

## Proposed Sub Groups

### Quality Assurance Group

To influence practice most effectively there will be a need for a Quality Assurance Group to receive timely and accurate information from across different agencies, including from multi-agency audits, Sec 11 & 157 Audits, multi-professional discussion forums, data and intelligence including JSNA to fully understand overall and local prevalence/context of need, vulnerability and risks from abuse and neglect which they will analyse to:

- understand local need overall and against specific demand areas;
- build an understanding of frontline practice;
- develop well-informed priorities;
- decide what action to take to improve frontline services;
- review and monitor actions from serious case reviews/safeguarding practice reviews.
- learning from local and national safeguarding practice reviews will be used along with single and multi-agency case file audits to improve safeguarding practice and in the development of multi-agency policies. They will provide assurance of the quality and impact of safeguarding practice and enable decisive action to be taken to drive improvement.
- early identification and analysis of new safeguarding issues and emerging threats impacting on vulnerable young people;
- ensure that the role of community safety is fully embedded in arrangements to safeguard vulnerable young people;
- ensuring that local arrangements to safeguard young people vulnerable to child sexual exploitation and other vulnerabilities are effective;
- ensuring information is shared and transition arrangements are effective for vulnerable young people who are becoming adults to facilitate more accurate and timely decision making.

### Policy and Planning Group

This group will have responsibility for:

- developing, reviewing and updating essential multi-agency safeguarding policies, procedures and guidance that is consistent with national guidance and available for all staff;
- development of information sharing protocols and escalation processes;
- scoping, developing, reviewing and updating strategies/action planning in respect to specific and new emerging safeguarding areas;
- ownership of contextual safeguarding with the potential for task and finish groups;
- maintaining threshold guidance that clearly defines levels of needs and the responsibilities of agencies to take action;
- promoting and embedding the use of policies and procedures in a way that local practice improves services for young people and families;
- Development of plans to drive various areas of safeguarding practice.

## **Districts Safeguarding Group**

In two-tier Council areas District Councils also play a significant role in a 'whole system' approach to safeguarding. When considering the key areas and 'reach' of the District Councils' business, services and workforce e.g: housing, benefits, environmental health, licensing, community safety, leisure services, it is imperative that District Council safeguarding arrangements are in place, robust and up to date. The group will allow District Council representatives to consider shared approaches to safeguarding and where appropriate make referrals to the Pan-Lancashire Group.

As the new arrangements are developed consultation with District Councils will make arrangements to ensure that they can:

- provide essential strategic assurance of safeguarding arrangements in their areas;
- provide a conduit from the other partnership groups to the District agencies and networks;
- collaborate across the Districts to identify, share and develop best practice in safeguarding children and young people;
- ensuring the Districts and their agencies are fully embedded in arrangements for safeguarding children and young people.

## **Joint Sub Groups**

### **Safeguarding Practice Review Groups**

- Communicating a decision to the (national) Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel ('the Panel') about whether a local or national child safeguarding practice review is appropriate for cases considered locally.

The Local Area Operational Groups will be responsible for the:

- Commissioning and completing local child safeguarding practice reviews.
- Co-operating and supporting the work of the Panel to complete national child safeguarding practice reviews.

## **Learning and Development Group**

Good quality and innovative training, along with effective supervision, needs to be in place for the whole multi-agency partnership to create an environment in which practice can flourish. A culture of continuous development and improvement will draw from the learning arising from the other partnership groups to improve safeguarding practice. This group will commission and monitor the impact of training on practice.

## **Communication and Engagement Group**

The communication and engagement group will be responsible for looking at innovative ways of communication and engaging with children and young people, families, communities and practitioners in communicating:

- the vision, role and responsibilities of the Strategic Partnership and Local Area Operational Groups
- obtaining the voice of children and young people, families and communities in influencing safeguarding arrangements
- publishing, promoting learning from local child safeguarding practice reviews in a way that local services for children and families can become more reflective and implement changes to practice.
- promoting and embedding learning in a way that local services for young people and families can become more reflective and implement changes to practice;
- disseminating messages from participation activities across sub groups for inclusion in their outputs;
- facilitating participation/co-production in the meetings of the strategic partnership/local area operational groups/quality assurance and policy and planning groups

### **Task and Finish Groups**

As and when needed a partnership group will be convened in a 'task and finish way' if there are issues in a particular area or to address a theme.

Examples may be to:

- obtaining and evaluate performance data, evidence from single and multi-agency audit and feedback from children and young people;
- ensuring that the voice of the child is heard through practice audit and this informs strategic development;
- providing analysis about the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements and areas for improvement;
- early identification and analysis of new safeguarding issues and emerging trends and threats;
- promoting and embedding learning in a way that local services for children and families can become more reflective and implement changes to practice;
- evaluating the impact of the work of the partnership to demonstrate improvement arising from audit and assurance activity.