

MULTI-AGENCY SAFEGUARDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN PLYMOUTH

Date





TEN WISHES

What Children and Young People in Plymouth want from you...

We want professionals to be easier to contact.

We want professionals to be on time, as they expect us to be.

We want professionals to be properly trained and for us to be involved in the training.

We want professionals to ask us what we need and not to assume.

We want professionals to do what they say they are going to do, to listen and stand up for us.

We want professionals to use words we understand.

We want professionals to reassure us something is being done and tell us how long it will take.

We want professionals to understand when we need to talk to them one-to-one.

We want professionals to ask us 'do you feel safe?'

We want professionals to respect us and how we feel.



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VISION AND VALUES

OUR VISION

All children within Plymouth are able to reach their full potential and be healthy, safe and contented.

Effective support is provided to the most vulnerable and at risk to ensure quality of opportunity in reaching these basic needs.



EXPLANATORY

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 is the statutory guidance that transferred strategic local safeguarding arrangements from Local Safeguarding Children Boards to three new statutory partners, namely the Local Authority, Clinical Commissioning Groups and the chief office of police. This guidance permitted local arrangements that covered more two or more local authorities. Following consultation and relevant cabinet and executive approvals it was agreed that the two existing Local Safeguarding Children Boards within Plymouth and Torbay would be replaced with one Plymouth and Torbay Joint Strategic Safeguarding Partnership, such partnership to be underpinned by proportionate strategic and operational structures that directed and promoted safeguarding practices and responses across Torbay and Plymouth.

This new multi-agency safeguarding arrangement was published, in accordance with Department for Education requirements on 29 September 2019.

Since that date the Torbay Local Authority has evaluated the suitability of this arrangement in light of the dissolution of the joint arrangement and Director of Children's Services in January 2020, and the need to maintain the rate of improvement needed for Torbay children. They have concluded that they need a single strategic safeguarding partnership.

Accordingly, this document sets out the new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements to be implemented within the city of Plymouth.

INTRODUCTION

As a result of the Wood Report, March 2016, the Children Act 2004 was amended to remove the statutory requirement of local authorities to have Local Safeguarding Children Boards and placed responsibility for safeguarding equally with local authorities, police and clinical commissioning groups. Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 (WTG 18) placed a duty upon these three agencies to work together to define the local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

These new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements will promote wider engagement and collaboration of the organisations and agencies within Plymouth, and the safeguarding partners aspire to deliver arrangements where excellent practice becomes the norm, strong links and joint working are fostered, and develops a skilled, knowledgeable and confident workforce. These new arrangements are designed to put children young people and families across Plymouth its centre and shall engage all children and young people by using existing systems and forums. It will harness, share and build upon the sector expertise within Plymouth to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.

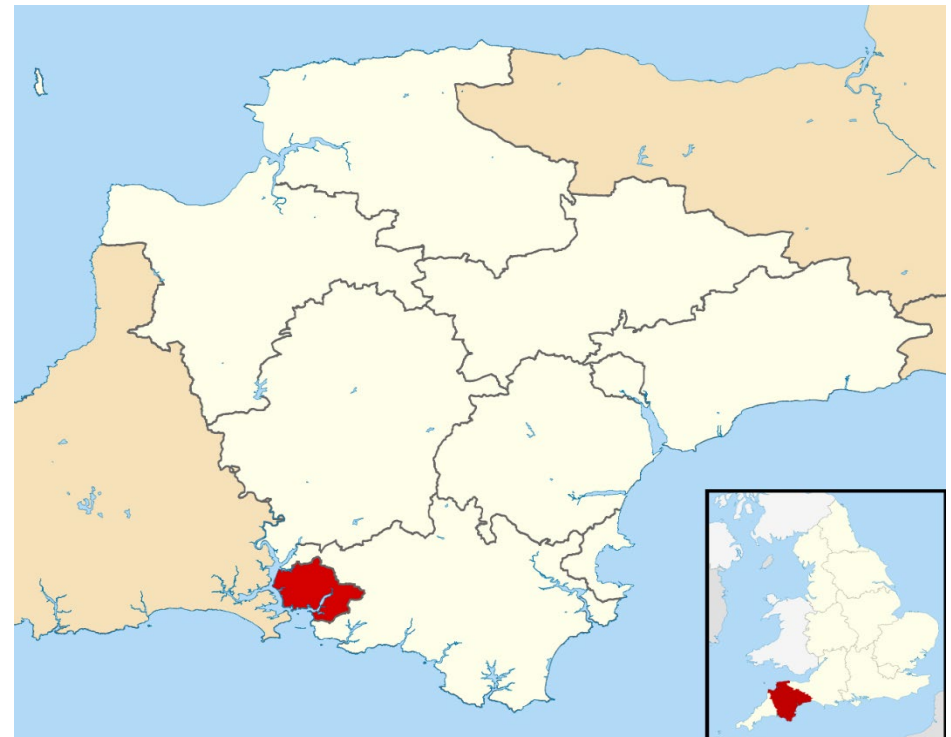
Our arrangements shall:

- focus upon strength based approaches to support children and young people's independence, resilience, strengths and capabilities
- adopt a contextual safeguarding approach to understanding and responding to young people's experience of significant harm beyond their families

- advocate a trauma informed approach and integrate an understanding of trauma in organisational safeguarding practice and policy.

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

The geographical area for these multi-agency safeguarding arrangements shall be based upon the Plymouth Local Authority boundaries.



THE THREE SAFEGUARDING PARTNERS

The safeguarding partners have equal and joint leadership responsibility for the new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements. The three safeguarding partners for Plymouth are:

- Plymouth City Council – Chief Executive
- NEW Devon Clinical Commissioning Group – Accountable Officer
- Devon & Cornwall Police – Chief Officer (Assistant Chief Constable).

These lead representatives remain accountable for actions and decisions taken on behalf of their agency. As permitted by Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2018 they have delegated their functions to the following senior officers:

Plymouth Local Authority	NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group	Devon & Cornwall Police
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Director of Children Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Executive Officer (Executive Safeguarding Lead)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Head of Public Protection Unit• BCU Commander

These representatives shall:

- Speak with authority for the safeguarding partner they represent;
- Take decisions on behalf of their organisation or agency and commit them to policy, resourcing and practical matters;
- Hold their own and each other’s organisation or agency to account on how effectively they participate and implement these local arrangements.

STRUCTURE OF THE PLYMOUTH SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP

The Plymouth Safeguarding Children Partnership (PSCP) has been structured to meet the requirements of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018. The overarching structure features the strategic PSCP which comprises of the safeguarding partners, i.e. Local Authority, Police and Clinical Commissioning Group. These partners will set the vision, mission, values and priorities for safeguarding and improving outcomes for all children and families in Plymouth.

Joint working upon core functions of quality assurance, CDOP, child serious safeguarding practice reviews, and multi-agency work force development shall bring together relevant agencies across Plymouth who shall drive the safeguarding priorities set by the PSCP, ensuring that its core and statutory functions are delivered.

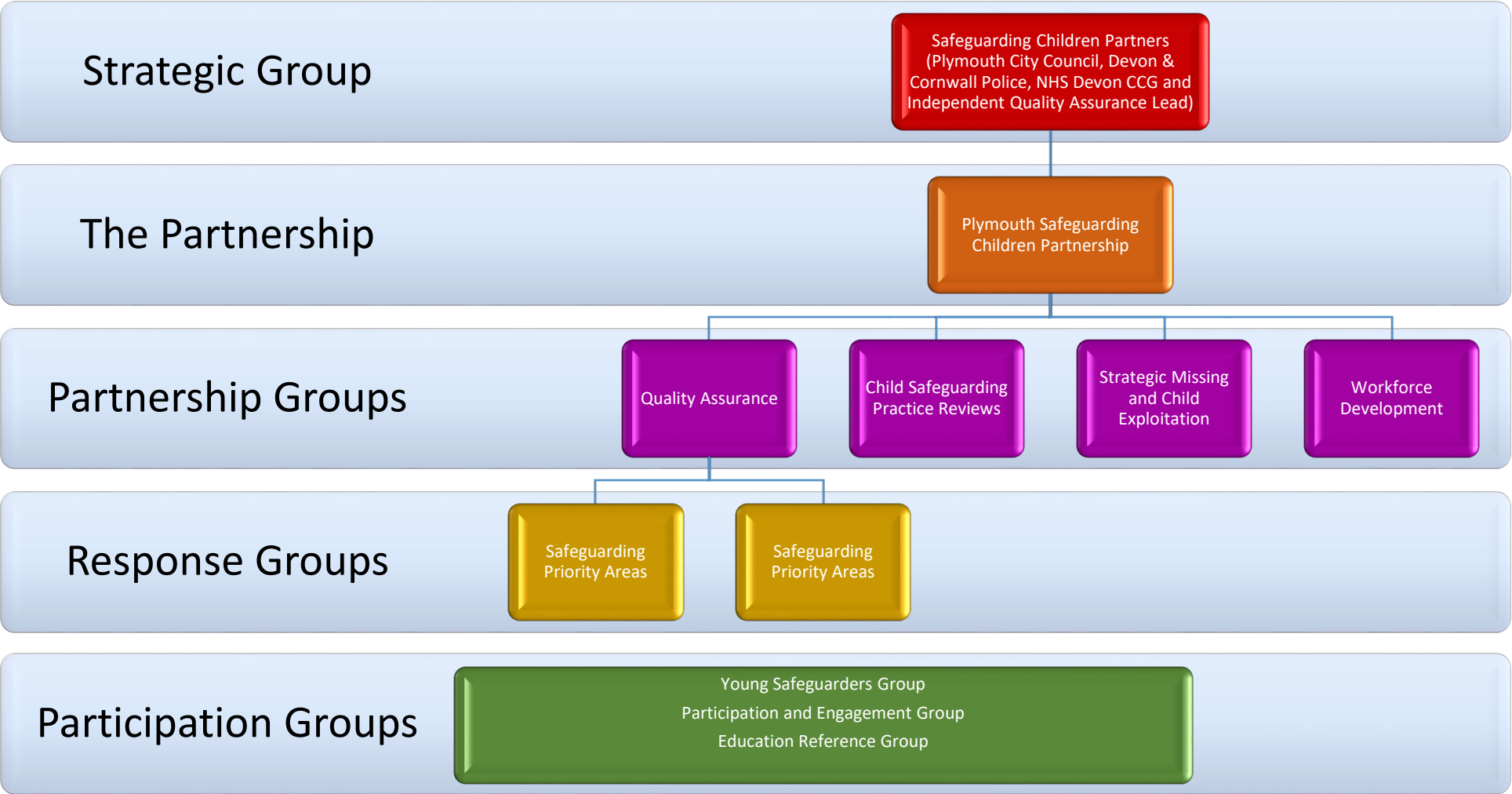
The PSCP shall deliver local dynamic responses within and across each geographical area to confidently create, influence and negotiate system improvement as part of multi-agency working and deliver effective working relationships that improve impact and outcomes for their children and young people.

The PSCP arrangements have been established in the context of wider partnership and governance arrangements across Plymouth. The PSCP arrangements link into other strategic partnership work streams that support children, young people and families. Such partnerships include

- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Community Safety Partnership

- Safeguarding Adults Board
- Children and Young People's Partnership
- Local Family Justice Board
- Channel Panel
- Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements.

It shall continue to work collaboratively across the South West Peninsula.



THE PLYMOUTH SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP



**PLYMOUTH
SAFEGUARDING
CHILDREN
PARTNERSHIP**

The Plymouth Safeguarding Children Partnership (PSCP) co-ordinates safeguarding services, acts as a leadership group in supporting and engaging others and shall implement local and national learning from serious child safeguarding incidents. The current Child Death Overview Panel arrangements for the

South West Peninsula shall remain, but the PSCP shall put in place arrangements for the same to be monitored, reviewed and actioned via the new working arrangements.

The role of the PSCP is as follows:-

- ensure children are safeguarded and their welfare promoted;
- set and oversee strategic direction of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements;
- determine equitable and proportionate funding on a yearly basis;
- hold local arrangements to account;
- challenge either other appropriately and hold one another to account effectively;
- scrutinise the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements;

Effective support is provided to the most vulnerable and at risk to ensure quality of opportunity in reaching these basic needs.

- have oversight of multi-agency workforce development
- facilitate and drive action beyond usual institutional and agency constraints and boundaries and ensure the effective protective of children is founded on practitioners developing lasting and trusting relationships with children and their families.

To enable the PSCP to fulfil this role it shall have the ability to co-opt at their discretion key relevant agencies and/or their representatives into their strategic meetings to discuss recurrent themes in the safeguarding and promotion of welfare, or the need to identify and action improvements. This discretionary ability will support a dynamic, proportionate and flexible approach to the safeguarding arrangements.

The safeguarding partners will delegate functions to designated senior safeguarding leads within Plymouth (this will be at Assistant/Service Director level/Designated Senior Officer level). The PSCP shall comprise the selected key relevant agencies.

All children within Plymouth shall be able to reach their full potential and be healthy, safe and contented.

GROUP WORKING OF PSCP

The Plymouth Safeguarding Children Partnership has put in place group working across Plymouth for the delivery of quality assurance, performance management, multi-agency workforce development, serious child safeguarding reviews and monitoring and review of the South West Peninsula Child Death Overview Process (CDOP). This approach will better support the early identification and analysis of new safeguarding issues, and provide a consistent multi-agency safeguarding workforce able to implement and embed learning within respective local services for children, young people and families across Plymouth.

Quality Assurance Group

The PSCP has created and is responsible for a Quality Assurance Group which is chaired by its appointed Independent Quality Assurer. This Group will:-

- assure that learning and understanding are promoted and embedded in a way that safeguarding services for children, young people and families in Plymouth become more curious and implement changes to practice;
- provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of the multi-agency system arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people;
- provide evidence of strong practice and areas for improvement
- use outcomes which inform the development of appropriate safeguarding strategies, the management of risk and to inform business planning;
- provide line of sight into practice and the lived experience of the child;

- receive reports and oversee implementation of recommendations arising from the South West Peninsula Child Death Review arrangements.

Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group

The PSCP has created and is responsible for the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group which is overseen by the appointed Independent Quality Assurer. This Group will:-

- in accordance with WTG 18 and any guidance issues by National Panel initiate a local Child Safeguarding Practice Review in serious safeguarding cases where
 - abuse or neglect of a child is suspected and
 - the child has died or has been seriously harmed.
- deliver and oversee local child safeguarding practice reviews to identify improvements in safeguarding practice and protecting children from harm and make recommendations for improvement and assurance to the Quality Assurance and Workforce Development Groups;
- deliver qualitative reports on impact and outcomes for children and young people to the PSCP.

Multi-Agency Workforce Development Group

The PSCP has created and is responsible for a joint Workforce Development Group which shall:-

- identify and support the safeguarding learning needs of Plymouth's multi-agency workforce;
- commission, develop, deliver and evaluate creative, high quality multi-agency learning/training offer that improves and impact on practice and outcomes for children and young people;
- undertake annual learning needs/training needs analysis;

- contribute to and support embedding of local, regional and national learning;
- respond to, implement and embed learning from local and national Serious Case Reviews, Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews, Child Death Reviews and other sources of learning, e.g. single agency serious incidents, themed case audits;
- predict and respond to emerging practice issues;
- monitor and evaluate the impact of learning on practice;
- deliver qualitative reports on impact of workforce development to PSCP.

Strategic Missing and Child Exploitation Group

The PSCP has created and is responsible for a Strategic Missing and Child Exploitation Group which shall:

- provide strategic oversight, scrutiny and challenge of the multi-agency approach and response to extra familial risk;
- understand how agencies are working together to identify, respond, prevent and protect against extra familial risk;
- agree, monitor and review the effectiveness of the PSCP extra familial risk strategies, framework, policies and interventions;
- ensure that national requirements and developments are incorporated effectively in to the PSCP response to extra familial risk.

Local Response Groups

The PSCP, in having oversight of local safeguarding arrangements shall determine and action appropriate dynamic and timely responses which meet the needs of the child, at the right place and at the right time.

To ensure flexibility and innovation there shall be less fixed Group

structures with a move towards thematic time focused local response (task and finish) groups. These local response groups shall be commissioned by the PSCP as a result of their own oversight, or in conjunction with the performance intelligence scrutinised with the Quality Assurance Groups, or learning arising from the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group. Local Response Groups may for example undertake deep dive or other time limited pieces of work which will benefit multi-agency practice to improve outcomes for children, young people and families.

Participation and Engagement Groups

To support, a participation and engagement forum and an educational reference group, shall be established to enable better reach and inclusion within the wider community and education safeguarding agenda. These forums will improve communication, engagement and activity with the voluntary and community sector and bring the educational landscape closer to PSCP business, decision making and planning.

Engaging the voice, activity and co-design of children, young people and families is integral to these proposed arrangements. The Young Safeguarder Forum shall be retained and built upon by using various systems, forums and existing networks and groups to gather views, voices and experience.

THE INDEPENDENT QUALITY ASSURER

The Independent Quality Assurer acts as a non-voting strategic critical friend, encouraging reflection on practice and providing a line of sight for the PSCP into the lived experiences of children and young people. A core purpose of this role is to ensure that quality assurance and learning into practice does not occur in silos and identify and report upon the impact safeguarding system learning and changes make to improving outcomes for children and young people. The role provides scrutiny and challenge, and shall seek assurance from relevant agencies, children young people and families, to measure and inform the effectiveness of the PSCP learning culture and systems leadership.

The Independent Quality Assurer shall facilitate the effective operation of the PSCP Quality Assurance and Child Safeguarding Practice Review Groups, including chairing the meetings and ensuring that the three safeguarding partners, and their relevant agencies, are fulfilling their function effectively and with integrity.

The Independent Quality Assurer shall be a member of the Strategic PSCP and shall contribute to its annual report.

INDEPENDENT SCRUTINY

The PSCP shall have a multi-systems approach to independent scrutiny to provide robust, rigorous and transparent assurance as to the effectiveness of the safeguarding arrangement within Plymouth.

This approach shall comprise a number of functions which will include:-

- Utilise existing structures of assurance and scrutiny (e.g. Health & Wellbeing Boards, Corporate Safeguarding Improvement Plans and Assurance, NHS England etc.).
- Internal peer reviews by other Plymouth strategic partnerships (e.g. Community Safety Partnerships).
- Appointment of Independent Quality Assurer role.
- Review and evaluation by Children & Young People Partnership
- Commissioning as necessary expert scrutiny from national bodies or acknowledged experts.
- Develop a system of engaging multi-agency practitioners, children, and young people of families in the evaluation and scrutiny of service delivery.
- Develop partnering arrangements with neighbouring safeguarding partners to provide strategic peer reviews.

VOICE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Engaging the voice, activity and co-design of children, young people and families is integral to these new arrangements. The PSCP is building upon the effective arrangements in place within Plymouth. The ambition will be to engage with all children and young people, and not solely upon those who have experienced services. The PSCP is committed to and shall engage with children, young people and families at an individual, service and strategic level. Various systems, forums and existing networks/groups shall be used to gather views and seek independent voices and experiences. A participative approach to safeguarding is key to understanding the realities of young people's lives. Their involvement in system design is important because they bring real life experience of using services and can reflect on what works and what requires improvement. The arrangements include a Young Safeguarders' Group. This Group will improve upon engagement, challenge and scrutiny, and assist our service design and delivery to more effectively meet need and achieve positive outcomes.

In addition, a young person lay member shall be appointed into the Quality Assurance Group. The lay member for this Group shall be a care leaver whose experience of the care system and the transition from child to adult services will be an invaluable perspective to inform the work of the strategic safeguarding partnership

RELEVANT AGENCIES

Attached at Appendix 1 is a list of the relevant agencies whose involvement the three safeguarding partners believe is required to safeguard and promote the welfare of local children. These relevant agencies shall work within these new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements. Whilst the legislation and statutory guidance draws a distinction between safeguarding partners and relevant agencies to ensure clarity around accountability, it is clear that all members of the PSCP have a shared responsibility to work collaboratively to provide targeted support to children and families. This list reflects and enhances upon the previous Plymouth LSCB's membership, and accords with the Child Safeguarding Practice Review and Relevant Agencies (England) Regulations 2018.

Strategic leaders of the relevant agencies shall form the membership of the PSCP and its Groups and will:

- inform and deliver the strategic direction set by the Strategic PSCP safeguarding partners
- be the leadership group which supports and engages multi-agency working
- co-ordinate and oversee local safeguarding arrangements and responses;
- identify emerging themes, actions and learning to be embedded into practice
- determine appropriate local safeguarding response groups.

The relevant agencies shall co-operate with the safeguarding partners and act in accordance with these arrangements. It is expected that as

the arrangements evolve the relevant agencies may change, and the safeguarding partners will have the right to consult with and include other organisations as relevant agencies as they determine from time to time.

Early Years, School Colleges and other Educational Providers

Early years, schools, colleges and other educational providers are an important part of the wider safeguarding system for children. Due to their pivotal role in safeguarding children and promoting their welfare, all early years settings, schools, colleges and educational providers shall be named as relevant agencies in the new arrangements.

The safeguarding partners will build upon and enhance the current commitment from early years and education. An Education Reference Group shall be retained and enhanced to support active engagement in a meaningful way with a wide representation from the early years and education arena, including independent and language schools. Lead representatives from the Educational Reference Group shall be members of the PSCP, and form part of the relevant Groups. This approach will help ensure full engagement and inclusion within these new safeguarding arrangements, and enable individual early years and educational settings to use the arrangements to support each other as peers.

Designated Health Professionals

The Designated Doctors and Designated Nurses within Plymouth shall, as a minimum, be representatives at PSCP to ensure clinical expertise of designated health professionals is proportionately secured.

Youth Custody and Residential Home Arrangements

There is no youth custody provision in Plymouth, nor secure residential homes. Youth Offending Teams within Plymouth work with children and young people under the age of 18 who are either accused of or convicted of a crime. The Youth Offending Team is a nominated relevant agency and shall provide periodic reports and performance data to the Quality Assurance and Missing and Child Exploitation Groups and shall participate as required within local response groups.

Residential Home Arrangements

At the time of publication Plymouth does not have any residential homes.

TRAUMA INFORMED PRACTICE

As a trauma aware city Plymouth recognises the evidence base that is emerging day by day, across both national and international communities, which identifies the impact of trauma and the consequences of exposure to adversity as a profound health, wellbeing and social care issue of our time. The PSCP shall ensure that trauma informed practice is **Everybody's Business** and shall apply the trauma informed lens in its work by using the Plymouth Trauma Informed Network principles which:

REALISES what trauma is and how it can have wide spread impact for children, young people, families and communities.

RECOGNISES the signs and effects of trauma in individual children and young people and families, groups and communities. This includes the PSCP multi-agency workforce.

RESPONDS by integrating knowledge regarding trauma informed approaches into safeguarding policies, procedures and practice.

RESISTS re-traumatising children, young people, families and communities by actively seeking to avoid situations where traumatic memories might be retriggered and seeking to deescalate and diffuse potentially traumatic interactions when they occur.

RESILIENCE is promoted in supporting children, young people, families and communities to cope with and adapt to adversity, and have the strength to challenge situations where it might occur.

This means that throughout its arrangements the PSCP shall give consideration to ensure that it supports the 5 Core Values for a trauma informed Plymouth:

SAFE

There is consideration of the psychological safety of those involved in and impacted by its safeguarding arrangements, both as an ethical commitment and in the knowledge that this will lead to greater transparency and opportunities for learning which can be transferred into practice. When meeting, engaging and working with children, young people, families, communities and professionals all efforts shall be made to establishing trusting relationships.

PERSON CENTRED

Understanding the lived experience of children, young people families and communities and the circumstances which led to their involvement within safeguarding services. Voices of the child, young person, families and communities shall be listened to and heard with respect.

COLLABORATIVE

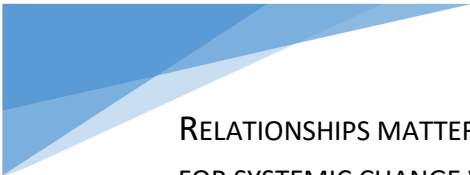
Children, young people, families, communities and professionals are treated as equal partners in the PSCP safeguarding arrangements. A collaborative approach shall be facilitated across safeguarding services, communities, families and individuals who can make a contribution. Learning shall be reflective with openness and emotional awareness.

EMPOWERING

There is an overriding expectation that the PSCP safeguarding arrangements shall make a genuine difference. All involved, engaged or working within safeguarding services deserve to know that their contributions have influenced real change and that the PSCP is going to ensure that learning from their involvement, engagement or work is meaningful and widely disseminated.

KIND

Ensure that language is appropriate and mindful of victim blaming or falling into judgement. There shall be understanding that traumatic circumstances may evidence behaviour that is considered challenging and the trauma lens shall be applied to try to understand the underlying cause of this. There shall be kindness, clear transparent and compassionate communication and engagement.



RELATIONSHIPS MATTER: THE CURRENCY FOR SYSTEMIC CHANGE WAS TRUST, AND TRUST COMES THROUGH FORMING HEALTHY WORKING RELATIONSHIPS. PEOPLE, NOT PROGRAMMES, CHANGE PEOPLE.

Bruce D Perry



¹ Produced by Simon Hardwick, Anna Moss and Shelley Shaw for the Trauma Informed Plymouth Network.

MEMBERSHIPS

PSCP STRATEGIC SAFEGUARDING PARTNERS

ROLE	
Co-ordinate safeguarding services, act as strategic leadership group in supporting and engaging others, set the strategic direction of the PSCP, and oversee the implementation of local and national learning from serious child safeguarding incidents.	
Chair: Rotation of Strategic Partners	
Partner	Representative
Plymouth City Council	Director of Children’s Services
NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group	Executive Safeguarding Officer
Devon & Cornwall Police	Head of Public Protection/BCU Commander
Independent	Independent Quality Assurer
Meeting frequency	Quarterly
Meeting venue	Plymouth/Microsoft Teams

PLYMOUTH SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP

Role	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure children are safeguarded and their welfare protected; • Deliver the strategic direction set by the PSCP; • Be the leadership group which supports and engages relevant agencies; • Co-ordinates and oversees local safeguarding arrangements and responses; • Determines appropriate local safeguarding response groups, activities and learning (as necessary); • Deliver qualitative written reports and/or presentations on impact and outcomes for children and young people directly to the PTSCP. 	
Chair: Rotation of representatives from three safeguarding partners	
Partner/Relevant Agency	Representative
Plymouth City Council	Service Director Children's Services, Service Director of Education Participation and Skills, Head of Service Children, Young People and Families
NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group	Senior Designated Safeguarding Nurse (Plymouth)
Devon & Cornwall Police	Head of PPU/Senior Lead of BCU
Independent (non-voting)	Independent Quality and Assurance Lead
Livewell South West	Director of Professional Practice, Safety & Quality
University Hospital Plymouth NHS Trust	Chief Nurse
Education Reference Group	Chair
Children & Young Person's representative	Young Safeguarder and/or Participation Support
Chair of Workforce Development Group	PSCP Learning and Development Manager
NSPCC	Strategic Service Manager
Barnardo's	Assistant Director
Trauma Informed Network	Lead Member
Action4Children	Director
Independent	Plymouth City Council Lead Portfolio Holder

OFFICIAL

Office of Police & Crime Commissioner	Senior Safeguarding Lead
Public Health	Director
Local Authority Commissioning	Strategic Commissioning Manager
CAFCASS	Service Manager
Plymouth Octopus Project (POP+)	Chief Executive or Representative
HM Prison and Probation	Head of LDU
Community Rehabilitation Company (KSS)	Assistant Chief Officer
Meeting frequency	Quarterly (minimum)
Meeting venue	Plymouth/Microsoft Teams

PSCP GROUPS

QUALITY ASSURANCE GROUP	
Role	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assure that learning and understanding are promoted and embedded in a way that safeguarding services for children, young people and families in Plymouth become more curious and implement changes to practiceProvide assurance in judging effectiveness of the multi-agency system arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young peopleProvide evidence of strong practice and areas for improvementUse outcomes which inform the development of appropriate safeguarding strategies, the management of risk and to inform business planning Provide line of sight into practice and the lived experience of the childReceive reports from and oversee implementation of recommendations arising from the South West Child Death Review arrangements.	
Chair: Independent Quality Assurance Lead	
Partner	Representative
Plymouth City Council	The PSCP shall agree core representatives from the relevant agencies across Plymouth. A Designated Doctor and Designated Nurse shall form part of the membership.
NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group	
Devon & Cornwall Police	
Livewell South West CIC	
NHS Trusts	
Education	
Early Years	
Children & Young People’s representative (Care Leaver)	
Public Health	
Youth Offending	
PSCP Training and Development	

OFFICIAL

Community, voluntary and charitable sector	
Meeting frequency	Quarterly (minimum)
Meeting venue	Plymouth/Microsoft Team

PSCP GROUPS

CHILD SAFEGUARDING PRACTICE REVIEW GROUP	
Role	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In accordance with WTG 18 and any guidance issues by National Panel initiate a local Child Safeguarding Practice Review in serious safeguarding cases where<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ abuse or neglect of a child is suspected <u>and</u>▪ the child has died or has been seriously harmed.• Deliver and oversee local child safeguarding practice reviews to identify improvements in safeguarding practice and protecting children from harm and make recommendations for improvement and assurance to the Quality Assurance and Workforce Development Groups;• Deliver qualitative reports on impact and outcomes for children and young people to the PSCP.	
Chair: Independent Quality Assurer	
Partner	Representative
Plymouth City Council	The PSCP shall agree core representatives from the relevant agencies across Plymouth. A Designated Doctor and Designated Nurse shall form part of the membership.
NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group	
Devon & Cornwall Police	
NHS Trusts	
Education	
PSCP Training and Development	
Co-opted members according to nature of case/purpose of meeting.	
Meeting frequency	Quarterly (minimum)
Meeting venue	Plymouth/Microsoft Teams

PSCP GROUPS

Multi-Agency Workforce Development Group	
Role	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify and support the safeguarding learning needs of Plymouth’s multi-agency workforce;• Commission, develop, deliver and evaluate creative, high quality multi-agency learning/training offer that improves and impact on practice and outcomes for children and young people;• Undertake annual learning needs/training needs analysis;• Contribute to and support embedding of local, regional and national learning;• Respond to, implement and embed learning from local and national Serious Case Reviews, Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews, Child Death Reviews and other sources of learning, e.g. single agency serious incidents, themed case audits• Predict and respond to emerging practice issues• Monitor and evaluate the impact of learning on practice• Deliver qualitative reports on impact of workforce development to PSCP.	
Chair: PSCP Lead Officer for Learning and Development	
Partner	Representative
Plymouth City Council	The PSCP shall agree core representatives from the relevant agencies.
NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group	
Devon & Cornwall Police	
Livewell South West CiC	
NHS Trusts	
Education	
PSCP Training and Development	
Early Years	
Children & Young Person’s representative	

OFFICIAL

Community, Voluntary and Charitable Sector	
Meeting frequency	Quarterly (minimum)
Meeting venue	Plymouth/Microsoft Teams

PSCP GROUPS

Strategic Missing and Child Exploitation Group	
Role	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide strategic oversight, scrutiny and challenge of the multi-agency approach and response to extra familial risk;• Understand how agencies are working together to identify, respond, prevent and protect against extra familial risk;• Agree, monitor and review the effectiveness of the PSCP extra familial risk strategies, framework, policies and interventions;• Ensure that national requirements and developments are incorporated effectively in to the PSCP response to extra familial risk.	
Chair: Strategic Member of Voluntary/Community Sector	
Partner	Representative
Plymouth City Council	The PSCP shall agree core representatives from the relevant agencies and appoint the initial Chair. A Designated Doctor and Designated Nurse shall form part of the membership.
NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group	
Devon & Cornwall Police	
Livewell South West CiC	
NHS Trust	
Education	
PSCP Training and Development	
Children & Young Person’s representative	
Community, Voluntary and Charitable Sector	
Meeting frequency	Quarterly (minimum)
Meeting venue	Plymouth/Microsoft Team

REPRESENTATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY WITHIN THE PSCP

The PSCP has identified and nominated relevant agencies whose involvement is required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in Plymouth. See Appendix 1.

These relevant agencies shall share collective responsibility for ensuring the safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people through collaborative working of the organisations that they represent. They shall:

- collaboratively and innovatively engage to provide targeted support to children and families as appropriate;
- provide flexibility to enable joint identification of, and response to, existing and emerging needs and to agree priorities to improve outcomes for children;
- promote innovation at local levels to enable resources to focus upon frontline practitioners engaging with children young people and families and improving their lived experience.

Relevant agencies shall provide a representative member to the PSCP. This representative shall hold a strategic role in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children within their own agency and must be able to:

- Work together to ensure the PSCP meets its statutory functions and improves outcomes for children, young people and families;
- Attend all PSCP meetings and actively contribute to debate and decision making;
- ensure relevant agency resourcing and contributions to resourcing (direct or in-kind) is adequate and proportionate

- ensure decisions made by the PSCP are enacted within each agency as appropriate;
- promote and champion the safeguarding agenda within their agency;
- hold their agency to account for its safeguarding work;
- nominate appropriate staff to serve upon and participate within the Working Groups, and Local Response Groups as required;
- ensure provision of performance and quality assurance data about and on behalf of the organisations.

STATUTORY FUNCTIONS

The PSCP shall undertake its statutory functions in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018).

Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

The PSCP's Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group shall oversee rapid reviews, submit notifications to National Panel, recommend the commissioning of and hold oversight of local child safeguarding practice reviews within Plymouth. The Strategic safeguarding Partners shall make the final documented decision regarding carrying out a child safeguarding practice review, and shall be supported and advised by the Independent Quality Assurer.

Child Death Reviews

The Child Death partners for Plymouth, in agreement with partners from other local authority areas, already have effective South West Peninsula CDOP arrangements in place. The Child Death Review structures and processes shall be modelled on this current Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) framework. The framework covers a child population such that it can typically review at least 60 child deaths per year, and outlines the structure and processes to review deaths of all children normally resident in the South West Peninsula and the deaths of children not normally resident in the area, but who have died there. The South West Peninsula covers the geographical areas of Devon, Plymouth, Torbay, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly.

All local organisations or individual practitioners that have had involvement in the case should co-operate as appropriate, the child death review process and keep the child and family at the centre of their discussions. All local organisations or individual practitioners

should also have regard to any guidance on child death reviews issues by Government.

Section 11 Audits & S175/157 Education Act 2002

The PSCP shall continue to seek that agencies are fulfilling their safeguarding obligations through completion of the Section 11 self-audit process. The oversight and assurance of these functions shall be via the Independent Quality Assurer.

THRESHOLDS

WTG 18 requires the safeguarding partners to publish a thresholds document which sets out the local criteria for action in a way which is transparent, accessible and easily understood. This should include:

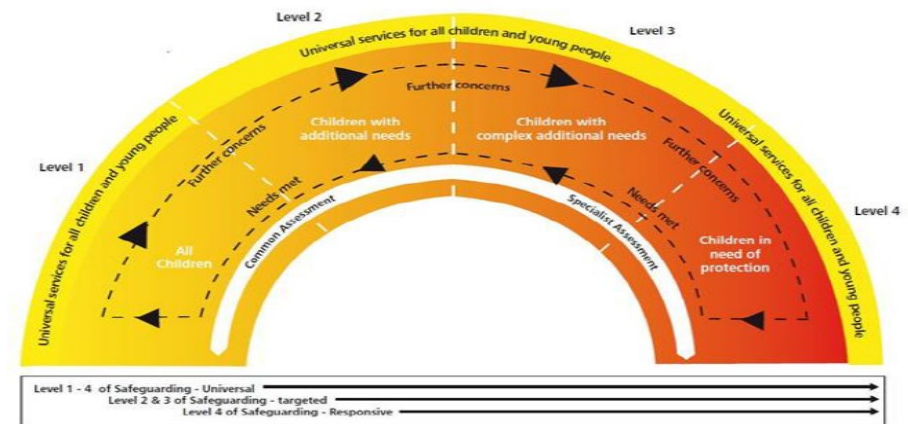
1. The process for the early help assessment, and the type and level of early help services to be provided
2. The criteria, including the level of need, for when a case should be referred to local authority children's social care for assessment and for statutory services under:
 - Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 (children in need)
 - Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 (reasonable cause to suspect a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm)
 - Section 31 of the Children Act 1989 (care and supervision orders)
 - Section 20 of the Children Act 1989 (duty to accommodate a child)
3. Clear procedures and processes for cases relating to:
 - the abuse, neglect and exploitation of children;
 - children managed within the youth secure estate;
 - disabled children.

The PSCP has adopted and maintained the existing thresholds within Plymouth.

It is the aspiration of the PSCP to develop an online and inactive threshold tool for use across Plymouth. Work upon such a threshold document will commence following implementation of these new arrangements.

Plymouth thresholds can be located at

<http://www.plymouthscb.co.uk/plymouth-assessment-framework/>



MULTI-AGENCY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Multi-agency safeguarding policies and procedures are already in place across Plymouth via the framework of the South West Child Protection Procedures.

<https://www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp/>

These procedures provide a set of chapters which comply with WTG 18 and are accessible to all PTSCP agencies. The manual itself is organised with core procedures and local information sections which include practice guidance and thresholds across Plymouth. The procedures are updated to take account of local and national learning and any changes in legislation or statutory guidance.

ESCALATION AND RESOLUTION PROCEDURES

The existing and respective escalation and resolution policies within Plymouth are maintained and found at:

<http://www.plymouthscb.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/2019-04-23-PSCB-Escalation-FINAL.pdf>

Workforce Development Boards. Work upon such policy will commence following implementation of these new arrangements.

FUNDING

Funding arrangements for the PSCP has been agreed for 2020/2021, and pooled funding comprises of:

- contributions by safeguarding partners and relevant agencies;
- use of funding reserve available to the PSCP period 2020/2021
- accommodation, IT, legal and communication services provided by Plymouth Local Authorities;
- in-kind funding and contribution from partners and organisations.

The safeguarding partners continue to review its funding arrangements to enhance future mutual resourcing requirements. They will collaborate and agree the level of funding to be provided by each safeguarding partner and any contributions (direct or in-kind) from relevant agencies. Funding shall be equitable and proportionate and will be published within the PSCP annual report.

BUSINESS SUPPORT

The PSCP shall be supported by a small Business Unit located in Plymouth. This Business Unit shall have an integral role in co-ordinating and driving forward the new arrangements and structures. It shall support the PSCP to achieve its visions and values and meet its obligations under Working Together to Safeguard Children, and provide administrative support in the delivery of its strategies, plans and frameworks.

APPENDIX 1 RELEVANT AGENCIES

The three safeguarding partner must set out how they will work together with any Relevant Agencies. Relevant Agencies are those organisations and agencies whose involvement the safeguarding partners consider may be required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children with regard to local need.

The list of relevant agencies is set out in the Child Safeguarding Practice Review and Relevant Agency (England) Regulations 2018. Many agencies and organisations play a crucial role in safeguarding children. Safeguarding partners may include any local or national organisation or agency in their arrangements, regardless of whether they are named in relevant agency regulations.

The following have been chosen because of their key role in safeguarding children and young people in Plymouth.

Educational and Childcare

All early year settings
All children centres
All primary education settings
All secondary education settings
All special education settings
Pupil referral unit
All independent education settings
Universities
Further Education colleges
Private training providers
Careers South West
Language schools.

Health and Social Care

NHS England

NHS Hospital Trusts
Public Health
Livewell South West
South West Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust
Regional Adoption Agency
Registered providers of fostering agencies

Criminal Justice

CAFCASS
HM Prison and Probation Service
Dorset, Devon and Cornwall Probation Services, part of KSS CRC
Youth Offending Teams
Office of Police & Crime Commissioner.

Police and Immigration

British Transport Police
Port Police Force
Local Border Force/Customs & Excise.

Miscellaneous & Charitable

Action 4 Children
NSPCC
Barnardo's
Children's Society
Young Devon
British Red Cross
Lay member
Children & Young People member
Drug and alcohol support services
Domestic abuse services
Community and Social Housing providers
Sexual Assault Referral Centres
Local Authority Commissioning

OFFICIAL

Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Service
Ministry of Defence (Royal Marine and Royal Navy Personnel).

Sports & Leisure

The PSCP shall identify lead representation for Community Sports and Leisure Groups

Plymouth Argyle Football Club

Plymouth Albion Rugby Club

Torquay United Football Club.

Community and Voluntary

Plymouth Octopus Plus (POP+)

Asylum Seeker/Refugee support services

Religious and faith groups.