

## LLR SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIPS BUSINESS PLAN APRIL 2022 to MARCH 2023

This plan outlines the priorities of the Leicestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership Board and Leicestershire & Rutland Safeguarding Children Partnership for 2022-2023. In addition to the priorities identified for this year the Partnership will continue to operate business as usual to improve safeguarding of children and meet its statutory obligations.

### 1. Safeguarding Babies - Improving how we work together with families before and after births to safeguard babies

Rationale:

- *Recent local and national case reviews as well as assurance work of the partnership have highlighted safeguarding risks to babies.*
- *National increase in number and proportion of serious safeguarding incidents that relate to baby deaths and harm to babies.*
- *Two national reviews, three local reviews, and three further rapid reviews regarding baby deaths, exploring: shaken babies; contact and working with fathers/males; substance misuse; pre and post-birth planning; safer sleeping.*
- *Covid-19 response has affected services for expectant and new mothers, and has been seen to cause additional stress in family environments, which can increase risk factors*

Outcome statements

- The partnership is assured that multi-agency working with families to safeguard babies is effective.

Key Deliverables	Lead	Other partnerships involved	Activity	Timescale
1. Awareness raising to support the safety of babies	Business Offices	ICON Steering Group / Health and Wellbeing boards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the ICON project rollout</li> <li>• Launch ICON</li> <li>• Public campaign linked to ICON</li> </ul>	Apr 2022 Apr 2022 Jun 2022
2. Assurance of effectiveness of safeguarding babies	Assurance & Audit Group (AAG)	Health and Wellbeing boards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assurance process (eg multi-agency audit)</li> </ul>	Mar 2023
3. Our safeguarding approaches engage effectively with males	Planning and Delivery Group (PDG) with AAG and Case Review Groups (CRGs)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review our current approaches to engaging males through including questions in all multi-agency audits and assurance processes and in Rapid Reviews and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPRs)</li> <li>• Research effective engagement with males</li> <li>• Develop and agree local partnership approach</li> </ul>	Mar 2023  Dec 2022 Jul 2023

## 2. Child Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing

### Rationale:

- Previous case reviews, assurance work and work with young people have identified the following which require further work and assurance:
  - Gap in joint working when children in need of safeguarding have been referred to mental health services
  - Young people report mental health support needs not always well understood by schools (being addressed by Welfare Education Return training)
  - Follow up to 2021 assurance work regarding safeguarding and CAMHS waiting lists
- Young people tell us that effective mental health support remains a high priority for them.
- Surveys and cases suggest ongoing Covid restrictions are having an impact on mental health of children and young people.
- There is ongoing work re: design of services and pathways for child mental health that will link with safeguarding.

### What will success look like?

- The partnership is assured that mental health and safeguarding are effectively addressed together

Key Deliverables	Lead	Other partnerships involved	Activity	Timescale
1. Receive assurance that mental health and safeguarding are effectively addressed together locally.	Chair of Planning and Delivery Group & Independent Advisor  Chair of Assurance and Audit Group	Design Group / ICS  Education groups in Local Authority areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive report from relevant groups and services including 'Design group' regarding progress on work on CMH pathways including:-                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how safeguarding of young people with complex needs is considered in this work</li> <li>• how the voice and lived experience of children and young people is being considered in shaping this work.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Set plan for further assurance work involving Independent Advisor, Children and Families. Including assurance on joint working and breadth of understanding of mental health in schools.</li> </ul>	Sep 2022  Mar 2023

### 3. Keeping Adolescents Safe / Supporting Safe Adolescents

Rationale:

- Work to develop a life-stage approach to safeguarding children relating to extra-familial threat/harm outside the home.
- Ongoing concerns regarding a clear response to peer on peer sexual abuse
- Developing national approach regarding 'serious youth violence'

What will success look like?

- Clear governance and approach for safeguarding children from harm outside the home
- The partnership has assurance that the approach to safeguarding children from harm outside the home is effective.

Key Deliverables	Lead	Other partnerships involved	Activity	Timescale
1. Plan in place for the local approach to safeguarding children from extra-familial threat.	Chair of Child Exploitation Operations Group / Adolescence Safety and Diversion Board	Adolescence Safety and Diversion Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and progress the plan for the local approach to safeguarding children from extra-familial threat.</li> <li>• Above plan approved by the Safeguarding partners</li> </ul>	Sep 2022 Sep 2022
2. Regional resources to support practitioners available online.	Project group / L&R Business Office	Adolescence Safety and Diversion Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support availability of regional resources through SCP websites.</li> </ul>	Jun 2022
3. Receive assurance from partners and the Vulnerability Board that partnerships are effectively safeguarding children from extra-familial threat.	Chair of Planning and Delivery Group with AAG	Adolescence Safety and Diversion Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request and receive data and assurance updates re: work to safeguard adolescents including how young people are involved in developing solutions.</li> </ul>	Mar 2023
4. Transitional Safeguarding approach in place	Safeguarding Partners (tbc)	SAB, Adolescence Safety and Diversion Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scope transitional safeguarding work</li> <li>• Agree local approach</li> <li>• Implement local approach</li> </ul>	Jun 2022 Sep 2022 Mar 2023

#### 4. Safeguarding children from diverse backgrounds

Rationale:

- The SCPs do not have information on whether the ethnic or cultural background of a child or other diversity factors have an impact on how well agencies work together with children and their families to safeguard children.

What will success look like?

- Understand how well we work with children and families from different backgrounds
- Clear plan to improve how we work with families and young people from specific backgrounds as identified by analysis.
- Longer-term appropriate representation and reduced gap in outcomes in relation to safeguarding for children from different backgrounds

Key Deliverables	Lead	Other partnerships involved	Activity	Timescale
1. Qualitative and Quantitative analysis of how well partners work in safeguarding with children and families from different backgrounds and action plan to improve practice where required	Task and Finish Group & Independent Advisor		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set the scope for the work</li> <li>• Carry out work including collating service data from agencies, seeking views of children and families from diverse backgrounds and seeking views of practitioners, resources in place to support staff to have knowledge and skills to respond appropriately to racism and young people’s experience of racism</li> <li>• Analyse data and information alongside wider research</li> <li>• Formulate action plan based upon analysis for PDG to adopt to embed improved multi-agency practice.</li> </ul>	Apr 2022 Sep 2022  Nov 2022 Nov 2022
2. Improvements in partnership working to address matters in action plan	Chair of Planning and Delivery Group & Other subgroups as appropriate	Tbc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actions as identified in the action plan.</li> </ul>	Mar 2023
3. Plan in place to consider other areas of diversity (disability, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity) by March 2023.	Chair of Planning and Delivery Group		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set plan</li> <li>• Initiate work on second area in line with plan</li> </ul>	Dec 2022 Mar 2023

## 5. Effective Safeguarding in independent and out of school settings

### Rationale:

- SCP consideration of IICSA reports and local LADO and national data identify the need and opportunity for further work with religious institutions, alternative education and other out-of-school settings to support robust safeguarding.
- SCP initial conversation with independent schools identified the need to develop specific ongoing engagement approach.

### What will success look like?

- Increasing numbers of religious institutions and small community groups have accessed SCP support & resources
- All independent schools engaging with SCPs and partners regarding safeguarding.

Key Deliverables	Lead	Other partnerships involved	Activity	Timescale
1. Campaign to increase awareness of parents of safeguarding their children when involved in small organisations	Task & Finish Group	LADOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop campaign for parents and children</li> </ul>	Sep 2022
2. Engagement with Faith groups to understand safeguarding approaches and gain assurance in place.	Business Offices	Faith forums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scope approach for engagement</li> <li>• Commission / Carry out engagement work</li> </ul>	Jul 2022 Mar 2023
3. Resources and training targeted at small and community organisations	Task & Finish Group	LADOs, VCS reference group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collate existing resources, develop additional resources</li> </ul>	Sep 2022
4. Independent Schools forum in place	Business Offices	Safeguarding in/through education services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up forum</li> <li>• Develop forum further to meet needs of SCP and Independent Schools</li> </ul>	May 2022 Mar 2023