clearly outlined here: <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/cscppand>

Funding

The Lead Safeguarding Partners should agree on the level of funding needed to deliver its multi-agency arrangements. This includes consideration of business and analytical support, independent scrutiny, infrastructure, and core functions including local children safeguarding practice reviews, multi-agency training and learning events. It is the responsibility of the Lead Safeguarding Partners to ensure that adequate funding is allocated and spent in line with agreed priorities. Funding contributions from the statutory safeguarding partners should be equitable and agreed by the Lead Safeguarding Partners.

Appendix A – Relevant agencies

The following agencies are ‘relevant agencies’ as defined in the Schedule to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review and Relevant Agency (England) Regulations:

- Education providers
- Early years providers
- Registered providers of a children’s home
- Registered providers of a Fostering agency
- Registered providers of an Adoption support agency and/or a registered Adoption Society
- Registered providers of a registered holiday scheme for disabled children
- Registered providers of a residential family centre
- CAFCASS
- A Governor of a Prison
- Providers of Probation Services
- NHS Commissioning Board, known as NHS England (West Midlands)
- Commissioned providers of health services
- Providers of community housing
- UK Visa and Immigration
- Youth Justice Service
- Fire and Rescue Service
- Voluntary and Community Sector including charities, religious organisations/faith groups
- Sport or leisure providers