

**Worcestershire Safeguarding
Children Partnership**

**Multi-agency safeguarding
arrangements**

Executive Summary

**Working together to enable
children and young people to:**

Get Safe – Stay Safe

May 2019

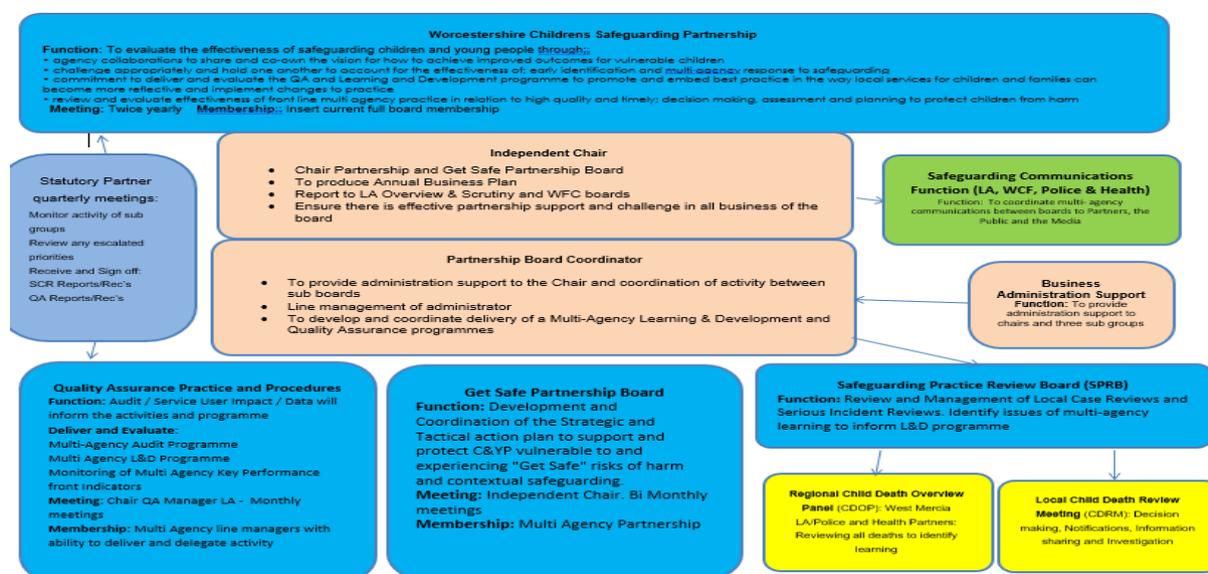
Geographical area

The WSCP will cover the county of Worcestershire and as such is co-terminus with the area covered by Worcestershire County Council. It is recognised that three CCGs cover this area and that the 'footprint' of West Mercia Police extends beyond Worcestershire.

The new **Worcestershire Safeguarding Children's Partnership (WSCP)** arrangements are set out in detail below with an agreed timetable to have the new arrangements in place by 30th September 2019.

The approach we have taken is to build on the existing strong and effective partnership in Worcestershire, retaining the best of the current arrangements and integrating new and innovative ways of partnership working.

Below is a visual representation of our new **Worcestershire Children's Safeguarding Partnership arrangements. A printable version can be found at Appendix A**



Governance and Scrutiny

Independent Chair

As a Partnership we will retain an independent chair. The Safeguarding Partners and the wider Partnership has decided to retain an Independent Chair who will provide challenge, scrutiny and strategic leadership to the WSCP as a whole, to the Executive Group and to the Get Safe sub-board.

WSCP Business Unit

Under the new arrangements the WSCP Executive Group, the Independent Chair and the wider partnership will be supported by a Partnership Co-ordinator with administration support.

The co-ordinator will co-ordinate the activity of the Partnership, the Executive Group and sub-groups and will work with the Independent Chair to produce an Annual Report

Working in Partnership

We recognise that the voice of children and young people should be at the heart of our work and the WSCP will work with children and young people, their families and advocates to ensure that their voice is heard and that it informs our work.

We are strongly committed to ensuring we have wide representation from the statutory and voluntary sectors across Worcestershire.

The relevant agencies who will form the WSCP are listed in **Appendix XXX**. In addition each sub group of the partnership will have a strong multi-agency representation accountable for the day to day delivery of the agreed business plan.

WSCP - Partnership Board and Executive Group

The three safeguarding partners via their delegated representatives will work together as an Executive Group with overall accountability for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Worcestershire. The Executive Group will also include the Independent Chair, other relevant partners as appropriate and the chairs of the three sub-boards.

This group will determine the Business Plan and Priorities, sharing those with the wider Partnership and retaining responsibility for promoting and delivering the Plan.

The Executive Group will act as a strategic leadership group in overseeing the work of the sub-boards, work with relevant partners and disseminate learning from local and national reviews.

Sub Groups of the Partnership Board

Quality Assurance Practice and Procedures (QAPP)

As a partnership we are committed to service development and consider ourselves a “learning partnership”

With strong multi-agency representation our QAPP sub group will deliver a multi-agency programme of Quality Assurance through; audits, understanding service user experience and monitoring of Key Performance Indicators. The findings of these activities, along with any identified area of learning from the Safeguarding Practice Review Group will inform the multi-agency programme of learning.

Get Safe – Exploitation of Children and Young People.

As a partnership we have identified that Contextual Safeguarding and the exploitation of children and young people as being a key priority area of safeguarding for us all.

'GET SAFE' is the Worcestershire partnership title for the identification and management of multi-agency support and protection for children and young people at risk of **G**ang-related

activity, sexual **E**xploitation, **T**rafficking, modern day **S**lavery, **A**bsent and missing, **F**orced marriage, honour based violence and female genital mutilation, and criminal **E**xploitation

This sub group will develop and co-ordinate the strategic and tactical action plan to support and protect children and young people at risk of or who are experiencing exploitation. Our action plan sets out a range of activities under the headings of: Prepare Prevent, Protect and Pursue

Safeguarding Practice Review Board

A key responsibility for the WSCP will be to commission and publish child safeguarding practice reviews and our revised arrangements for this are outlined below.

The Safeguarding Practice Review Board will review and manage local case reviews, including rapid reviews of serious incidents, and will where appropriate recommend the commissioning of Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews. This group will liaise with the CCGs and Public Health who are the new 'Child Death Partners' and who will assume responsibility for the Child Death Review Process from September 2019 (the details of which will be published shortly).

Funding Arrangements

Working Together provides guidance as to how local safeguarding arrangements might be funded in an equitable way. We have made a decision to fund our arrangement through contributions from the three statutory partners and to have an equitable but not equal split between those agencies. New funding arrangements will come into effect October 2019 in line with the new partnership arrangements.

Review.

Our new arrangement will be reviewed September 2021