

## **Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership**

The Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership has a vision that:

### **Safeguarding is for Everyone**

Our vision is founded on the belief that Safeguarding is everyone's business and that, in conjunction with other strategic boards and partnerships, children and young people in Calderdale are safe and achieve their potential.

As a safeguarding partnership we have to be clear about how we do this and what this means for partner organisations, children, young people and their families as well as the wider community.

Our vision is further defined by our statutory responsibilities and obligations and these inform our priorities. Our vision led priorities are:

- 1. We are assured that children receive the right help at the right time**
- 2. We know which children are vulnerable and are assured they are protected**
- 3. Scrutiny and challenges evidences effective safeguarding**
- 4. We create a learning culture which consistently improves outcomes for children and young people.**

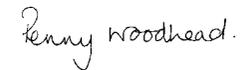
### **Calderdale is a Child-Friendly Borough**



Julie Jenkins  
Director of Children and Young People's Services  
Calderdale MBC



Sarah Baker  
Superintendent Operations  
Calderdale District



Chief Quality and Nursing Officer  
Calderdale CCG

## Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership

### 1. Background

- 1.1. This report outlines the Calderdale response to the expectations of local areas to establish Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements (MASA) which will replace Calderdale Safeguarding Children Board (CSCB) in line with 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (WTSC) 2018.
- 1.2. The partnership will be known as the 'Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership' (CSCP), and will be coterminous with the Calderdale local authority area.
- 1.3. The three lead safeguarding partners are as follows:
  - **West Yorkshire Police:** nominated officer – Superintendent Sarah Baker
  - **Calderdale Council:** nominated officer – Julie Jenkins, Director of Children and Young Person's Services
  - **Calderdale Clinical Commissioning Group:** nominated officer – Penny Woodhead, Chief Quality & Nursing Officer
- 1.4. Independent Scrutiny (IS) will be undertaken by: Professor Nick Frost
- 1.5. The CSCP draws on a positive environment of multi-agency working in Calderdale. We are committed to partnership working between the three key partners, with all relevant agencies, with children and young people and with local communities. We aim to promote the welfare of all Calderdale children and to ensure that children and young people are effectively safeguarded. We aim to achieve this by implementing WTSC (2018) effectively and imaginatively. At our initial Community Engagement Event (CEE) participants expressed support for universal safeguarding, for more safeguarding presence in social media, more knowledge of safeguarding organisations and the importance of the police in protecting children and young people in public arenas.
- 1.6. The following principles emerged at a Calderdale Safeguarding Children Board Away Day, held in January 2018, which guided our planning and this document:

- Maintain the quality of what we are doing now
- Develop an effective form of independent scrutiny
- Creatively engage with and seek the voice of young people
- Creatively engage with the wider community
- Ensure that 'relevant agencies' continue to be involved in the activities of the partnership, for example, through membership and the work of the subgroups, participation in community engagement events, consultation on specific issues.
- Develop regional activities where they are consistent with our vision
- Consult widely on the new arrangements

1.7 The following timetable has been adopted in implementing WTSC (2018):

**January 2018:** CSCB Away day to discuss the implications of the Wood Review, which led to the emergence of three possible options. Option 1 was to keep the structures much as they were under WTSC (2015), Option 2 was the version elaborated upon in this document and Option 3 was to streamline the structures to the minimum level consistent with WTSC (2018)

**February 2018:** distribution of the 'three options' paper

**March 2018:** decision on the 'three options' paper, following extensive consultation – Option 2 approved

**June 2018:** application made to approved as an 'early adopter' by the Department for Education

**July 2018:** WTSC published / 'early adopter' status achieved

**November 2018:** Community Engagement Event (CEE), funded by 'early adopter' grant, held

**December 2018:** first three partners meeting held

**January 2019:** agreed plan published

**April 2019:** new arrangements commence

**March - May 2019:** second Community Engagement Events held

**June 2019:** Safeguarding Week launch event to celebrate the work of the LSCB and to promote the new Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership

## **2. Governance Arrangements**

- 2.1.** The three nominated officers will meet quarterly and will be known as the CSCP Executive. The meeting will be chaired and convened by the IS. The Executive will also consist of the chairs of the sub-groups, as outlined in Appendix One. If possible, one chair will be from the Education sector and the other from the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS): if this is not the case then a representative of these sectors will be invited to join the Executive. The meeting will be serviced by the CSCP team and the Partnership Manager will be in attendance. People with expertise may be invited to attend the Executive if required to discuss specific issues. See Appendix One for the structure of the partnership.
- 2.2.** Substitutes of sufficient seniority will be allowed to attend the Executive if first notified to the IS.
- 2.3.** The CSCP will work alongside relevant groups of organised young people. The IS will meet with the relevant groups at least twice per annum, to ensure that the voice of children and young people is heard by the CSCP. The Executive will engage with organised groups of young people as necessary.
- 2.4.** The CSCP will work in partnership with a list of 'relevant agencies' (see Appendix 2), as required by WTSC (2018). The Executive will work in partnership with all relevant agencies, and will ensure they are fully involved in all Executive actions. All the relevant agencies are entitled to representation on sub-groups, task and finish groups and to participate in Community Engagement Events.
- 2.5.** The CSCP will work closely with all early years' settings, schools and colleges in the area. They will be represented on the Executive as outlined in 2.1. The Executive will prioritise working with these organisations under the new arrangements and during 2019-20 will develop a method do ensure effective communication with these settings.
- 2.6.** Mechanisms will be in place to engage and seek assurance from the council's children's homes, including Independent and private residential home providers and Independent Fostering Agencies. The DCS will report to the Executive on all relevant matters regarding looked-after children and young people.
- 2.7.** The CSCP will maintain an up-to-date website that will contain all relevant information. The CSCP will publish and distribute a newsletter aimed at relevant agencies, children and young people and families.

### **3. Community Consultation**

- 3.1.** The Early Adopter Community Consultation Event (FAXFEST) which took place in November 2018 at a central venue in Halifax was co-planned and delivered with young people. The event provided evidence of a successful model of engagement with children, young people, family and members of the community. The first event brought together a wide range of community members (children and adults) and by using different resources and games, supported them to achieve a better understanding of 'safeguarding'; provided a forum for safeguarding partners to be accountable to the community; gathered direct feedback on specific safeguarding issues and assisted the community to identify safeguarding matters that are important to them. The follow up events in March/May 2019 will continue to evaluate and measure initial response to the priorities identified, consultation methods used and inform future engagement activity. The follow up events will take place in the localities of Calderdale providing opportunities to extend the reach to different communities. At least one Community Engagement Event (CEE) based on this model will be organised per annum. The outcomes of the CEE will be considered and taken into account, in identifying local needs and agreeing priorities, by the Executive.

### **4. The Role of the Independent Scrutineer (IS)**

- 4.1.** The IS will be appointed by the Executive, with the active engagement of the young people.
- 4.2.** The IS must be of sufficient standing to provide robust scrutiny and must have no other significant engagement with local agencies. The IS will ensure that the safeguarding arrangements are fit-for-purpose, consistent with WTSC (2018) and that learning, evidence, research and community engagement inform policy and practice.
- 4.3.** The IS will be paid an agreed fee and will be contracted to undertake the role for a period of up to three years. An Annual Review will be undertaken led by the three lead partners.
- 4.4.** The IS will undertake the role outlined in WTSC (2018). They should be informed of major policy developments, resource changes, serious incidents and learning from audits, inspections and surveys (see also 9.1. below). They will also act as the Independent Chair of the Executive.

## **5. Funding**

- 5.1.** All activities undertaken on behalf of the CSCP shall be funded equitably and proportionately by the three safeguarding partners. The Executive will agree future funding formulas.

## **6. The role of the CSCP staff**

- 6.1.** The CSCP will employ a team of support staff as agreed by the Executive, who will be hosted by the Council.
- 6.2.** Wherever possible support functions will be shared with the Calderdale Safeguarding Adults Board (CSAB).
- 6.3.** All staff roles and functions will be consistent with delivering the priorities of the CSCP, in a manner consistent with WTSC (2018).
- 6.4.** The CSCP staff will ensure that the Executive is provided with data and intelligence in order to be fully appraised of the effectiveness of help, including early help, being provided to children and their families. The current reporting arrangements include:
  - Analysis of multi-agency statistics, performance measures and outcomes
  - scrutiny of rolling reports
  - Section 11 self-assessments and challenge events
  - Single and multi-agency audits
  - Practitioner and partnership challenge events
  - Child Death Overview Panel activity
  - Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews
- 6.5.** The reporting arrangements will continue during the transition period and evolve as priorities for Calderdale are determined. It is anticipated that some data collection and analysis will be shared across West Yorkshire to enable a greater understanding of specific regional safeguarding concerns and responses, for example, on 'children who are missing'; and to facilitate efficiencies such as use of a shared Section 11 audit tool; in addition, there will be a greater focus on seeking assurance on safeguarding arrangements and practice via community consultation events, from children and families,

engagement with front-line staff, to promote triangulation, support or challenge the quantitative and qualitative evidence. A more creative approach to delivering learning on safeguarding matters will generate intelligence and provide evidence of impact on practice.

## **7. Liaison with other partnerships**

- 7.1.** The CSCP is committed to multi-disciplinary partnership working in order to overcome 'silo' working and to deliver effective outcomes and a positive impact on the lives of young people. The CSCP will liaise with other partnerships, as outlined in WTSC (2018) such as the Safeguarding Adult Board, Community Safety Partnership, Health and Wellbeing Board and the Domestic Abuse Strategic Group, to further streamline services, identify and address gaps reduce duplication. We recognise the importance of working with a full range of partners in order to protect children and promote their best interests, agree priorities and share resources. Liaison will be led by the IS, but may be delegated to Executive members as necessary. Engagement work will facilitate contacts with a 'community/service user network' representing different groups of children, families and communities across Calderdale to continue to inform the direction and priorities of the partnership.

## **8. Regional and National co-operation**

- 8.1.** The CSCP is committed to regional and national co-operation wherever the Executive identify this as being in the best interests of the organisation. We will co-operate with the West Yorkshire sub-region wherever this is possible and improves service delivery and efficiency, building on current arrangements, for example, sharing interagency policies and procedures, delivering multi-agency master classes and regional conferences, contributing to the West Yorkshire Risk and Vulnerability Strategic Group. The Executive will identify which member is best placed to lead on specific regional work streams.
- 8.2.** The IS will lead on national co-operation – in particular with any structures that are planned to take the place of the Association of Independent LSCB Chairs.

## **9. 12-monthly report**

- 9.1.** The Executive will produce a 12-monthly report on safeguarding arrangements in Calderdale. The IS will produce a response to the 12-monthly report within one month of the report being made available to the IS. Both reports will be available on the CSCP website. The priority and focus of the new arrangements will be determined by the Executive through learning from the 12-month report process and through CSCP performance management and quality assurance.

## **10. Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSP Reviews).**

- 10.1.** The partnership will work to improve child protection and safeguarding practice through its review of practice, scrutiny and challenge functions; identifying areas of good practice, areas for improvement and in particular from the learning from local and national CSP Reviews. The reviews will be conducted in such a way to provide opportunities to explore why individuals and organisations operate in a particular way, making use of relevant research, case evidence, incorporating learning from national, regional and local reviews to inform findings and learning. The process will place the child at the centre, including them and their families (where possible) to understand their lived experience. Reviews will involve practitioners and managers in order to understand practice from their viewpoint. Processes will be implemented to regularly monitor and follow-up actions from reviews/learning opportunities to ensure they make a real impact on improving outcomes for children and improvements are sustained. Implementation of learning and change to practice will be tested via the methods described in 6.4 above and good practice will be shared.
- 10.2.** The rapid review and practice review process will be led by the Partnership Manager, working closely with the Executive.
- 10.3.** All notifications, rapid reviews and practice reviews will be shared with the IS, so that they are fully aware of good practice, key incidents and developments.
- 10.4.** We will review our Learning and Improvement framework to ensure that there is a mechanism to review good practice and disseminate any learning.

## **11. Child Death Overview Panel.**

**11.1.** The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) remains a function that is overseen by local safeguarding arrangements in WTSC (2018). Calderdale has in the past partnered with Kirklees to provide a joint panel: it has been agreed to extend that partnership to cover the Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield local authority areas in order to increase the footprint for the three areas to comply with WT 2018, increase the benefits of learning from a larger cohort and improve the way learning is cascaded to front line staff across the three localities. The three localities are developing shared systems, processes and ways of working in consultation with stakeholders. These structures and processes will be agreed following an Away Day in May 2019. The Transitional Guidance states that new CDOP arrangements must be in place by 29<sup>th</sup> September 2019, however Calderdale and the areas intend to operate as a single panel from June 2019 and there will be a process thereafter to review arrangements and agree how best to share learning to drive improvement. CDOP will continue to be chaired by a Public Health professional and serviced by the CSCP administration team.

## **12. Learning and staff development.**

- 12.1.** The CSCP is fully committed to multi-agency workforce development and will seek a range of ways to deliver key safeguarding messages and test how the learning has been implemented in practice. Evaluation will include seeking evidence from practitioners through engagement activities, Practitioner Learning Events, existing forums, and from children and families through Community Engagement Events, formal agency feedback processes and multi-agency audits.
- 12.2.** Learning from practice reviews, from the What Works centre, from research, 'local intelligence', appraisal of the learning as identified in 12.1 and from expert practice knowledge will be utilised as the basis for the CSCP workforce development. This will be offered to the workforce from the three lead partners and the relevant agencies.
- 12.3.** Learning opportunities will be regularly evaluated and an annual workforce development report will be produced.

## **13. Threshold document**

**13.1.** The CSCP has adopted the threshold document utilised by CSCB:

<http://calderdale-safeguarding.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Thresholds-Tool-min.pdf>

## **14. Disputes and escalation**

**14.1.** The CSCP has adopted the disputes resolution process previously utilised by CSCB:

[https://westyorkscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p\\_res\\_profdisag.html?zoom\\_highlight=dispute](https://westyorkscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_res_profdisag.html?zoom_highlight=dispute)

## **15. Quality assurance and performance management**

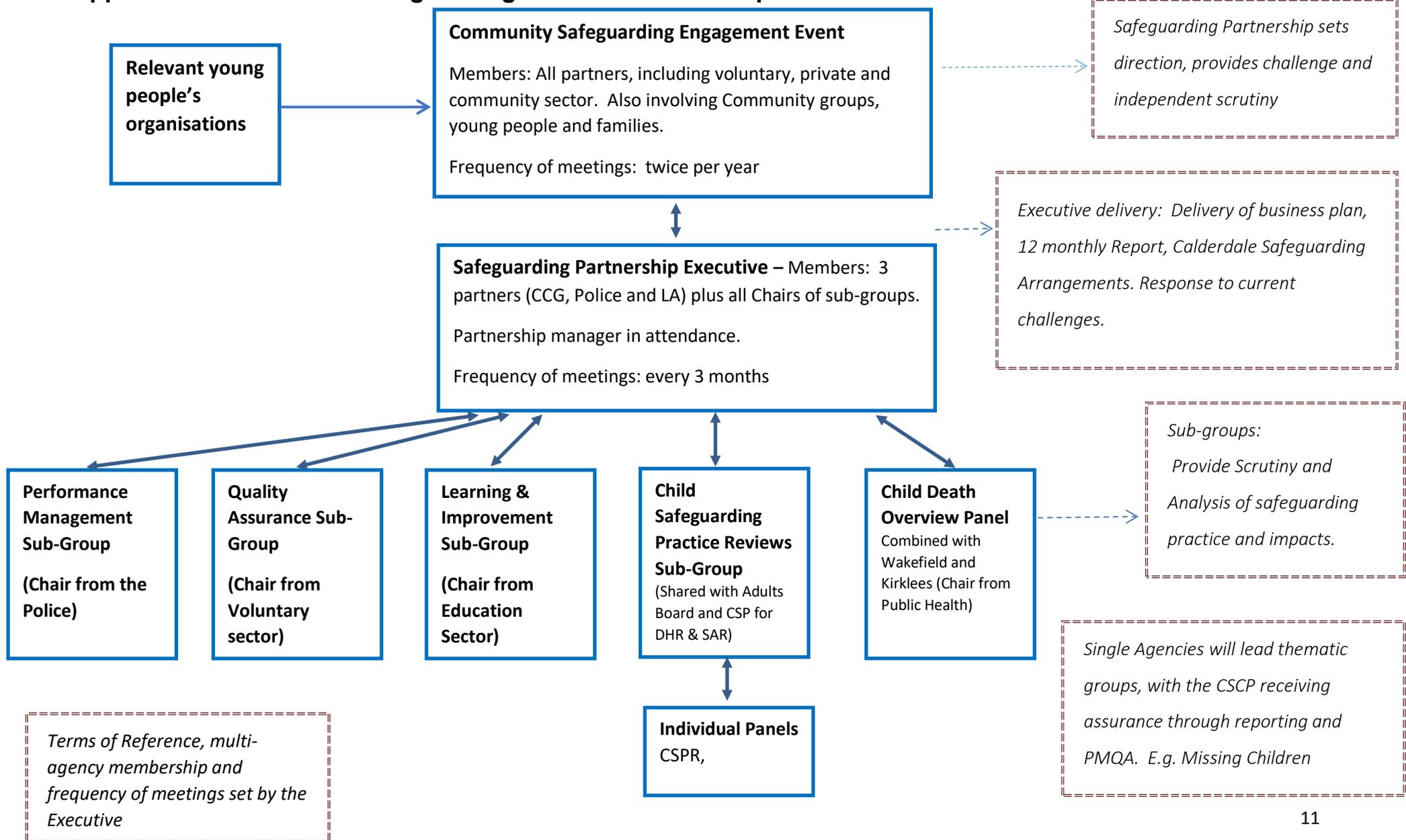
**15.1.** The CSCP has adopted the QA and PM process previously utilised by CSCB:

<http://calderdale-safeguarding.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/CSCB-PMQA-framework-February-2016-V13.pdf>

## **16. Transitional Arrangements**

16.1 The CSCB will prepare a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which sets out the arrangements to transfer relevant data and information currently held by it to the safeguarding partners. This will include how the data will be processed and held under the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation. In addition the MOU will set out the transitional arrangements for the any Serious Case Reviews; for those cases which commenced under Working Together 2015 and are still outstanding; and for any documents which may have later relevance to any formal inquiries. The MOU will provide details of the transition from CSCB to the CSCP. The CSCP will operate under the new arrangements from April 2019.

# Appendix 1: Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership



## Appendix 2 – Relevant Agencies

Adult Services and Wellbeing
CAFCASS
Calderdale and Huddersfield Foundation Trust (CHFT)
Calderdale College
Calderdale Governors Association (CGA)
Early Years Representation
Locala
National Probation Service (NPS)
NHS England
Pennine Housing/Together Group
Primary and Secondary School Representation
Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)
Public Health
South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust (SWYPFT)
Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS)
West Yorkshire Fire Service
Women's Centre
Youth Offending Team (YOT)
Children's residential homes including private providers
Independent Fostering Agencies