



Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements

Organisations and agencies in Calderdale are clear about how they work together to safeguard children and promote their welfare.

The Calderdale multi-agency safeguarding arrangements help to ensure that information about children and families are shared effectively, risk of harm is correctly identified and understood, and that children and families receive targeted joined-up services that meet their needs. The Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership (CSCP) coordinates and scrutinises how services and professionals work together to safeguard children and promote their welfare. The CSCP is defined by statutory responsibilities and obligations, and by local needs. These inform our objectives which are:

1. The CSCP is assured that children receive the right help at the right time.
2. The partnership knows which children are vulnerable, and are assured agencies are clear about how they work together to safeguard and protect them.
3. CSCP scrutiny, challenge, and review evidences effective safeguarding.
4. The CSCP creates a learning culture which consistently improves outcomes for children and young people.

Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership

This document outlines the Calderdale Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements (MASA) in line with 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (WTSC) 2023. The partnership is known as the 'Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership' and is coterminous with the Calderdale local authority area.

Governance and Structure

The CSCP Lead Safeguarding Partners (LSPs) are:

- Robin Tuddenham, Chief Executive Calderdale MBC
- John Robbins, Chief Constable West Yorkshire Police
- Rob Webster, Chief Executive West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

The LSPs have oversight of the compliance of delivery against the shared agreed priorities. Regular meetings are held to hold DSPs and partner organisations to account for the quality of delivery and improvement of operational systems and practice.

The CSCP Delegated Safeguarding Partners (DSPs) are:

- Julie Jenkins, Director of Children's Services CMBC
- Penny Woodhead, Director of Nursing and Quality- Calderdale and Kirklees – West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
- Mick Brown, District Commander of Calderdale District Police

The CSCP has joined-up leadership and clear lines of accountability to coordinate and receive assurance about the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in Calderdale. Each statutory safeguarding partner plays an active role in these arrangements and discharges their statutory duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

The CSCP secretariat holds responsibility for the management of both Children's Partnership and Safeguarding Adults Board's functionality and are the lead for the districts' Domestic Abuse Related Death Review workstreams. This strengthens joined up learning and accountability in Calderdale, to work more efficiently and effectively for the local community.

CSCP Executive

The CSCP reinforce how agencies, and their frontline professionals, are clear about their own and each other's roles and responsibilities and how they work together. Independent Scrutiny, performance management, quality assurance, and engagement with families and front-line practitioners provide evidence of the effectiveness of joint working arrangements and help to initiate improvements across the journey of the child. High quality and thorough reviews deliver and embed learning which is supported by Challenge Events to evidence impact.

The three Delegated Safeguarding Partners lead and co-chair the CSCP Executive. The membership of the Executive is enhanced by representatives from the education and voluntary sector as is the wider subgroup structure (see appendix). The voice of young people is primarily represented through the CSCP Young Advisors – a team of young people who seek out and gather the voice of children and young people in Calderdale, to inform the CSCP priorities. Communication and engagement with children, families and communities are embedded through individual agencies, safeguarding engagement networks, audit activity, and consultations.

The CSCP Executive includes Education representatives from Primary and Secondary Head Teacher networks, the Chair of Calderdale Governors Association, and the Vice Principal of the College. The wider structure of subgroups and workstreams has representation from Early Years, Alternative Provision, and more from school and education settings.

In specific workstreams, representatives from schools, early years and alternative provisions participate. The Schools Safeguarding Advisor, the front door (MAST) education representative, and the Vulnerable Learner Team link closely with the Safeguarding Partnership both through subgroup attendance and directly with the Safeguarding Partnerships Manager. Alignment with DSL networks, Early Years Networks, and voices from the education sector inform development of policy, procedure, guidance, tools and in CSCP decision making.

The voluntary and community sector is represented at the Executive by the CEO of the Domestic Abuse provider service and by the Delivery Manager of the Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Alliance in Calderdale. The wider subgroup structure includes partners from voluntary and community-based settings working with children, families, adults, and marginalised communities.

The Role and Purpose of the CSCP

The purpose of the Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership is to ensure that organisations and agencies are clear about how they will work together to safeguard children and promote their welfare. This means:

- there is a clear, shared vision for how to improve outcomes for children 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
- the voice of children and families combined with the knowledge of experienced practitioners and insights from data, provides 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 preventative action, 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, enables 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 services to be reflective and implement changes to practice
- senior leaders have a good knowledge and understanding about the quality of practice and its impact on children and families

The CSCP Business Plan sets out the strategic direction, partnership activities, accountability and how outcomes are measured. The CSCP Annual Report details how the CSCP holds agencies and multi-agency workstreams to account and how independent scrutiny provides oversight of learning, examination of how recommendations are implemented, and how demonstrable impact on practice is evidenced.

Independent Scrutiny

The partnership uses the Calderdale [Independent Scrutiny and Assurance Framework](#) to seek assurance about the effectiveness of the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements through a range of scrutiny methods. The Framework describes how data informs initial analysis, the quality assurance mechanisms which dive deeper, the challenge and critical friendship processes, how the voice of children and families are heard and acted on, and how rigorous, independent scrutiny is provided at both a strategic and operational level.

The three statutory partners actively lead, take responsibility for, and have a direct line of sight to front line practice, which is reinforced by not having a separate Independent Scrutineer or Chair who might replace some of this activity.

The three Delegated Safeguarding Partners and other Executive members are involved in Challenge Events for each statutory Child Safeguarding Practice Review and other types of review. This involves scrutinising front-line practitioners and line managers about the changes, improvements, impact, or barriers and further learning following review.

Multi-agency audit and quality assurance activity is also challenged through follow up interviews and documentary evidence. This critical friendship provides reflection about the impact of any review or audit activity, and its effectiveness in improving outcomes for children.

A multi-agency dataset provides opportunities to monitor any impact on children and families. The dataset includes performance management information, with comparators, focussed on the current CSCP priorities and on outcomes for children. The data is shown over a 3–4 year time period and by quarter so that the multi-agency partners can scrutinise, question and understand how the partnership is making a difference to outcomes for children and what the impact of service interventions are. Each indicator has a ‘story behind the data’, which illustrates actions being taken to improve, reasons for changes in trends, and feedback from agencies to help the Partnership uncover and analyse impact in its fullest.

Executive and Subgroup members provide critical challenge and reflection and formally hold each other to account, and Multi-Agency Reflective Practice Sessions provide forms to transparently and critically unpick systemic disputes which have not been resolved and negotiate how those situations could be better managed in future, with improved outcomes for children.

In addition, the CSCP commissions external Independent Scrutiny from experts in practice to inform assurance, and to determine whether the multi-agency working arrangements are improving outcomes for children and young people, and whether there are any areas for improvement. The CSCP also has the National Panel and the National Safeguarding Facilitators which it has used to scrutinise reviews, involvement with the education sector and as a critical reflection of how the Executive Meetings function.

Liaison with other partnerships

The CSCP is committed to multi-disciplinary partnership working to reduce silo working and deliver effective outcomes and a positive impact on the lives of young people. The CSCP works closely with other partnerships, such as the Safeguarding Adult Board, Community Safety Partnership, Starting Well Board, Developing Well Board, Anti-Poverty Strategic Board, and the Domestic Abuse Strategic Group, to further streamline services, identify and address gaps, promote learning and improvement and reduce duplication.

The CSCP is committed to regional and national co-operation. West Yorkshire partnerships have strengths in ensuring streamlined offers for organisations across the region, for example sharing interagency procedures, delivering multi-agency master classes and regional conferences, coordinating workstreams through the Violence Reduction Partnership and the Integrated Care Board forums, sharing Child Death Overview Arrangements and a collective Organisational Safeguarding Assessment Checklist (assurance for Section 11 of the Children Act 2004).

The Executive members, secretariat, and key partners collaborate through national networks such as The Association of Safeguarding Partners (TASP), which the Calderdale Safeguarding Partnership Manager chairs, and through national bodies who are experts on specific areas of safeguarding.

Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPR).

Through child safeguarding practice reviews, the Partnership understands what happened and why, and how we can improve our response in the future. Understanding where there are systemic issues, whether policy or practice needs to change and whether improvements need to be made is critical to the partnership.

Decision making continues to be consistent in Calderdale, with the decision for any serious incident notification, rapid review or CSPR being made across the three statutory partners as it has been since the CSCP was established. The process places the child at the centre, including them and their families (where possible) to understand their lived experience. Reviews involve practitioners and managers in order to understand practice from the front line.

Regular monitoring and follow-up actions from reviews/learning opportunities ensure they evidence a real impact on improving outcomes for children. Independent Scrutiny through Challenge Events following the completion of reviews evidence whether improvements are sustained.

Child Death Overview Panel.

The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) remains a function that is overseen by the CSCP. Calderdale collaborates with Kirklees District to provide a joint panel and includes learning from reviews in Wakefield in order to increase the benefits of learning from a larger cohort. The three localities continue to develop shared systems, processes, and ways of working in consultation with stakeholders.

[Learning and workforce development.](#)

The CSCP is fully committed to ambitious multi-agency workforce development, and how findings from quality assurance activity, feedback from children, families, and professionals, and learning from reviews influences practice in Calderdale. The CSCP updates training packages in response to this local learning, and also in response to national priorities and upcoming safeguarding issues. The CSCP employs many different ways to deliver key safeguarding messages and test how the learning has been implemented in practice.

Learning opportunities match need and demand and quarterly and annual workforce development reports are produced. Evaluation includes seeking evidence from practitioners through engagement activities, Practitioner Learning Events, existing forums, and from children and families, formal agency feedback processes and multi-agency audits.

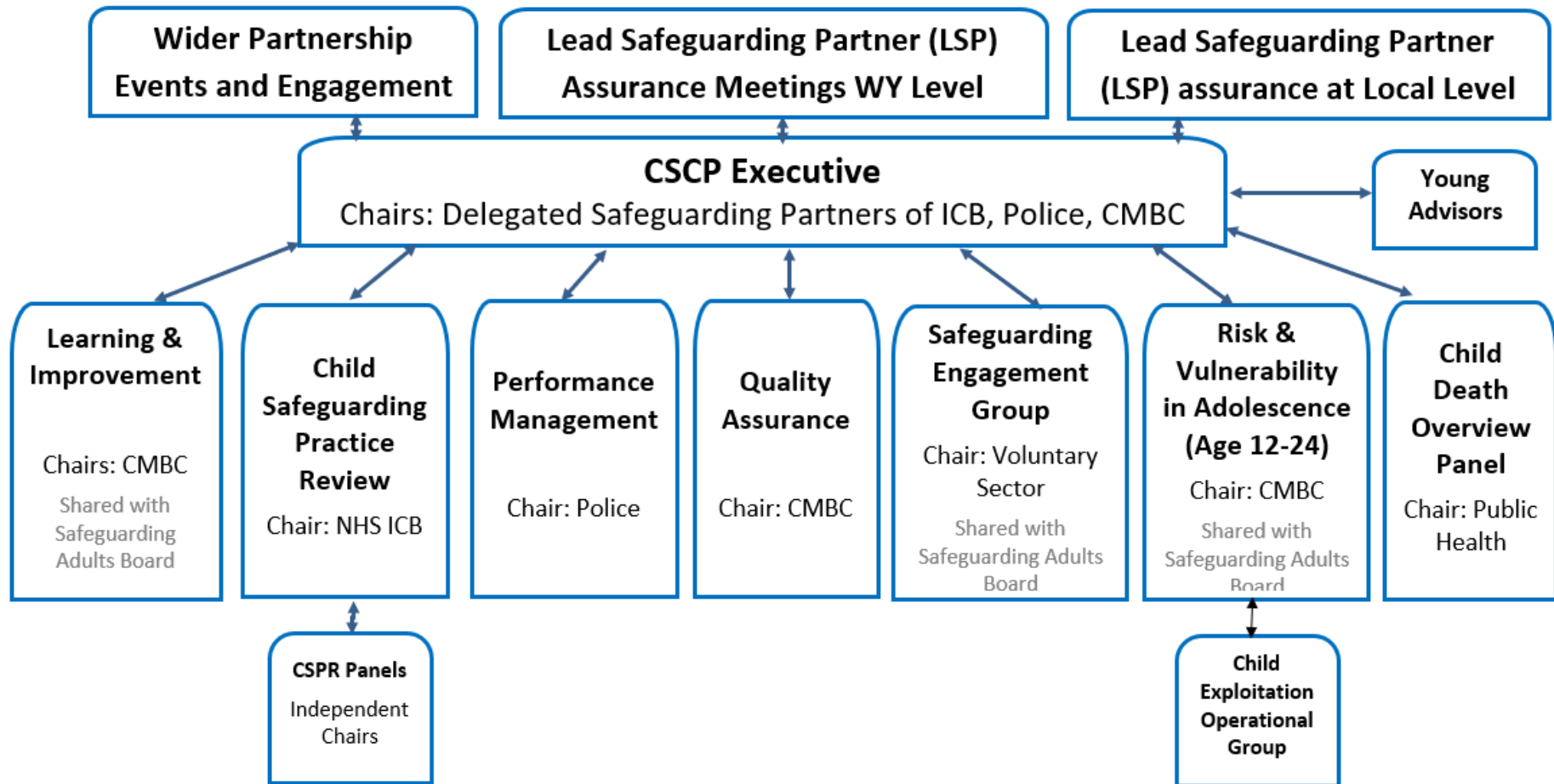
[Threshold document](#)

The [Calderdale threshold document](#) can be found on the CSCP website.

[Disputes and escalation](#)

The [Calderdale Dispute Resolution Process](#) is based on the [West Yorkshire Procedure](#).

Appendix 1: Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership



Appendix 1 Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership Structure (Accessible)

Lead Safeguarding Partner Assurance Meetings

Chief Constable of West Yorkshire Police,
Chief Executive of NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Chief Executive of Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council

Lead Safeguarding Partner Assurance at Local Level

Chief Executive of Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council
Assistant Chief Constable of West Yorkshire Police
Place Lead for Calderdale for West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

Wider Partnership Participation – see Appendix 2

Including voluntary, private and community sector, feedback from young people and families.

Young Advisors

Meet monthly and feed into the CSCP Executive as part of the wider partnership arrangements.

CSCP Executive

Members: 3 partners (Integrated Care Board, Police and Local Authority) plus Chairs of sub-groups.
Partnership manager in attendance.
Frequency of meetings: every 2 months
Executive delivery: Delivery of business plan, 12 monthly Report, Safeguarding Arrangements.
Response to current challenges.

The subgroups reporting to and governed by the CSCP Executive are:

Performance Management Sub-Group

Chair from the Police

Quality Assurance Sub-Group

Chair from Safeguarding and QA, CMBC

Joint Learning & Improvement Sub-Group

Joint Chairs from Adult Services and Children and Young People's Services, CMBC

Joint Safeguarding Engagement Subgroup

Chair from Voluntary Sector (VCAC)

Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews Sub-Group

Individual Panel meetings for each review that report into this subgroup
Chair from ICB

Child Death Overview Panel (Combined with Wakefield and Kirklees)

Chair from Public Health

Health Assurance and Improvement Group (HAIG)

Feeds to the CSCP Executive

Appendix 2 – Relevant Agencies

- Adult Services and Wellbeing
- CAFCASS
- Calderdale and Huddersfield Foundation Trust (CHFT)
- Calderdale College
- Calderdale Governors Association (CGA)
- Calderdale & Huddersfield Foundation Trust (CHFT)
- Early Years Quality & Improvement (Childminders, Early Years Settings, Out of School Clubs)
- Locala School Nurse and Health Visiting Service
- Probation Service
- Together Housing Group
- Education (Primary and Secondary Head Teachers Associations & Designated Safeguarding Lead Network)
- Alternative Providers of Education
- Public Health
- South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust (SWYPFT)
- Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Service (VSI)
- West Yorkshire Fire Service
- Women’s Centre Specialist Domestic Abuse Provider Service
- Youth Justice Service
- Children’s Residential Homes including private providers
- Independent Fostering Agencies
- Halifax Opportunities Trust and North Halifax Partnership (Children’s Centres, Nurseries, Community Support, Family Hubs, and Family Support)
- Yorkshire Ambulance Service
- British Transport Police
- Sports and Leisure Organisations
- Religious Organisations