



**MULTI-AGENCY SAFEGUARDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN PLYMOUTH AND TORBAY**



Devon & Cornwall Police



OUR VISION

All children within Plymouth and Torbay are able to reach their full potential and feel healthy, safe and contented.

Effective support is provided to the most vulnerable and at risk to ensure quality of opportunity in reaching these basic needs.



CONTENTS

Foreword	5
Background	6
The Safeguarding Partners	8
Geographical Boundaries	9
Structure	10
Plymouth And Torbay Joint Strategic Safeguarding Partnership	11
Joint Working of PTJSSP	12
Roles and Responsibilities of Joint Working Boards	14
Local Safeguarding Partnerships	15
Memberships	17
Relevant Agencies	18
Voice Of Children And Young People	20
Independent Scrutiny	21

Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews	22
Child Death Overview Panel	24
Funding	25
Learning, Training And Development	26
Measuring Success	28
Learning and Improvement Cycle	30
Thresholds	31
Resolving Professional Differences	32
Transitional Arrangements	33
Appendix 1 Relevant Agencies	34
Appendix 2 Initial Membership Details	35
Appendix 3 Child Death Overview Panel Arrangements	38

FOREWORD

In January 2016, the Government commissioned Sir Alan Wood CBE to review the role of Local Safeguarding Children Boards within the context of strategic multi-agency working. Findings and recommendations were published in March 2016 and acknowledged that whilst a number of organisations and agencies play a part in keeping our children safe, the business of doing so often fell on a small number of people in each local area. It was recognised that we can all do more to protect our children and keep ahead of new threats and risks, to cope with the dynamics of ever present change, increasingly complex and sophisticated threats and reducing resources.

There has been significant reform to ensure we can meet these challenges and improve our overall efficiency. The Government have exercised Sir Alan Wood's recommendation to replace the existing arrangements for Local Safeguarding Children Boards with a new and more effective statutory framework that sets out strategic multi-agency arrangements for child protection. This framework, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 (WTG 18), promotes effective leadership by the three key agencies namely Clinical Commissioning Groups (Health), Police and Local Authorities

Whilst we as the three key agencies must now determine and design multi-agency arrangements for protecting children, we can only do so by working together with organisations and agencies that play a crucial role in the safeguarding of children. We need a more flexible and dynamic structure to help us all work more closely together with a greater focus upon the voluntary and community sector so we think harder about and are better able to achieve the outcomes we want for children and young people. Future relationships and trust will be key and this is a good opportunity to thank the respective Plymouth and Torbay Local Safeguarding Children Boards and their Independent Chairs for their tireless work to forge these relationships, and build strong partnerships from which we can now launch our new way of working. Our agencies, and a large number of individuals, have already contributed to our journey for change. We must be mindful of that journey and our successes to date. Let us identify and retain that which is already working well for our children, young people and families.

We have consulted, and will continue to talk upon the replacement of the existing Local Safeguarding Children Boards in Plymouth and Torbay with one Joint Strategic

Partnership across both geographical areas. The key principles and values that have driven this change are the enhancement all aspects of children and young people involvement, strengthened education engagement and a flexibility that enables innovative participation of our community and voluntary sector.

Our new multi-agency arrangements must provide the best services for children and families. This requires ongoing learning and improvement a core tenet of the Alan Wood's review. We require learning practices and quality assurance which avoids prescription and can accommodate a variety of models which support proportionate and creative approaches. Our quality assurance framework needs a common and robust structure for presenting learning from reviews, engaging the child's voice, changing practice and measuring improved outcomes. It is these aspirations from which the new arrangements have developed and will set the scene for key aspects of future working.

The commitment of individuals and organisations across Plymouth and Torbay has been fundamental to the development of these published arrangements, and their efforts are greatly appreciated. The new arrangements will provide an improved structure for that commitment to continue to achieve greater positive outcomes for our children and young people and improve their lived experience.



Alison Botham

Alison Botham
Director of Children's Services
Plymouth City Council and
Torbay Council



Sharon Taylor

Sharon Taylor
Assistant Chief Constable of
Devon & Cornwall Police



Lorna Collingwood-Burke

Lorna Collingwood-Burke
Chief Nursing Officer/Caldicott
Champion
NHS Devon Clinical
Commissioning Group

BACKGROUND

National Context

The Wood Report, March 2016, recommended fundamental safeguarding reforms based upon the view that Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs), for a variety of reasons, were not sufficiently effective. The review highlighted that LSCB's had become too large and that the duty to cooperate needed to be replaced with greater accountability between agencies. It prescribed a responsibility for the local authority, police and health partners to design more effective local safeguarding arrangements. These recommendations were formalised within the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and the statutory guidance WTG 2018, which names the three safeguarding partners in relation to a local authority area as:

- The local authority
- A clinical commissioning group for an area any part of which falls within the local authority area
- The chief officer of police for an area any part of which falls within the local authority area.

These safeguarding partners have a shared and equal duty to determine local arrangements to work together, and with nominated relevant agencies, to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in their local area. The purpose of these local arrangements is to support and enable local organisations and agencies to work together in a system where:

1. Children are safeguarded and their welfare promoted.
2. Partner organisations and agencies collaborate, share and co-own their vision for how to achieve improved outcomes for vulnerable children.
3. Organisations and agencies challenge appropriately and hold one another to account effectively.
4. There is early identification and analysis of new safeguarding issues and emerging threats.
5. Learning is promoted and embedded in a way that local services for children and families can become more reflective and implement changes into practice.
6. Information is shared effectively to facilitate more accurate and timely decision making for children and families.





Local Context

The safeguarding partners have a robust commitment to deliver effective safeguarding plans locally, and there exists a historic and well-formed working and collaboration across the South West Peninsula (Devon, Plymouth, Torbay, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly). WTG 18 permits local arrangements to cover two or more local authorities. It has been agreed that the statutory partners across Plymouth and Torbay can perform effectively and efficiently, delivering local arrangements in a joined up way which meets the key priority of safeguarding and protecting children and young people.

Concerns highlighted within the Wood Report have been significantly addressed by Plymouth and Torbay respectively. The actions already taken have provided an improved framework from which to launch these new arrangements which will promote wider engagement and collaboration of the organisations and agencies which have footprints in both Plymouth and Torbay. By extending geographical sight the safeguarding partners aspire to deliver arrangements where excellent practice becomes the norm, strong links and joint working are fostered, and develop a skilled, knowledgeable and confident workforce, which works across local authority, sector and geographical area. These new arrangements are designed to put children young people and families across Plymouth and Torbay at its centre and shall engage all children and young people by using existing and newsystems and forums. It will harness, share and build upon the sector expertise across Plymouth and Torbay to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.

Our arrangements shall:

- focus upon strength based approaches to support children and young people's independence, resilience, strengths and capabilities
- adopt a contextual safeguarding approach to understanding and responding to young people's experience of significant harm beyond their families
- advocate a trauma informed approach and integrate an understanding of trauma in organisational safeguarding practice and policy.

THE SAFEGUARDING PARTNERS

The safeguarding partners have equal and joint leadership responsibility for local safeguarding arrangements. The safeguarding partners for Plymouth and Torbay are:

- Plymouth City Council – Chief Executive
- Torbay Council – Chief Executive
- NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group – Accountable Officer
- Devon & Cornwall Police – Chief Officer (Assistant Chief Constable).

These lead representatives remain accountable for actions and decisions taken on behalf of their agency. As permitted by WTG18 they have delegated their functions to the following senior officers:

Plymouth City Council Director of Children's Services	Torbay Council Director of Children's Services	NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group Executive Officer (Executive Safeguarding Lead)	Devon and Cornwall Police Head of Public Protection Unit BCU Commander
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These representatives shall:

- Speak with authority for the safeguarding partner they represent
- Take decisions on behalf of their organisation or agency and commit them to policy, resourcing and practical matters
- Hold their own and each other's organisation or agency to account on how effectively they participate and implement these local arrangements.



Devon & Cornwall Police



Clinical Commissioning Group



GEOGRAPHICAL BOUNDARIES

Plymouth and Torbay are each unitary Councils. The communities they serve, in terms of socio-economic characteristics and their economies have a degree of complementarity. There is commonality in the workforce and agencies working within Plymouth and Torbay, and two of the safeguarding partners cover both geographical footprints. There is a strong track record of good long term relationships.

There is mutuality in the cross cutting themes and objectives for safeguarding children and young people in each of Plymouth and Torbay, with an overall conviction that childrens and young people's voices continue to be heard and influence decision making, service development and practice.

Plymouth

Plymouth is a city situated on the south coast of Devon, England, approximately 37 miles south-west of Exeter and 190 miles west-south-west of London. The city is home to 264,000 people, making it the 30th-most populous built-up area in the United Kingdom and the second-largest city in the South West, after Bristol. It is governed locally by Plymouth City Council. In 2016, children and young people under 18 accounted for 19.8% of the population with 17.7% under 16 and 6% under 5. Due to approximately 23,000 students residing in the city, the percentage of 18-24 year olds (12.6%) is higher than found nationally (8.8%)

There is a long standing awareness of the deprivation that exists in Plymouth. These inequalities occur both geographically across the city, and within and across communities. 27.5% of children and young people are living poverty (after housing costs) (November 2016). 16.85% of year R to year 11 children are in receipt of free schools meals (2018 school census).

At February 2018, 334 children were subject to child protection plans, and 408 children (including missing) were looked after by the local authority.

The main problems facing families with children subject to child protection plans include neglect, domestic abuse, unsafe parenting, at sexual risk from an adult, parental mental health problems, parental alcohol and/or drug misuse. At the end of 2018/2019 45% of Plymouth's child protection plans were on neglect. During 2018/2019 there were circa 1,686 domestic abuse incidents within Plymouth where a child was present.

Torbay

Torbay is a borough in Devon, England, administered by the unitary authority of Torbay Council. It spans the towns of Torquay, Paignton and Brixham, located around an east-facing natural harbour on the English Channel. It is a popular tourist destination with a tight conurbation of resort towns and beaches.

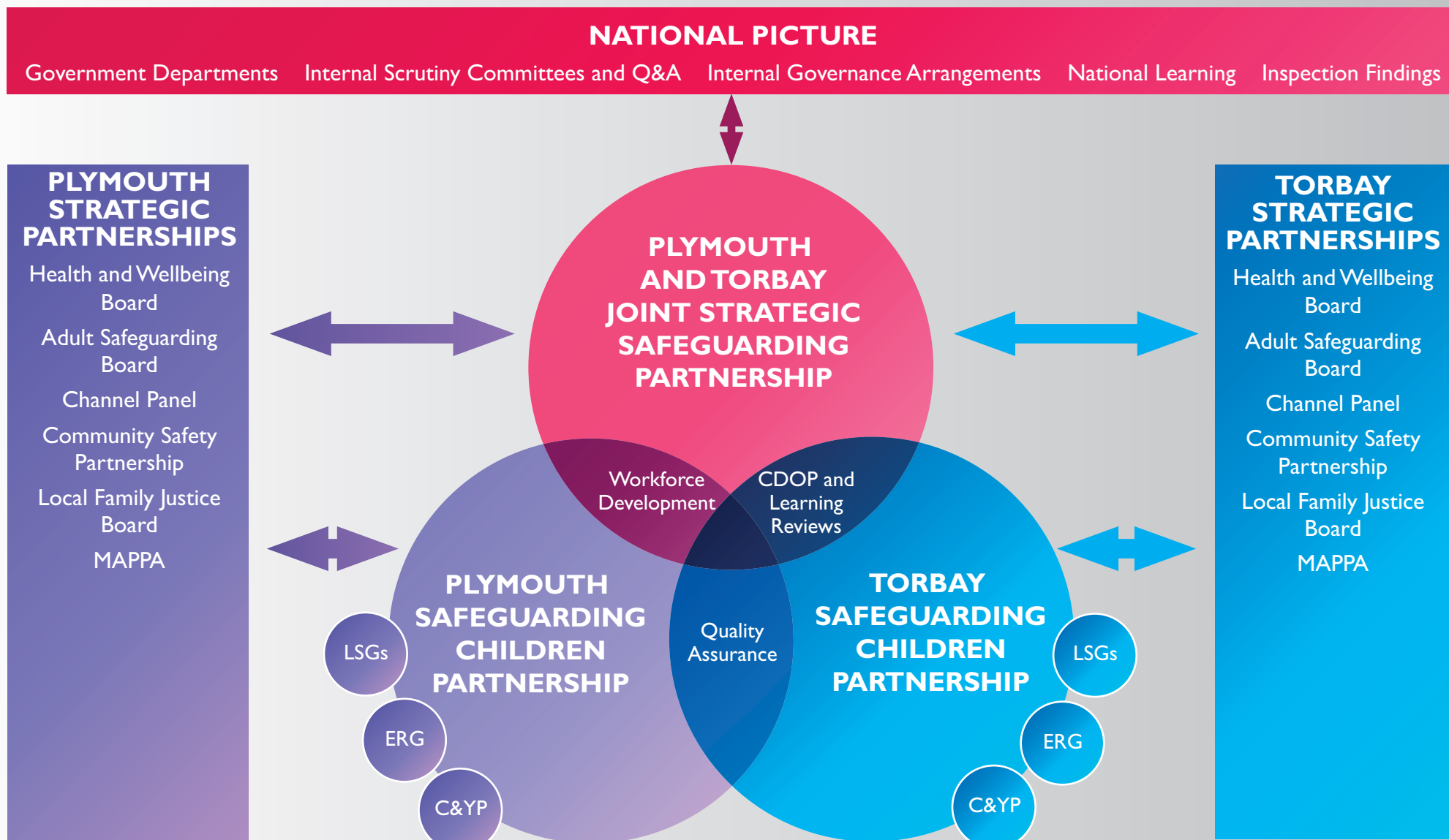
Approximately 25,400 children and young people under the age of 18 years live in Torbay. This is 19% of the population. Levels of child poverty in Torbay are relatively high with the latest estimates (2018) suggesting that 24% of all children in Torbay are in poverty. This compares to 20% across England. 30% of children (secondary and primary) are entitled to free school meals.

At May 2018, 153 children were subject of a child protection plan, and 336 children were being looked after by the local authority.

Domestic abuse is a significant feature in Torbay. Domestic abuse rates in Torbay are very high at 431 per 10,000, the highest rates across Devon & Cornwall Police area.



STRUCTURE



Key: LSGs - Local Safeguarding Groups ERG - Education Reference Group C&YP - Children and Young People Group

PLYMOUTH AND TORBAY JOINT STRATEGIC SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP

The Plymouth and Torbay Joint Strategic Safeguarding Partnership (PTJSSP) will co-ordinate safeguarding services, act as a strategic leadership group in supporting and engaging others and shall implement local and national learning from serious child safeguarding incidents. The current Child Death Overview Panel arrangements for the South West Peninsula shall remain, but the PTJSSP shall put in place arrangements for the same to be monitored, reviewed and actioned via the new working arrangements.

“Effective support is provided to the most vulnerable and at risk to ensure quality of opportunity in reaching these basic needs.”

The PTJSSP will put in place one method of joint working across Plymouth and Torbay for the delivery of quality assurance, performance management, multi-agency workforce development, serious child safeguarding reviews and monitoring and review of the Peninsula Child Death Overview Process (CDOP). This approach will better support the early identification and analysis of new safeguarding issues, and provide a consistent multi-agency safeguarding workforce able to implement and embed learning within respective local services for children and families across Plymouth and Torbay.

The role of the PTJSSP is as follows:

- ensure children are safeguarded and their welfare promoted
- set and oversee strategic direction of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements
- determine equitable and proportionate funding on a yearly basis
- hold local arrangements to account
- challenge each other appropriately and hold one another to account effectively
- scrutinise the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements
- have oversight of multi-agency workforce development

- facilitate and drive action beyond usual institutional and agency constraints and boundaries and ensure the effective protection of children is founded on practitioners developing lasting and trusting relationships with children and their families.

To enable the PTJSSP to fulfil this role it shall have the ability to co-opt at their discretion key relevant agencies and/or their representatives into their strategic meetings to discuss recurrent themes in the safeguarding and promotion of welfare, or the need to identify and action improvements. This discretionary ability will support a dynamic, proportionate and flexible approach to the safeguarding arrangements.

The members of the PTJSSP will delegate functions to designated senior safeguarding leads respectively within Plymouth and Torbay (this will be at Assistant/Service Director level/Designated Senior Officer level). They will deliver a local response through the creation of Local Safeguarding Partnerships in each of Plymouth and Torbay. The Local Safeguarding Partnerships will comprise of selected relevant agencies. This approach will enable local responses capable of being delivered under differing commissioning regimes, and retains separate identities for national inspection purposes.

Annual Report.

The PTJSSP shall publish a report at least once in every 12 month period. The report will set out what they have done as a result of the new arrangements, including child safeguarding practice reviews, and how effective these arrangements have been in practice. The report shall be published on a PTJSSP Website which shall be developed and made publicly available in readiness for 29 September 2019.

“All children in Plymouth and Torbay shall be able to reach their full potential and feel healthy, safe and contented.”

JOINT WORKING OF PTJSSP

Joint Quality Assurance Board

The PTJSSP will create and be responsible for a joint Quality Assurance Board and will appoint an Independent Quality Assurer. This Board will:

- set and evaluate the single quality assurance framework
- undertake multi-agency auditing/thematic reviews
- scrutinise performance data and intelligence
- provide line of sight into practice and the lived experience of the child
- deliver qualitative reports on impact and outcomes for children and young people to the PTJSSP.

Joint CDOP/Learning Reviews Board

The PTJSSP will create and be responsible for a joint CDOP/Learning Review Board and will be overseen by the Independent Quality Assurer. This Board will:

- deliver the statutory duties relating to South West Peninsula Child Death Review arrangements and oversee implementation of recommendations arising
- oversee, commission and deliver local child safeguarding practice reviews and make recommendations to the joint Quality Assurance and Workforce Development Boards
- deliver qualitative reports on impact and outcomes for children and young people to the PTJSSP.

Joint Multi-Agency Workforce Development Board

The PTJSSP will create and be responsible for a joint Workforce Development Board which shall:

- consider what multi-agency training is needed across the PTJSSP and how they monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of delivery

- commission and deliver the required multi-agency training in innovative and efficient methods which satisfies the requirement and continuing improvement of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements
- deliver recommendations and learning of Quality Assurance Board and CDOP/Learning Review Board
- deliver qualitative reports on impact of workforce development to PTJSSP.

A visual representation of the roles and responsibilities of the arrangements moving forward is set out on page 14.

Independent Quality Assurer

The Independent Quality Assurer shall act as a non-voting strategic critical friend, encouraging reflection on practice and providing a line of sight for the PTJSSP into the lived experiences of children and young people. A core purpose of this role will be to ensure that quality assurance and learning into practice does not occur in silos and identify and report upon the impact safeguarding system learning and changes make to improving outcomes for children and young people. The role will provide scrutiny and challenge, and shall seek assurance from relevant agencies, children young people and families, to measure and inform the effectiveness of the PTJSSP learning culture and systems leadership.

The Independent Quality Assurer shall facilitate the effective operation of the PTJSSP Joint Quality Assurance Board and Joint CDOP and Learning Review Board, including chairing the meetings and ensuring that the three safeguarding partners, and their relevant agencies, are fulfilling their function effectively and with integrity.

The Independent Quality Assurer shall be a member of the PTJSSP and shall contribute to its annual report.

A summary of the PTJSSP members is detailed on page 18, and further detail on memberships of the Joint Working Boards can be found at Appendix 2.

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Policies and Procedures

Multi-agency safeguarding policies and procedures are already in place across Plymouth and Torbay via the framework of the South West Child Protection Procedures.

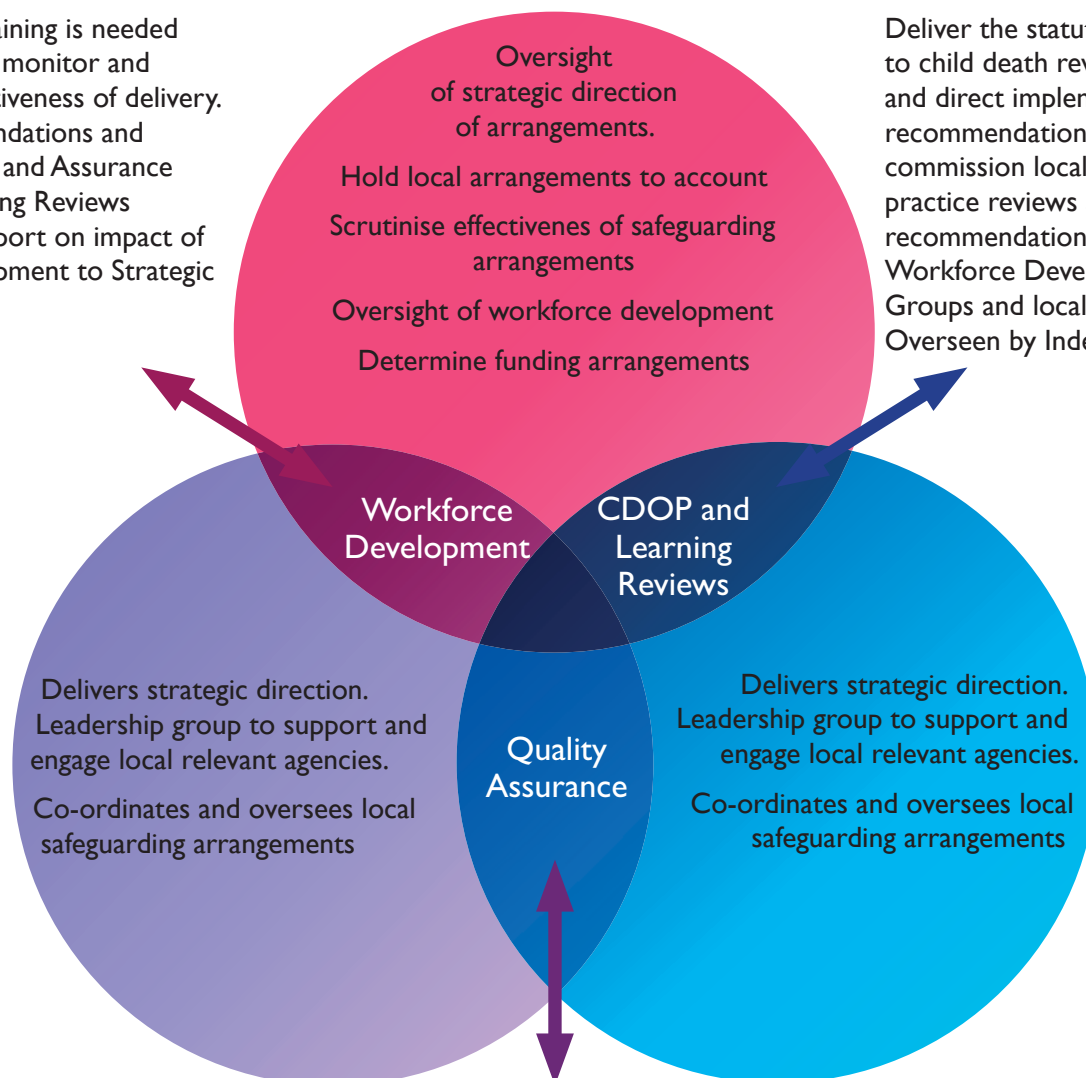
www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp/

These procedures provide a set of chapters which comply with WTG 18 and are accessible to all PTJSSP agencies. The manual itself is organised with core procedures and local information sections which include practice guidance and thresholds applicable across Plymouth and Torbay. The procedures are updated to take account of local and national learning and any changes in legislation or statutory guidance.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF JOINT WORKING BOARDS

Consider what training is needed and how they will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of delivery. Deliver recommendations and actions of Quality and Assurance and CDOP/Learning Reviews Group. Deliver report on impact of workforce development to Strategic Partnership.

Deliver the statutory duties relating to child death review arrangements and direct implementation of recommendations. Oversee and commission local child safeguarding practice reviews and make recommendations/actions for Workforce Development and QA Groups and local delivery/response. Overseen by Independent QA role.



Sets and evaluates Quality Assurance Framework. Undertakes multi-agency auditing/thematic reviews. Scrutinises performance data. Provides line of sight into practice and the lived experience of the child. Overseen by Independent QA role.

LOCAL SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIPS

The purpose of the respective Local Safeguarding Partnerships in Plymouth and Torbay is to:

- ensure children are safeguarded and their welfare protected
- deliver the strategic direction set by the PTJSSP
- be the Leadership Group which supports and engages relevant agencies
- co-ordinates and oversees local safeguarding arrangements and responses
- determines appropriate local safeguarding response groups, activities and learning (as necessary)
- deliver qualitative written reports and/or presentations on impact and outcomes for children and young people directly to the PTJSSP

The inclusion of this local level mechanism will provide a local dynamic response within and across each geographical area which can confidently create, influence and negotiate local system improvements as part of partnership working, and promote effective working relationships with the relevant agencies.

The Local Safeguarding Partnerships will be able to engage within the community and voluntary sector; providing valuable consultative opportunities on proposed policies and methods of working. Each Partnership shall be driven and overseen by quality assurance activities and learning reviews within the Joint Boards, and be expected to evidence greater openness and resilience in their front line practice.

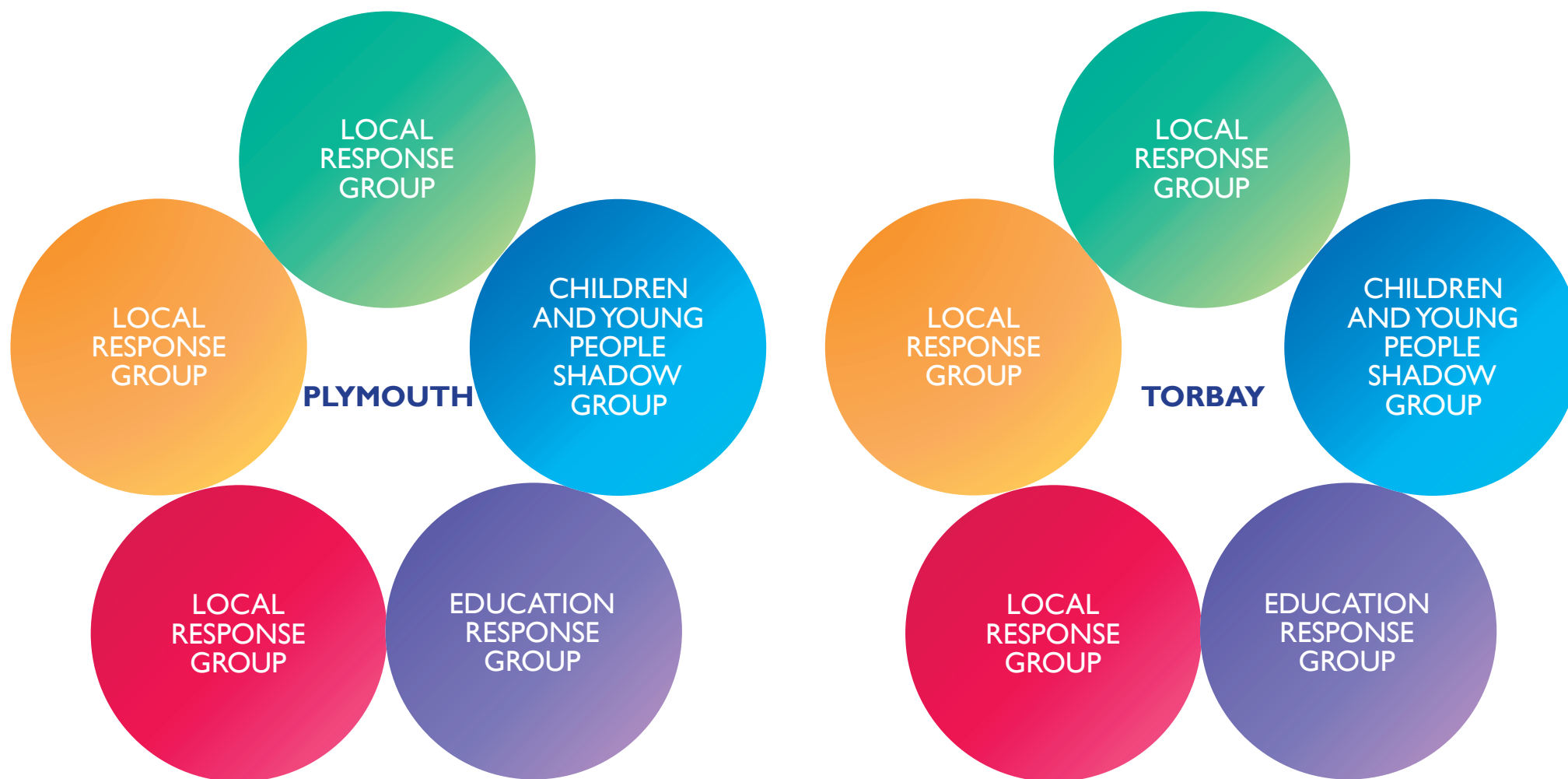
By providing local oversight safeguarding partners will be able to better focus on the concerns which most affect our children and young people, and be responsive to emergency trends, either nationally, regionally, or locally via performance data and intelligence delivered via Joint Boards.

Details of proposed memberships and representation upon the Local Safeguarding Partnerships can be found at Appendix 2.

Local Response Groups

The Local Safeguarding Partnership, in having oversight of local safeguarding arrangements shall determine and action appropriate dynamic and timely responses which meet the needs of the child, at the right place and at the right time. To ensure flexibility and innovation there shall be less fixed group structures with a move towards thematic time focused local response (task and finish) groups. These local response groups shall be commissioned by the Local Safeguarding Partnership as a result of their own oversight, or in conjunction with the performance intelligence scrutinised within the Joint Quality Assurance Board, or learning arising from the Joint CDOP and Learning Review Board. Local Response Groups may for example undertake deep dive or other time limited pieces of work which will benefit multi-agency practice to improve outcomes for children, young people and families.

LOCAL SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIPS



MEMBERSHIPS

PLYMOUTH AND TORBAY STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Director of Children's Services (Plymouth and Torbay Councils)
BCU Command and Head of Public Protection (Devon and Cornwall Police)
Executive Officer (NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group)
Independent Quality Assurer

Joint Workforce Development Board

Director of Children's Services (Plymouth and Torbay Councils)
BCU Command and Head of Public Protection (Devon and Cornwall Police)
Director of Nursing (NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group)
Independent Quality Assurer

Joint Quality Assurance Board

Core membership drawn from the three safeguarding partners and nominated relevant agencies in Plymouth and Torbay

Joint CDOP/Learning Review Board

Core memberships drawn from the three safeguarding partners and nominated relevant agencies in Plymouth and Torbay

Plymouth Local Safeguarding Board

Assistant Director of Children's Services, Plymouth City Council
Director of Education, Plymouth City Council
Designated Safeguarding Nurse, NHS Devon CCG
Head of Public Protection Unit (Plymouth), Devon and Cornwall Police
Safeguarding leads of Plymouth relevant agencies

Torbay Local Safeguarding Board

Assistant Director of Children's Services, Torbay Council
Director of Education, Torbay Council
Designated Safeguarding Nurse, NHS Devon CCG
Head of Public Protection Unit (Torbay), Devon and Cornwall Police
Safeguarding leads of Torbay relevant agencies

RELEVANT AGENCIES

Attached at Appendix 1 is a list of the relevant agencies whose involvement the three safeguarding partners believe is required to safeguard and promote the welfare of local children. These relevant agencies shall work within these new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements. Whilst the legislation and statutory guidance draws a distinction between safeguarding partners and relevant agencies to ensure clarity around accountability, it is clear that all members of the PTJSSP have a shared responsibility to work collaboratively to provide targeted support to children and families. This list reflects and enhances upon the current Plymouth and Torbay LSCB's memberships, and accords with the Child Safeguarding Practice Review and Relevant Agencies (England) Regulations 2018.

Particular thought has been given to the nature of the peninsula in which Plymouth and Torbay is located and its population. The nominated relevant agencies will be able to address and support concerns regarding extra-familial harm, including child trafficking, radicalisation and modern slavery, and reflect the military and naval community within the city of Plymouth.

The Lead Members for Children and Young People, whilst not a Relevant Agency, shall be a participating observers of the local safeguarding arrangements. In practice this means routinely attending meetings as observers and receiving all its written reports. For clarity, the Lead Members shall be non-voting.

Strategic leaders of the relevant agencies shall form the membership of the Joint Working Boards and Local Safeguarding Partnerships to:

- inform and deliver the strategic direction set by the PTJSSP
- be the leadership group which supports and engages multi-agency working
- co-ordinate and oversee local safeguarding arrangements and responses
- identify emerging themes, actions and learning to be embedded into practice
- determine appropriate local safeguarding response groups.

The relevant agencies shall co-operate with the safeguarding partners and act in accordance with these arrangements. It is expected that as the arrangements evolve the relevant agencies may change, and the safeguarding partners will have the

right to consult with and include other organisations as relevant agencies as they determine from time to time.

Early Years, School Colleges and other Educational Providers

Early years, schools, colleges and other educational providers are an important part of the wider safeguarding system for children. Due to their pivotal role in safeguarding children and promoting their welfare, all early years settings, schools, colleges and educational providers shall be named as relevant agencies in the new arrangements.

The safeguarding partners will build upon and enhance the current commitment from early years and education. Education Reference Groups shall be retained within each Local Safeguarding Partnership to support active engagement in a meaningful way with a wide representation from the early years and education arena, including independent and language schools. Lead representatives from the Educational Reference Groups shall be members of the Local Safeguarding Partnerships, and form part of the Joint Working Boards. This approach will help ensure full engagement and inclusion within these new safeguarding arrangements, and enable individual early years and educational settings to use the arrangements to support each other as peers.

Designated Health Professionals

The Designated Doctors and Designated Nurses within Plymouth and Torbay shall, as a minimum, be representatives at the Local Safeguarding Partnerships to ensure clinical expertise of designated health professionals is proportionately secured.

Youth Custody Arrangements

There is no youth custody provision in Plymouth and Torbay, nor secure residential homes. Youth Offending Teams within Plymouth and Torbay work with children and young people under the age of 18 who are either accused of or convicted of a crime. The Youth Offending Teams are nominated relevant agencies and shall provide periodic reports and performance data to the Joint Quality Assurance Board and shall participate within thematic task and finish groups.

Residential Home Arrangements

At the time of publication both Council's provide residential, short stay and other holiday schemes for disabled children.

These are regularly inspected by Ofsted, with any concerns able to be uplifted into the Independent Quality Assurer, who will manage actions plans and practice through their role as the Chair of the Joint Quality Assurance Board.



VOICE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Engaging the voice, activity and co-design of children, young people and families is integral to these new arrangements. The PTJSSP shall build upon the effective arrangements in place within Plymouth and shall enhance and extend the same into Torbay. The ambition will be to engage with all children and young people, and not solely upon those who have experienced services. The PTJSSP shall commit to and engage with children, young people and families at an individual, service and strategic level. Various systems, forums and existing networks/groups shall be used to gather views and seek independent voices and experiences. A participative approach to safeguarding is key to understanding the realities of young people's lives. Their involvement in system design is important because they bring real life experience of using services and can reflect on what works and what requires improvement. The arrangements include a Children and Young People's Forum in each of the Local Safeguarding Partnerships. This Forum will improve upon engagement, challenge and scrutiny, and assist our service design and delivery to more effectively meet need and achieve positive outcomes.

In addition, a young person lay member shall be appointed into the Joint Quality Assurance Board and each of the Local Safeguarding Partnerships. The Lay member for the Joint Quality Assurance Board shall be a care leaver whose experience of the care system and the transition from child to adult services will be an invaluable perspective to inform the work of the strategic safeguarding partnership.

TEN WISHES

What Children and Young People in Plymouth and Torbay want from you...

We want professionals to be easier to contact.

We want professionals to be on time, as they expect us to be.

We want professionals to be properly trained and for us to be involved in the training.

We want professionals to ask us what we need and not to assume.

We want professionals to do what they say they are going to do, to listen and stand up for us.

We want professionals to use words we understand.

We want professionals to reassure us something is being done and tell us how long it will take.

We want professionals to understand when we need to talk to them one-to-one.

We want professionals to ask us 'do you feel safe?'

We want professionals to respect us and how we feel.

INDEPENDENT SCRUTINY

WTG 18 requires these multi-agency safeguarding arrangements to be subject to independent scrutiny, the role of which is to provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of them to safeguard children and promote the welfare of all children in the local area, including arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding cases.

Independent scrutiny needs to focus on outcomes for children and young people and not on compliance or process. Work undertaken by Early Adopters has highlighted the need for a range of tools and/or a menu of options which can be utilised to evaluate practice and policy at different levels. Plans will need to be carefully crafted to add value to an already complex and crowded landscape of challenge and scrutiny in providing services to children and young people.

The Plymouth and Torbay Joint Strategic Safeguarding Partnership (PTJSSP) shall take a multi-systems approach to independent scrutiny to provide robust, rigorous and transparent assurance together, with constructive challenge and reflection to drive continuous improvement.

The PTJSSP's multi-systems approach to independent scrutiny shall:

- Focus on outcomes for children and young people.
- Provide focus on impact of service arrangements upon outcomes for children and young people and ensure that children/young people's voice and experience informs system learning and design.
- Provide independent oversight and scrutiny on serious child safeguarding cases ensuring that reviews are undertaken rigorously in line with statutory guidance.
- Assess whether the safeguarding partners are fulfilling their statutory duties.
- Provide assurance regarding the robustness and effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements for Plymouth and Torbay.
- Ensure the safeguarding partners provide independent and robust challenge to each other and relevant agencies.
- Assess how well relevant agencies co-operate with one another to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to hold each other to account for effective safeguarding arrangements.

- Provide scrutiny of the PTJSSP's annual report.
- Provide analysis and challenge of PTJSSP quality assurance activities.
- Scrutinise the effectiveness of implementation and embedding of findings and outcomes of multi-agency safeguarding learning reviews, providing challenge to and oversight of any changes to system delivery.
- Seek assurance that effective performance management, audit and quality assurance mechanisms are in place within relevant agencies to enable the PTJSSP to fulfil its statutory objectives and identify and measure its success impact and outcomes.

This approach shall comprise a number of functions which will include:

- Develop a system of engaging multi-agency practitioners, children, and young people of families in the evaluation and scrutiny of service delivery.
- Utilise existing structures of assurance and scrutiny (e.g. Health and Wellbeing Boards, Corporate Safeguarding Improvement Plans and Assurance, NHS England etc.).
- Internal peer reviews by other Plymouth and Torbay strategic partnerships (e.g. Community Safety Partnerships).
- Appointment of Independent Quality Assurer role.
- Review and evaluation by Plymouth and Torbay Children System Improvement Boards and Children System Design Groups.
- Commissioning as necessary expert scrutiny from national bodies or acknowledged experts.
- Develop partnering arrangements with neighbouring safeguarding partners to provide strategic peer reviews.

LOCAL CHILD SAFEGUARDING PRACTICE REVIEWS

WTG 18 sets out the purpose of and the new arrangements for reviews of serious child safeguarding cases, at both a local and a national level.

The responsibility for how the safeguarding system learns the lessons from serious child safeguarding cases lies at a national level with the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel (National Panel) and at a local level with the safeguarding partners.

Serious child safeguarding cases are those in which:

- abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected and
- the child has died or been seriously harmed.

The PTJSSP has put in place arrangements to:

- identify serious child safeguarding cases which raise issues of importance in Plymouth and Torbay and
- commission and oversee the review of those cases, where they consider it appropriate for a review to be undertaken.

The PTJSSP will promptly undertake a rapid review of a serious child safeguarding case in line with any guidance published by the National Panel. The aim of the rapid review is to:

- gather facts about the case, as far as they can be readily be established at the time
- discuss whether there is any immediate action needed to ensure children's safety and share learning appropriately
- consider the potential for identifying improvements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- decide what steps they should take next, including whether or not to undertake a child safeguarding practice review.

Upon conclusion of the rapid review, the PTJSSP shall determine whether a local child safeguarding practice review is appropriate, or whether they think the case may raise issues which are complex or of a national importance such that a national review may be appropriate. In the event of a difference of opinion a majority

decision will be accepted. The PTJSSP shall be supported and advised by the Independent Quality Assurer in reaching their decision.

When considering whether or not to commission a child safeguarding practice review the criteria the PTJSSP must take into account include whether the serious child safeguarding case:

- highlights or may highlight improvements needed to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, including where those improvements have been previously identified
- highlights or may highlight recurrent themes in the safeguarding and promotion of the welfare of children
- highlights or may highlight concerns regarding two or more organisations or agencies working together effectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- is one which the National Panel have considered and concluded that a local review may be more appropriate.

Some cases may not meet the definition of a serious child safeguarding case, but nevertheless raise issues of importance to Plymouth and Torbay. That might, for example, include where there has been exemplary practice, poor practice or where there have been 'near miss' events. The PTJSSP may choose to undertake a local child safeguarding practice review in these or other circumstances.

The PTJSSP's Joint CDOP and Learning Review Board shall oversee rapid reviews, submit notifications to National Panel, recommend the commissioning of and hold oversight of local child safeguarding practice reviews. The PTJSSP shall make the final documented decision regarding carrying out a child safeguarding practice review, and shall be supported and advised by the Independent Quality Assurer.

Membership of the Joint CDOP and Learning Review Board shall comprise representatives of the three safeguarding partners and representatives from health, probation and education agencies across Plymouth and Torbay. It shall be chaired by the Independent Quality Assurer. The Board will be able to co-opt, at their discretion other relevant agencies and/or their representatives into their strategic meetings to discuss potential themes and implement identified learning as required.

The Joint CDOP and Learning Review Board shall agree a single approach to local child safeguarding practice reviews. This shall include the mechanisms for rapid reviews, system methodology, identifying reviewers and commissioning the local reviews. The methodology should be able to reach recommendations that will improve outcomes of children and reflect the child's perspective and the family context. Local reviews shall provide a way of looking at and analysing front line practice as well as organisational structures and learning.

The Joint CDOP and Learning Review Board shall ensure that practitioners are fully involved in reviews and invited to contribute their perspectives without fear of being blamed for actions they took in good faith. Families, including surviving children, shall be invited to contribute to the review. This is particularly important as the child will need to be at the heart of the process. They should understand how they are going to be involved and their expectations will be managed appropriately and sensitively.

Local child safeguarding practice reviews are about promoting and sharing information about improvements, across Plymouth and Torbay, and nationally. A final report upon the review shall be published, unless the safeguarding partners consider it inappropriate to do so, and shall remain publicly available for at least one year.

CHILD DEATH OVERVIEW PANEL

When a child dies, in any circumstances, it is important for parents and families to understand what has happened and whether there are any lessons to be learned.

The responsibility for ensuring child death reviews are carried out is held by 'child death review partners' who are with regard to these arrangements:

- The Chief Executives of Plymouth and Torbay Councils
- Accountable Officer; NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group.

The Designated Doctor for child deaths is Roger Jenkins.

The purpose of the review and/or analysis is to identify any matters relating to the death, or deaths, that are relevant to the welfare of children in the area or to public health and safety, and to consider whether action should be taken in relation to any matters identified. If child death review partners find action should be taken by a person or organisation they must inform them. Co-ordinated care and support shall be offered to all bereaved families or carers in order to guide them through the child death review process, in addition to considering and supporting staff involved in the care of the child.

The Child Death partners for Plymouth and Torbay, in agreement with partners from other local authority areas, already have effective South West Peninsula CDOP arrangements in place. The Child Death Review structures and processes shall be modelled on this current Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) framework. The framework covers a child population such that it can typically review at least 60 child deaths per year, and outlines the structure and processes to review deaths of all children normally resident in the South West Peninsula and the deaths of children not normally resident in the area, but who have died there. The South West Peninsula covers the geographical areas of Devon, Plymouth, Torbay, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly.

All local organisations or individual practitioners that have had involvement in the case should co-operate as appropriate in the child death review process and keep the child and family at the centre of their discussions. All local organisations or individual practitioners should also have regard to any guidance on child death reviews issues by Government.

Full details of Child Death Review arrangements can be found at Appendix 3.

FUNDING

Funding arrangements for the respective Plymouth and Torbay LSCBs have been agreed for 2019/2020, and pooled funding comprises of:

- Contributions by partner organisations at the same level as previously provided to the respective LSCBs
- Use of funding reserve available to the Plymouth LSCB for period 2019/2020
- Accommodation, IT, legal and communication services provided by Plymouth and Torbay Councils
- In-kind funding and contribution from partners and organisations.

The safeguarding partners are reviewing the funding arrangements and are considering future mutual resourcing requirements. They will collaborate and agree the level of funding to be provided by each safeguarding partner and any contributions (direct or in-kind) from relevant agencies. Funding shall be equitable and proportionate and will be published within the PTJSSP annual report.

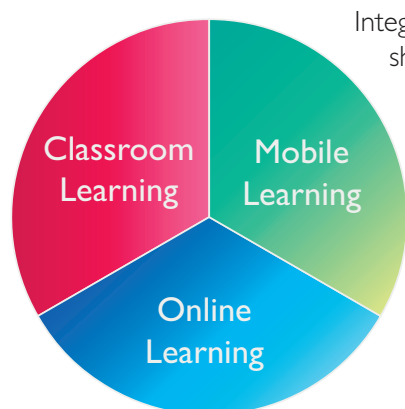


LEARNING, TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Multi-agency training is essential for an effective and experienced workforce (within universal and specialist services) who can improve outcomes for children and young people. A multi-agency workforce must be able to understand their role in identifying emerging problems, and share information with other practitioners to support early identification and assessment of need. By widening geographical sight to Plymouth and Torbay the safeguarding partners can better promote joint working, and support the development of a skilled, knowledgeable and confident workforce capable of working beyond the confines of geographical boundary and sectors.

The safeguarding partners shall amalgamate and enhance the programme of multi-agency training currently provided by the respective Plymouth and Torbay LSCBs. The PTSSJP Joint Workforce Development Board shall determine and provide blended multi-agency learning which combines online educational materials, opportunities for real-time interaction online as well as traditional based classroom methods. To present contemporary thinking and best practice the training offer shall reflect lessons from child safeguarding practice reviews, outcomes of national enquiries, government guidance, local single and multi-agency audits, and local intelligence and themes.

Training shall draw upon and harness the existing knowledge and expertise of our professionals within Plymouth and Torbay to develop a sustainable training pool of practitioners.



Integral to the success of our multi-agency learning shall be its participative approach with children and young people who are our experts in and by experience. The Local Safeguarding Partnership's Children and Young People Groups shall link in with the Joint Workforce Development Board to ensure that they are involved in the design and delivery of multi-agency training.

The Joint Workforce Development Board shall hold oversight of the multi-agency training provision and provide learnings activities which include:



Core Training Programmes shall be Level 3 delivery and be targeted at practitioners who:

- are in regular contact with children, young people, families and/or their parents/carers (these are people who will be in a position to identify when there is a concern about the welfare of a child/young person)
- work regularly with children, young people and their parents/carers (these are professionals who may be directly involved in making referrals, identifying and assessing concerns, and planning and review)
- have particular responsibility for safeguarding children which is part of their day to day work (these are the professionals who will be directly involved in making section 47 enquiries or working with complex cases)
- have managerial responsibility or are directly responsible at an operational level such as recruitment of staff, managing teams and planning and decision making, including members of the Local Safeguarding Partnerships
- have strategic management responsibility for commissioning and delivering children's services, or policy formulation and decision making.

The Joint Workforce Development Board will commission training evaluation which shall include feedback on the day itself and a measure of impact upon professional practice three months following the training event. The focus of the evaluation will be on the extent to which training is contributing to improving the knowledge and skills of the workforce with regard to working together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Evaluation shall include the following:

- the impact on practice and outcomes for children
- the impact on working together and inter-professional relationships
- relevance, currency and accuracy of course content
- quality of training delivery.

The Joint Workforce Development Board shall commission a report on the impact of the partnerships' training activity twice a year which shall be presented to the PTJSSP.

MEASURING SUCCESS

Successful multi-agency safeguarding arrangements will be dependent upon the safeguarding partners having a clear line of sight on both the operational and the strategic response locally. The safeguarding partners and its agencies need to know the quality of their frontline practice and understand the experiences of children and their families. Arrangements must provide an environment in which multi-agency working can flourish, increase understanding of local need, and better use information to protect children and young people.

The PTJSSP Joint Quality Assurance Board shall provide a robust system to monitor and evaluate the work and progress of the PTJSSP, and the experience of children and young people. It will promote a culture of scrutiny and constructive challenge to maintain a focus on the right issues at the right time.

The Joint Quality Assurance Board shall be chaired by the Independent Quality Assurer and will gather and examine a range of information from a variety of sources. It shall bring together the views of children young people and their families, and our professionals, to assess and inform the delivery and future development of safeguarding leadership, systems and services to improve impacts and outcomes for children and young people.

There is a wealth of information on quality assurance available within Plymouth and Torbay partner agencies and their systems. This information will be drawn into a PTJSSP Performance Data Set. In addition there are a number of other organisational and partnership activities that contribute directly to quality assurance of safeguarding and provide a clear line of sight into practice:



Scrutiny Reviews will provide a mechanism for the PTJSSP, overseen by the Independent Quality Assurer, to seek assurance from agencies that they are improving safeguarding practice, and promoting the welfare of children. The review seeks to identify where practice or service delivery needs improvement, and recognise and highlight areas of excellent practice and to consider where this can be disseminated and/or adopted more widely across multi-agency working.

Multi-agency audits provide rigorous challenge and promote action planning for improvement. Examples include Section 11 Children Act 2004 Audits, and SI 75/157 Education Act 2002 Audits.

External peer reviews are commissioned by single agencies and often identify safeguarding strengths and development areas succinctly, crystallising and articulating key messages. The Joint Quality Assurance Board will harness assurance from such reviews and secure oversight of delivery of improvement planning.

Inspection feedback can provide valuable insight into the quality and delivery of safeguarding practice and the outcomes agencies are delivering to children and young people. The Joint Quality Assurance Board shall seek assurance of single agency action plans arising from inspection activity, and assurance as to their delivery and impact. Inspections include single agency frameworks, e.g. Ofsted, HMIC, CQC and joint targeted inspections, i.e. JTAI.

Child safeguarding practice reviews, local management reviews and findings from the Child Death Overview Panel identify learning in respect of single agency or partnership working and can contribute to the question of "how safe and effective are our safeguarding services and arrangements?"

Research will also aid the Joint Quality Assurance Board to have oversight of, or detailed focus upon, key national, regional and local contexts which inform its quality assurance and learning improvement frameworks.

The Independent Quality Assurer shall ensure learning is identified and disseminated as quickly as is possible through the Joint Workforce Development Group. The Joint Workforce Development Group shall evidence the impact of learning on practice improvement and outcomes and share its findings to the Joint Quality Assurance Group.

The Joint Quality Assurance Board shall commission a report on the impact of the partnerships' quality assurance activity, its finding and measurement of success, twice a year which shall be presented to the PTJSSP. The report shall measure success by using the learning and improvement cycle.

LEARNING AND IMPROVEMENT CYCLE



THRESHOLDS

WTG 18 requires the safeguarding partners to publish a thresholds document which sets out the local criteria for action in a way which is transparent, accessible and easily understood. This should include:

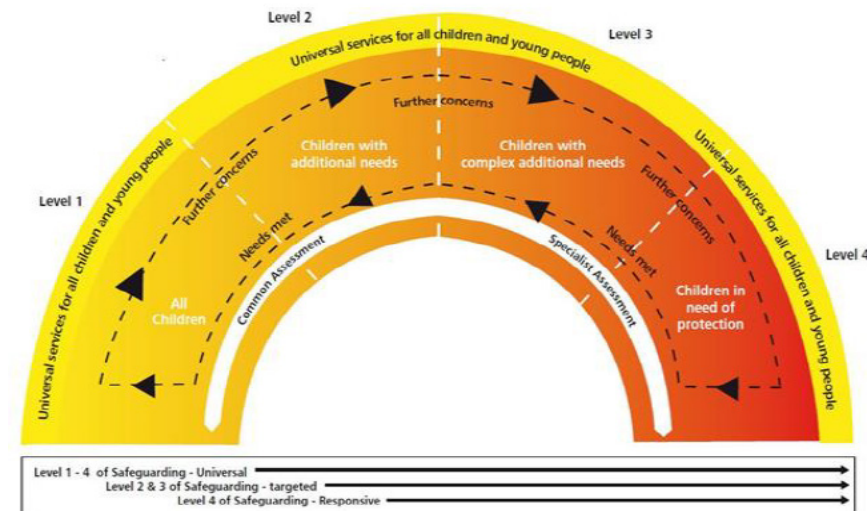
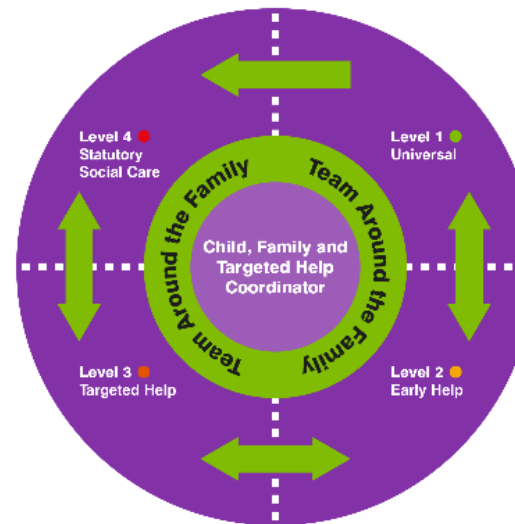
1. The process for the early help assessment, and the type and level of early help services to be provided
2. The criteria, including the level of need, for when a case should be referred to local authority children's social care for assessment and for statutory services under:
 - Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 (children in need)
 - Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 (reasonable cause to suspect a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm)
 - Section 31 of the Children Act 1989 (care and supervision orders)
 - Section 20 of the Children Act 1989 (duty to accommodate a child)
3. Clear procedures and processes for cases relating to:
 - the abuse, neglect and exploitation of children
 - children managed within the youth secure estate
 - disabled children.

The PTJSSP shall adopt and maintain the existing and respective thresholds within Plymouth and Torbay.

It is the aspiration of the PTJSSP to develop a joint online and interactive threshold tool for use across Plymouth and Torbay via the Joint Quality Assurance and Joint Workforce Development Boards. Work upon such a threshold document will commence following implementation of these new arrangements.

Plymouth thresholds can be located at www.plymouthscb.co.uk/plymouth-assessment-framework/

Torbay thresholds can be located at www.torbaysafeguarding.org.uk/toolkit/



RESOLVING PROFESSIONAL DIFFERENCES

Safeguarding Partners

There exists very good working relationships amongst the safeguarding partners and the relevant agencies. In the event of disagreement amongst the three safeguarding partners they shall use their best endeavours to resolve them within their strategic meetings. Advice can be sought from the Independent Quality Assurer. In the event that disagreement remains the Accountable Officer of NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group shall determine the actions to be taken and the timetable in which to resolve the same following consultation with the Chief Executives of Plymouth and Torbay Local Authorities, and the Assistant Chief Constable of Devon & Cornwall Police.

Professionals Escalation and Resolution Policy

During the transition period the existing and respective escalation and resolution policies within Plymouth and Torbay shall be maintained.

Plymouth's Professional Escalation and Resolution Policy can be found at:
www.plymouthscb.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/2019-04-23-PSCB-Escalation-FINAL.pdf

Torbay's Professional Differences (Escalation) Policy can be found at
www.torbaysafeguarding.org.uk/media/1164/professional-differences-escalation-policy-august-2014-v2.pdf

It is the aspiration of the PTJSSP to develop a single Professionals Escalation and Resolution Policy for consistent and uniformed use across Plymouth and Torbay via the Joint Quality Assurance and Joint Workforce Development Boards. Work upon such policy will commence following implementation of these new arrangements.

TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

Transitional arrangements are in place as per the Working Together: transitional guidance July 2018.

The current Plymouth and Torbay Local Safeguarding Children Boards will continue as the statutory bodies overseeing safeguarding arrangements, including the commissioning and oversight of serious case reviews, until the new arrangements come into force on 29 September 2019. Subject to the Grace Period set out below, the Plymouth and Torbay Local Safeguarding Children Boards will stand down at midnight on 28 September 2019 whereupon these new arrangements will come into force, and the three safeguarding partners shall assume statutory responsibility.

The safeguarding partners will publish a local transition plan, to secure implementation in readiness for 29 September 2019.

Grace Period

For clarity, some Serious Case Reviews (SCRS) may not have completed and/or been published by 29 September 2019. Where this is the case the transitional arrangements allow both Plymouth and Torbay LSCBs to continue for a grace period of a maximum of 12 additional months from that point to complete and publish those SCRS. During this grace period neither LSCB may commission new SCRS. LSCBs must also pass onto the PTJSSP any information relating to learning arising from such SCRs (including where these are still in progress), so that the safeguarding partners can consider follow-up actions as appropriate.

If an SCR is not completed or not published by the end of the Grace Period the LSCB concerned must pass the complete but unpublished SCR, or where it has not been completed all information relating to the review (which shall include the learning arising from it), to the safeguarding partners, the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and the Department for Education.



APPENDIX I

RELEVANT AGENCIES

The three safeguarding partners must set out how they will work together with any Relevant Agencies. Relevant Agencies are those organisations and agencies whose involvement the safeguarding partners consider may be required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children with regard to local need.

The list of relevant agencies is set out in the Child Safeguarding Practice Review and Relevant Agency (England) Regulations 2018. Many agencies and organisations play a crucial role in safeguarding children. Safeguarding partners may include any local or national organisation or agency in their arrangements, regardless of whether they are named in relevant agency regulations.

The following have been chosen because of their key role in safeguarding children and young people in Plymouth and Torbay.

Educational and Childcare

- All early year settings
- All children centres
- All primary education settings
- All secondary education settings
- All special education settings
- Pupil referral unit
- All independent education settings
- Universities
- Further Education colleges
- Private training providers
- Careers South West
- Language schools.

Health and Social Care

- NHS England
- NHS Hospital Trusts
- Public Health
- Livewell South West
- South West Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust
- Regional Adoption Agency
- Registered providers of fostering agencies

- Providers of private children's homes
- Providers of residential holiday schemes for disabled children.

Criminal Justice

- CAFCASS
- HM Prison and Probation Service
- Dorset, Devon and Cornwall Probation Services, part of KSS CRC Youth Offending Teams
- Office of Police & Crime Commissioner.

Police and Immigration

- British Transport Police
- Port Police Force
- Local Border Force/Customs & Excise.

Miscellaneous & Charitable

- Action 4 Children
- NSPCC
- Barnardo's
- Children's Society
- Young Devon
- British Red Cross

- Lay member
- Children & Young People member
- Drug and alcohol support services
- Domestic abuse services
- Community and Social Housing providers
- Sexual Assault Referral Centres
- Local Authority Commissioning
- Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Service
- Ministry of Defence (Royal Marine and Royal Navy Personnel).

Sports & Leisure

- The PTJSSP shall identify lead representation for Community Sports and Leisure Groups
- Plymouth Argyle Football Club
- Plymouth Albion Rugby Club
- Torquay United Football Club.

Community and Voluntary

- Plymouth Octopus Plus (POP+)
- Community Development Trust
- Asylum Seeker/Refugee support services
- Religious and faith groups.

APPENDIX 2

INITIAL MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

Joint Plymouth and Torbay Joint Strategic Safeguarding Partnership (PTJSSP)	
Chair: Rotation of Strategic Partners	
Partner	Representative
Plymouth City Council	Director of Children's Services
Torbay Council	Director of Children's Services
NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group	Director of Nursing/Executive Officer
Devon & Cornwall Police	Head of Public Protection BCU Commander
Independent	Independent Quality Assurer

PTJSSP Joint Workforce Development Board	
Chair: Rotation of representatives from three safeguarding partners	
Relevant Agency	Representative
Plymouth City Council	The PTJSSP shall agree core representatives from the relevant agencies and appoint the initial Chair.
Torbay Council	
NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group	
Primary Health Care Providers	
NHS Trusts	
Education	
Early Years	
Children & young persons' representative	
Community, Voluntary and Charitable Sector	

PTJSSP Joint Quality Assurance Board	
Chair: Independent Quality Assurer	
Relevant Agency	Representative
Plymouth City Council	The PTJSSP and Independent Quality Assurer shall agree core representatives from the relevant agencies. A Designated Doctor and Designated Nurse shall form part of the membership.
Torbay Council	
NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group	
Devon & Cornwall Police	
Primary Health Care Providers	
NHS Trust	
Education	
Early Years	
Children & young person's representative (care leaver)	
Public Health	
CAFCASS	
Youth Offending	
Community Voluntary & Charitable Sector	

PTJSSP Joint CDOP & Learning Review Board	
Chair: Independent Quality Assurer	
Relevant Agency	Representative
Plymouth City Council	The PTJSSP and Independent Quality Assurer shall agree core representatives from the relevant agencies. A Designated Doctor and Designated Nurse shall form part of the membership
Torbay Council	
NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group	
Devon & Cornwall Police	
Livewell SW CIC (CDOP Contract Manager)	
NHS England	
NHS Trusts	
Education	
Primary Health Care Providers	
Co-opted members according to nature of case/purpose of meeting.	

Plymouth Local Safeguarding Partnership	
Chair: Rotation of representatives	
Partner	Representative
Plymouth City Council	Associate Director of Children's Services
	Associate Director of Education, Participation and Skills
	Head of Service, Children, Young People & Families
	Head of Service, Early Help & MASH
	Principal Social Worker

Plymouth Local Safeguarding Partnership	
NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group	Senior Designated Safeguarding Lead (Plymouth)
Devon & Cornwall Police	Head of Public Protection Unit (Plymouth)
Independent	Lead Portfolio Holder
Child and Young Person Representative	Plymouth Young Safeguarder & representative from Participation Team
NHS England	Senior Safeguarding Lead
Public Health Helath	Director
Commissioning	Strategic Commissioning Manager
OPCC	Senior Safeguarding Lead
Plymouth University Hospital NHS Trust	Chief Nurse
Livewell SW CIC	Director of Professional Practice, Safety and Quality
HM Prisons and Probation	LDU Head Plymouth, Cornwall & Isles of Scilly LDU
Community Rehabilitation Company	Assistant Chief Officer
CAFCASS	Service Manager
Education	Lead Member(s) nominated from Education Reference Group
NSPCC	Strategic Service Manager
Barnardo's	Director
Action4Children	Director
Plymouth Octopus Project (POP+)	Chief Executive
Trauma Informed Network	Lead Member

Torbay Local Safeguarding Partnership	
Chair: Rotation of representatives	
Partner	Representative
Torbay Council	Associate Director of Children's Services
	Associate Director of Education, Participation and Skills
	Head of Service, Children, Young People & Families
	Head of Service, Early Help & MASH
	Principal Social Worker
NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group	Senior Designated Safeguarding Lead (Torbay)
Devon & Cornwall Police	Head of Public Protection Unit (Torbay)
Independent	Lead Portfolio Holder
Child and Young Person Representative	Torbay Young Safeguarder & representative from local Participation Team
NHS England	Senior Safeguarding Lead
Public Health	Director
Commissioning	Strategic Commissioning Manager (Torbay)
OPCC	Senior Safeguarding Lead
Torbay and South Devon Hospital NHS Trust	Chief Nurse
National Probation Service	Head of Devon and Torbay LDU
Community Rehabilitation Company	Assistant Chief Probation Officer
CAFCASS	Service Manager

Torbay Local Safeguarding Partnership	
Education	Lead Member(s) nominated from Education Reference Group
Action4Children	Children's Services Manager
Children's Society	Area Manager

APPENDIX 3 CHILD DEATH OVERVIEW PANEL ARRANGEMENTS



Child Death Review Arrangements for the South West Peninsula.

Introduction

Child Death Review partners are Local Authorities and any Clinical Commissioning Groups for the local areas as set out in the Children Act 2004, as amended by the Children and Social Work Act 2017.

Child Death Review partners must make arrangements to review all deaths of children normally resident in the local area and, if they consider it appropriate, for any non-resident child who has died in their area. Child Death Review partners for two or more local authority areas may combine and agree that their areas be treated as a single area for the purpose of undertaking child death reviews. Child Death Review partners must make arrangements for the analysis of information from all deaths reviewed. (Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018).

Child Death Review partners must publish their arrangements for child death as per the requirement set out in Working Together 2018.

CDR Arrangements

Across the area, local authorities and CCGs have come together to form the child death review arrangements for the South West Peninsula, using the existing Child Death Overview Panel framework.

Purpose of the arrangements

The child death review partners for the South West Peninsula understand that the death of a child is a devastating loss that profoundly affects bereaved parents as well as siblings, grandparents, extended family, friends and professionals who were involved in caring for the child in any capacity and also impacts on the wider community.

The partners' intention is to ensure that families experiencing such a tragedy within the South West Peninsula should be met with empathy and compassion. Families should receive clear and sensitive communication in order to understand what happened to their child and know that people will learn from what happened.

The partners fully understand the statutory obligations placed upon them and others. All agencies commissioned by Child Death Review partners, and involved in the child death review process, will work together throughout the process. This is for two main reasons:

1. To improve the experience of bereaved families, as well as professionals, after the death of a child
2. To ensure that information from the child death review process is systematically captured to enable local learning and, through the planned National Child Mortality Database, to identify learning at the national level, and inform changes in policy and practice at a regional and local level.



The members of the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) pledge to ensure that the child and family will remain at the centre of the final discussion. The process of expertly reviewing all children's deaths within the South West peninsula will always be grounded in a deep respect for the rights of children and their families, with the intention of facilitating maximum learning in order to prevent future child deaths.

The geographical area and the child death review partners

The area covered is

- Devon (including Plymouth and Torbay)
- Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

Partners responsible for Child Death Review across this geographical area are:

- Cornwall Council
- Council of the Isles of Scilly
- Devon County Council
- Plymouth County Council
- Torbay Council
- NHS Devon CCG
- NHS Kernow CCG

Arrangements in place will ensure that all new requirements as set out in child death review: statutory and operational guidance (England) are met, this includes for example the functions of CDOP, panel responsibilities and membership, and a geographical area large enough to ensure the review of a minimum of 60 deaths per year.

Funding arrangements

Child Death Review Partners have financial arrangements in place to fund arrangements across the area.

Accountable Officials

Each organisation has named accountable officials for Child Death Review and in Plymouth and Torbay these are:

Organisation	Position	Named person
Plymouth City Council	Local Authority Chief Executive	Tracey Lee
Torbay Council	Local Authority Chief Executive	Steve Parrock
NHS Devon CCG	Accountable Officer of the Clinical Commissioning Group	Simon Tapley

Designated Doctor

The Designated Doctor for child deaths across the south west peninsula is Roger Jenkins.

Other sources of information

This document is to be read alongside the South West Peninsula Child Death Review arrangements 2019 flowchart.

Relevant legislation and guidance for child death review is as follows:

Children Act 20014

Children and Social Work act 2017

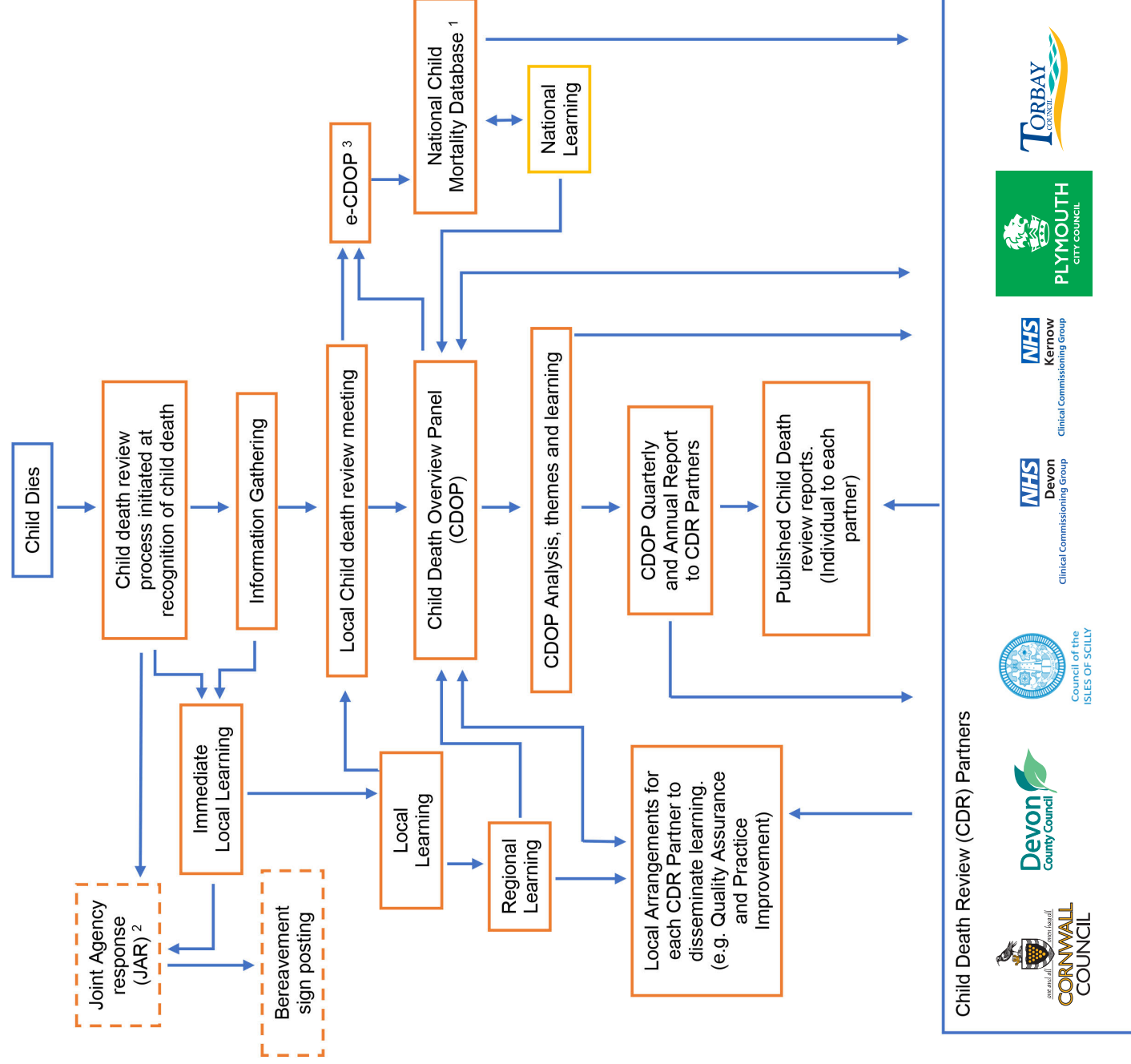
Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018

Sudden and Unexpected Death in Infancy and Childhood: multiagency guidelines for care and investigation (2016)

Child Death Review: statutory and operational guidance (England)

Child Death Review – Guide for parents and carers:

South West Peninsula Child Death Review Arrangements 2019 Flowchart



Key:

¹ NCMD - The National Child Mortality Database (NCMD) is a repository of data relating to all children's deaths in England.

² JAR - A coordinated multi-agency response is triggered in certain circumstances. More details [here](#).

³ e-CDOP -Online recording, casework and reporting system for child deaths.



For further information please contact
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pscb@plymouth.gov.uk