

DISCHARGE OF DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL'S STATUTORY SAFEGUARDING RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE NEW CHILDRENS PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS

Report of the Chief Officer for Childrens Services

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Cabinet (and confirmation under the provisions of the Council's Constitution) before taking effect.

Recommendation: Cabinet endorses that Devon County Council's statutory safeguarding responsibilities are discharged through the new children's partnership governance structure, as set out in this report

~~~~~

#### 1. Background

In May 2016 the government published the [Wood Review of Local Safeguarding Children Boards](#) (LSCB). The review recognised some of the challenges and limitations of LSCBs and made a series of recommendations to transform children's partnership working. The recommendations were all accepted by government and enacted through the Children and Social Work (CSW) Act which was granted Royal Assent on the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2017. Detailed revisions to existing national guidance and regulation in order to implement the CSW Act will follow.

The Member decision "Approval of the restructure of Devon's Children Service's Governance" taken by the Cabinet Member for Children, School and Skills on the 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 paved the way for Devon becoming early adopters of the Wood review.

Devon's existing children's partnership structures – the Devon Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) and the Children, Young People and Families Alliance (the Alliance) - have been reviewed and a new streamlined partnership structure has been developed. The restructure seeks to strengthen partnership working in Devon, address the weaknesses identified locally and nationally and to do away with overlapping structures by merging the functions of the DSCB and the Alliance. The new structure incorporates the statutory requirements for Devon to have an LSCB.

A summary of the proposed changes, agreed by partners, can be found in Appendix 1. Partners are taking the proposed changes through their respective governance systems.

The changes capture both the spirit and the detail of the Wood Review and its recommendations. The main changes include;

- Assign stronger leadership responsibility to three key partners, health, police and local authority. Responsibility previously has rested with the local authority.
- Separate more clearly the coordination and monitoring functions of LSCB and deploy the role of the independent chair purposefully in monitoring and quality

assurance, locating the coordinating function with the statutory Director of Children's Services.

- Locate responsibility for all children within the partnership, balancing well-being (universal), safeguarding (targeted) and protection (specialist).

The new partnership, which will be called ***The Devon Children and Families Partnership***, will be operational from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017. The partnership executive will have its first meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017. A new Children Plan will be developed during the course of 2017 to set the priorities for the new partnership. In the interim a one year delivery plan has been adopted by the partnership.

## **2. Proposal**

The purpose of this report is for Cabinet to satisfy itself that Devon County Council (DCC) has adequately discharged its statutory safeguarding responsibilities through the new children's partnership structure.

The key issue that Cabinet is asked to take a view on is the partnership's intention to innovate in advance of the government issuing its detailed guidance. The current statutory functions of the LSCB, which we retain until such time as they are withdrawn by revised guidance and regulation, will be discharged by the new partnership. Appendix A of the document attached details the LSCB requirements and how they are met under the new partnership arrangements.

Devon's ambition to be at the forefront of partnership developments is entirely in line with government's wish for Local Government to show more initiative and innovate more and entirely coherent with the need to galvanise partnership working locally.

It is therefore recommended that Cabinet endorses that it is satisfied that Devon County Council's current LSCB statutory duties are discharged through the new partnership arrangements.

## **Alternatives**

We could delay making change until we are required to do so by revised government guidance. This is however not recommended for the following reasons;

- The DSCB has made significant change already to address the findings of the Ofsted inspection.
- All partners are struggling to service two partnerships and have a reasonable expectation that we should rationalise wherever we can to ensure resources are deployed optimally and not unnecessarily diverted from frontline activity.
- Good and outstanding Children's Services are leaders and innovate. The political expectation is unequivocal, we want good children's services in Devon. Therefore we have to take the opportunities to innovate when they arise.
- We have sounded out our plans with DfE and with Ofsted; neither will commit to endorsement of course but both note with interest what we are doing and the potential for helpful national learning.
- All partners have been fully involved in the process to restructure the children's partnership.

### **Financial Considerations**

Costs will be met within existing allocated resources.

### **Equality Considerations**

Good outcomes for children, especially for the most vulnerable, depend upon high quality partnership working at the frontline, in operations management and in strategic leadership. These changes are expected to strengthen partnership which will in turn lead to improved outcomes for children, especially the most disadvantaged. The proposals are expected to have a positive equalities impact.

A full equality impact assessment will be carried out in respect to the forthcoming Children's Plan which will set out the priorities for the new partnership.

### **Legal Considerations**

The lawful implications of the proposals have been considered and taken into account in the preparation of this report.

### **Risk Management Considerations**

This proposal has been assessed and is judged low risk.

### **Public Health Impact**

Focusing on children and strengthening the arrangements that are designed to improve outcomes for all children and those that are more vulnerable will have a positive public health impact.

### **Conclusions**

Stronger and more effective partnership improves outcomes for children and will provide evidence to support the judgement that leadership and governance of children's services in Devon is good.

**Electoral Divisions:** All

Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Skills: Councillor James McInnes

Chief Officer: Jo Olsson

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972: LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

#### ***Contact for Enquiries:***

Jo Olsson, Chief Officer of Childrens Services

Email: [jo.olsson@devon.gov.uk](mailto:jo.olsson@devon.gov.uk)

Tel No: 01392 383212

Room: 136

## Appendix 1

### A Summary of Changes in Partnership Arrangements for Services to Children

#### 1. Introduction

This paper summarises some significant and innovative changes to the partnership arrangements for the delivery and scrutiny of services to children, young people and their families that are being planned across Devon. It gives an overview of these changes and there are a considerable number of supporting documents that set out the detail beneath them.

These changes have been driven by some key principles:

- Partners are committed to ‘good’ safeguarding services for children in Devon and an inadequate or Requires Improvement judgement is unsatisfactory. Doing more of the same is not enough to bring about the accelerated improvement that is required to achieve our shared ambitions.
- The ability to be stream lined, light on our feet, react quickly to change was hampered by a shared view that there were simply too many meetings in the system, often populated by too many people
- That our arrangements were not properly responding to the complexities of agency arrangements in the area – one large County, two unitary councils, district councils, two CCGs, a number of health providers, a police force that covers four authorities and schools increasingly forming their own partnerships and alignments
- That there was a lack of creativity and innovation in service development across the County
- Partnership culture was characterised as too passive and too polite
- The DSCB had been judged ‘inadequate’ by Ofsted in its inspection of March 2015 and there remains a shared view that challenge and scrutiny within and across the system remains under developed
- The Children’s Alliance was not seen to be as effective as it could be, nor was it actively leading the system as it needed to
- Partner agencies duties to work together to commission and develop services and their duties to scrutinise and challenge each other had become somewhat entangled and neither was as effective as is needed
- In September 2016 DCC moved to appoint a dedicated DCS to generate added and dedicated leadership into the County, a new Chair of DSCB was appointed in January 2016, and a strengthened Locality based model is planned and will come into being in April 2017

Coincidentally, the Wood Review of LSCBs and some of their core functions was commissioned by the DfE and findings were reported back to the Department in April 2016. These findings were accepted in their entirety by the Government and are now being enacted through the ‘Children and Social Work Bill’ which is currently in its third reading and heading for Royal assent imminently.

The Wood’s review looked at the role and functioning of Serious Case Reviews, the Child Death Overview functions, and, most importantly for this paper, the partnership arrangements needed to ensure effective safeguarding work in an area. In summary, these new arrangements are to consist of the Police, Health (through CCGs) and local authorities, each being invested with specific duties to secure safeguarding arrangements for

children and that those duties should attach to the senior leaders in each of the organisations – Chief Constables, Chief Executives, Chief Operating Officers etc. Those agencies are to be charged to come together to set out how they will meet their responsibilities in their area – and how they do so will be a matter for them as long as it is effective and can stand external (including inspectorate) scrutiny. In implementing these changes, Government will remove the statutory requirement to have an LSCB and with it all its associated functions and duties.

It is expected that these changes will come into force early to mid-2018. The passing of the Bill sets out the framework – there will then be a period of consultation and negotiations on the detailed regulations and guidance needed (not least the re-writing of some elements of Working Together 2015) before the changes are to be enacted in local areas.

However, for all the reasons set out above, senior leaders in Devon have taken the view that an early adoption of the Wood recommendations provides a useful vehicle to drive through the raft of changes needed in the system across the County.

In so doing, Devon will be considerably ‘ahead of the game’ with these changes and it is likely that they will attract some attention from others, including Government who will be interested in how the changes are working on the ground – it is to be expected that if they can be made to work here with the complexities of our local partnerships, then the view will be that they can work elsewhere. Taking this innovative step is something leaders are seeing as a positive cultural change in and of itself.

## **2. Progress to date:**

In September 2016, proposals from the Chief Officer Children’s Services and the Independent Safeguarding Board Chair were presented to a joint meeting of Alliance/DSCB Executives. These proposals outlined a new unified model of delivery across the partnership that encompassed both the commissioning and assurance functions of the local safeguarding children’s board (LSCB), under the leadership of 3 key partners – Local Authority, Health and Police - and did away with a number of the existing and time-draining bureaucratic processes currently in existence. A key component of the new model was the integration of the statutory LSCB functions, doing away with the current DSCB structure whilst ensuring that its statutory responsibilities continued to be fulfilled and retaining an independent scrutiny function.

Since December 2016, work has progressed on the re-design, identifying the proposed organisational structure and reallocating the LSCB ‘coordinating’ function to the new Partnership Executive (which replaces the Alliance Executive and Joint Commissioning Board). The critical LSCB ‘assurance’ function becomes the responsibility of the Quality Assurance group and its enabling subgroups, to manage the audit, organisational safeguarding and SCR aspects that inform the understanding of the effectiveness of safeguarding and child protection within services.

Partnership workshops have been held to agree the broad approach and a joint DSCB/Alliance Executives meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup> agreed the proposed structural shape to be implemented. In so doing, there was clear and unanimous agreement that changes in partnership arrangements and more effective service delivery to children and their families comes more from changing the partnership culture than from changing meeting structures. There will be, for example, a need for partners to be committed to the work of the various groups, even if they are not sitting around the table at the time; agencies will need to speak both for themselves but also to represent the views of others; that partnership meetings are part of each individual agency’s core business not an ‘add-on’; that challenge is dependent on the ability and willingness to act as critical friends and have difficult conversations with each other more than implementing a QA Framework – the structure set out in headline below needs to be understood as a means to those ends, not as an end in itself.

These new arrangements will be in place from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017.

## **3. The model**

There are available organograms which set out the detail of the new arrangements. Each of the groups below and the sub groups (not shown) have had terms of reference drafted which set out core purposes and responsibilities, chairing and membership and meeting frequency and reporting arrangements.

The structure is based around the construction of four key groups that will sit at the heart of these new arrangements:

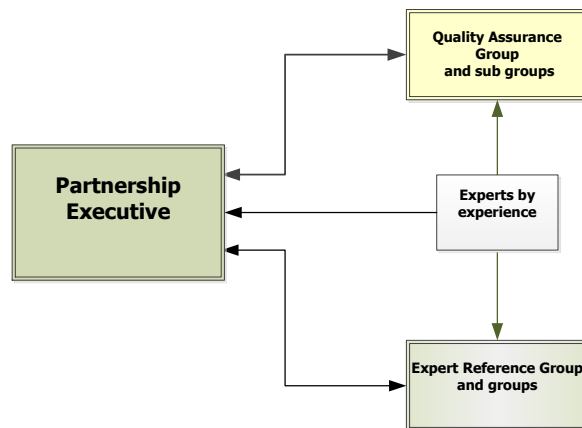


Figure 1: *Primary functions in new organisational structure*

- a) **Partnership Executive** – a focussed group of senior partners to oversee and ‘own’ the entire structure and to lead on the commissioning and development of services

Key Purposes:

- Provide leadership
- Co-ordinate safeguarding responsibilities
- Sets the vision & strategy
- Oversee delivery

- b) **Quality Assurance** - including sub groups; to provide the strategic oversight and coordination of a variety of assurance functions to ensure services are effectively safeguarding children.

Key Purpose

- To quality assure safeguarding across the partnership
- To set and drive the QA framework across the partnership
- To promote a culture of learning
- To oversee the completion and publication of Reviews

- c) **Expert Reference Group** - including all contributory groups.

Key purpose

- To represent Children’s organisations from across Devon
- To identify service requirements and priorities
- To identify front line practice concerns and barriers to effective safeguarding
- To coordinate annual Partnership Conference

- d) **Expert by Experience** – to ‘wrap around’ service provision, ensuring that all initiatives are sense-checked by those for whom the services have been developed.

Key purpose

- To provide a forum for Children & Young People to be heard
- To provide a venue for capturing the views of Parents/Carers
- To develop a co-production approach to both service development and challenge

#### 4. LSCB Responsibilities

The DSCB carries a number of statutory responsibilities under the Children Act, associated Regulations and outlined in Working Together guidelines. Until such time as the changes emanating from the Children and Social Work Bill and Wood Review are fully in place, those existing statutory duties will continue to be met and will be seen to be being met, not least by any of the core inspection agencies – Ofsted, CQC and HMIC.

#### 5. Next Steps:

The new partnership organisational structure, together with draft Terms of Reference for the four key groups, was presented to a meeting of Alliance and DSCB Executives on 21<sup>st</sup> March. DSCB Executive meetings in April and June will provide further opportunity to test the implications of proposed changes. It was agreed that all partners would present the proposals to their own internal safeguarding committees/boards for agreement and internal sign off, confirming that:

1. All DSCB statutory duties are covered and visible in proposals
2. All organisations' individual statutory duties relating to DSCB will be deliverable in the new arrangements
3. To agree to the launch of these new arrangements from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017

## Appendix A - Meeting LSCB requirements

### 1. Introduction:

- 1.1. The Devon Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) carries a number of statutory responsibilities under the Children Act, associated Regulations and as outlined in Working Together guidelines. The recent Alan Wood review made a number of recommendations for the disbanding of and relocating of Boards' responsibilities and the Government response has been to implement these recommendations through current legislative changes.
- 1.2. However, until new legislation is in place, the statutory responsibilities and obligations of the DSCB must be maintained. This paper identifies how those obligations will be met under the revised partnership structure.

### 2. Board Responsibilities – current requirement and future plan

- 2.1. The Children Act 2004 Section 13 - requires each local authority to establish an LSCB in its area and specifies representation by organisations/individuals, which are, for the most part, achieved under the current wider DSCB membership.

The government response to the Woods review states that arrangements should '*place a new requirement on three key partners, namely local authorities, the police and the health service, to make arrangements for working together in a local area. This would not change the existing statutory functions or duties on any of the agencies individually, but it will require more robust and much clearer arrangements to promote effective joint working, in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.*' In addition, '*place an expectation on schools and other relevant agencies involved in the protection of children, to co-operate with the new multi-agency arrangements*' with '*strong and effective arrangements for multi-agency cooperation*'.

Ofsted development areas included a recommendation for improved involvement with voluntary and community sector and faith sector and clarification of arrangements between strategic groups including Family Justice Board and Health & Well Being Board.

***Future plan: All current Board membership to be represented on Partnership Executive, Quality Assurance group or within the wider Expert Reference group.***

- 2.2. Set out in Section 14 of the Act, the objectives of LSCBs are:
  - (a) to coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area; and
  - (b) to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.The Government view is that new arrangements should provide '*greater flexibility in developing arrangements that respond to local need and in which agencies are better invested. That flexibility will enable joint identification of and response to existing and emerging needs and priorities and improve outcomes for children*'. The three key sectors will be required to establish governance arrangements, including the area/region covered; how they will work together with other agencies; a detailed plan which will be published; resourcing arrangements; how to ensure '*a strong degree of independent scrutiny of the arrangements*'.  
***Future plan: the coordination function of the LSCB will sit with the Partnership Executive, where these obligations will be addressed; the monitoring and assurance function of the LSCB sits with the Quality Assurance group.***
- 2.3. The functions of the LSCB are set out in Regulation 5 of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards Regulations 2006:



1(a) developing policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area of the authority, including policies and procedures in relation to:

- (i) the action to be taken where there are concerns about a child's safety or welfare, including thresholds for intervention;

***Future plan: Policy & Procedures group would be responsible for oversight of developing/agreeing/reviewing policies and procedures; consultation will be through the Expert Reference group network and signed off by Partnership.***

- (ii) training of persons who work with children or in services affecting the safety and welfare of children;

***Future plan: through the work of the Workforce development group***

- (iii) recruitment and supervision of persons who work with children;

***Future plan: through the work of the QA group***

- (iv) investigation of allegations concerning persons who work with children;

***Future plan: through the work of the LADO, provided to QA***

- (v) safety and welfare of children who are privately fostered;

***Future plan: through the work of the DCC, provided to QA***

- (vi) co-operation with neighbouring children's services authorities and their Board partners;

***Future plan: through the work of the QA group***

- (b) communicating to persons and bodies in the area of the authority the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, raising their awareness of how this can best be done and encouraging them to do so;

***Future plan: A new Communications group, supported by a Business Unit officer, would have responsibility for the Communications Strategy and for communicating both general (revised single website, newsletter) and specific information (publication of SCRs, campaigns etc.); reporting into the Partnership Executive.***

- (c) monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by the authority and their Board partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and advising them on ways to improve;

***Future plan: the responsibility of the QA group, reporting to the Partnership Executive***

- (d) participating in the planning of services for children in the area of the authority; and

***Future plan: the coordination and commissioning is the responsibility of the Partnership Executive, which will include the Independent Chair and which will respond to feedback and input from the QA group.***

- (e) undertaking reviews of serious cases and advising the authority and their Board partners on lessons to be learned.

***Future plan: case review will sit with SCR subgroup (see below) and QA will be responsible for the Learning and Improvement framework and for ensuring partners are aware of learning points and that a culture of continuous learning and improvement is promoted across the Partnership.***

2.4. Working Together 2015 clarifies that, in order to provide independent scrutiny, the LSCB must :

- maintain its independence and not be subordinate or subsumed within other local structures;
- have an independent chair who can hold all agencies to account, working closely with LSCB partners and especially the Director of Children's Services
- publish Annual Reports.

The Woods review states that new arrangements should retain Independent oversight '*ensuring any changes made to multi-agency arrangements for protecting children include a strengthening of the independent element in the leadership and scrutiny...*'

***Future plan: independent scrutiny will be retained at QA level, with the Independent Chair as the chair of that group; the Independent Chair is also the co-chair of the Partnership Executive and holds partners to account in PE & QA. The Partnership Executive and QA group retain responsibility for the publication of an annual report.***

2.5. Regulations 5 includes the requirement for LSCBs to undertake reviews of serious cases in specified circumstances. In order to fulfil its statutory functions under regulation 5, Working Together clarifies that an LSCB should use data and, as a minimum, should:

- assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help;
- assess whether LSCB partners are fulfilling their statutory organisational responsibilities (as set out in Chapter 2 WT 2015)
- quality assure practice, including through joint audits of case files involving practitioners and identifying lessons to be learned; and
- monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of training, including multi-agency training, to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Local authorities and Board partners should provide the LSCB with data to enable it to fulfil these statutory functions effectively.

The Ofsted report highlighted the need to ‘*Review governance arrangements for Serious Case Reviews to ensure tighter management, accountability and urgency in learning and implementing lessons*’.

Additionally, under new arrangements the Government proposes ‘*replacing existing SCR system with a new national learning framework for inquiries into child deaths and cases where children have experienced serious harm*’.

***Future plan:***

***The SCR subgroup, reporting to QA, will retain responsibility for review of cases, implementing, commissioning and supervising quality and timeliness of SCRs and for communications with the National Panel. The SCR subgroup would take forward new arrangements, when implemented, with the support of QA.***

***The QA groups will have two groups reporting into it:***

- a) Case audit and review group – outcomes for children; multi-agency audit cycle; case examples***
- b) Safeguarding effectiveness group – strengths of individual agencies; of the partnership; information from walkabouts;***

***The Workforce development group, linking to QA and to the Expert Reference group, will continue to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of training including the impact on practice.***

***All Board partners will be asked to contribute performance data to the QA group for the fulfilment of its responsibilities.***

2.6. Regulation 5(3) provides that an LSCB may also engage in any other activity that facilitates, or is conducive to, the achievement of its objectives. The annual report must reflect:

- Regular assessments on the effectiveness of Board partners’ responses to child sexual exploitation, including the outcome of these assessments, with an analysis of how the LSCB partners have used their data to promote service improvement for vulnerable children and families, including in respect of sexual abuse.
- Appropriate data on children missing from care, and how the LSCB is addressing the issue.
- Where the LSCB has a secure establishment within its area, a review of the use of restraint within that establishment and the findings of the review to be reported to the Youth Justice Board.

The Annual report should also include information on contributions made to the LSCB by partner agencies and details of what the LSCB has spent, including on Child Death Reviews, Serious Case Reviews and other specific expenditure such as learning events or training .

The Ofsted report stated that the Board should have '*effective oversight of arrangements to understand and prevent harm to missing children or those at risk of child sexual exploitation*' and highlighted the need for strategic plans for domestic abuse and neglect to be in place and monitored.

***Future plan: The Partnership Executive and QA group retain responsibility for the publication of an annual report, with information to be provided by the Partnership members. The Complex Safeguarding group will be responsible for providing collated information from partners regarding CSE, Missing Children, Neglect and the other safeguarding areas covered by that group.***

- 2.7. LSCBs have a specific role in supporting information sharing between and within organisations and addressing any barriers to information , including ensuring that a culture of information sharing is developed and supported as necessary by multi-agency training.

***Future plan: The Partnership Executive will have responsibility for the review of existing Information Sharing agreements to ensure a Devon wide agreement which can be integrated into the commissioning process. Consultation on this agreement through the Expert Reference group network and signed off by Partnership Executive.***

- 2.8. Regulations 6 relates to the LSCB Child Death functions

The LSCB is responsible for ensuring that a review of each death of a child normally resident in the LSCB's area is undertaken by a CDOP, which will have a fixed core membership drawn from organisations represented on the LSCB. The Independent Chair is responsible for deciding on the designated person to whom the death notification and other data on each death should be sent.

Regulation 6 of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards Regulations 2006, specifies that the LSCB is responsible for:

- a) collecting and analysing information about each death with a view to identifying:
  - i) any case giving rise to the need for a Serious Case Review
  - ii) any matters of concern affecting the safety and welfare of children in the area of the authority;
  - iii) any wider public health or safety concerns arising from a particular death or from a pattern of deaths in that area; and
- (b) putting in place procedures for ensuring that there is a coordinated response by the authority, their Board partners and other relevant persons to an unexpected death.

The Government agreed with the Woods recommendation that states '*child death reviews should continue to be hosted within local multi-agency arrangements but CDOPs should be hosted within the NHS; ownership of the arrangements for supporting CDOPs should move to the D of H*'.

***Future Plan: The peninsular CDOP will remain in place and the peninsular Independent Chairs meeting considers matters arising from CDOP reviews. An annual CDOP report will be submitted to the Partnership Executive, who will appropriately implement any recommendations or actions.***

***QA to review the Rapid Response service within the audit cycle, against statutory requirements.***

### 3. Outline LSCB business plan (Appendix 1)

### 4. Recommendations

- To consider the proposal and confirm whether, as a Board member, your organisation is satisfied that the LSCB requirements are met under the revised structure.

## Appendix 1 - Draft Business Plan for meeting LSCB responsibilities under the new organisational structure

| link to paper | Group and Area of Responsibility:                                                               | Action:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Lead:                                                   | Accountability to:      |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
|               | <b>Partnership Executive (PE)</b>                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                         |                         |
| 2.2 (a)       | Statutory Board partners and relevant persons and bodies                                        | <b>PE 1.</b> LSCB membership requirements - all current membership to be represented on Partnership Executive, Quality Assurance group or within the wider Expert Reference Group                                                      | PE Chair and Independent co-chair                       | Chief Exec and Scrutiny |
| 2.2 (b)       | Statutory Board partners and relevant persons and bodies                                        | <b>PE 2.</b> Relationship with partners - Relationships between Partnership Executive and Safer Devon Partnership, Health and Wellbeing Board, Family Justice Board, Safeguarding Adults Board and Corporate Parent will be formalised | PE Chair and Independent co-chair<br>Terms of Reference | Chief Exec and Scrutiny |
| 2.4 (a)       | Developing policies and procedures                                                              | <b>PE 3.</b> policy and procedures sign off                                                                                                                                                                                            | PE Chair                                                | Chief Exec and Scrutiny |
| 2.4 (d)       | Coordination for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area | <b>PE 4.</b> the coordination and commissioning function of the LSCB                                                                                                                                                                   | PE Chair                                                | Chief Exec and Scrutiny |
| 2.5 (c)       | publishing annual report                                                                        | <b>PE 5.</b> responsibility for the publication of an annual report.                                                                                                                                                                   | PE Chair                                                | Chief Exec and Scrutiny |
| 2.8           | Review of policies and procedures                                                               | <b>PE 6.</b> sign off Information Sharing agreement                                                                                                                                                                                    | PE Chair                                                | Chief Exec and Scrutiny |
|               | <b>Quality Assurance (QA)</b>                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                         |                         |
| 2.2 (a)       | Statutory Board partners and relevant persons and bodies                                        | <b>QA 1.</b> LSCB membership requirements - all current membership to be represented on Partnership Executive, Quality Assurance group or within the wider Expert Reference Group                                                      | Independent Chair QA                                    | PE                      |
| 2.4 (c)       | Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by the authority and partners       | <b>QA 2.</b> the monitoring and assurance function                                                                                                                                                                                     | Independent Chair QA                                    | PE                      |

|                      |                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                    |                      |                             |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2.5 (a)              | Maintaining independent scrutiny                                                     | <b>QA 3.</b> independent scrutiny will be retained at QA level, with the Independent Chair as the chair of that group                                                              | Independent Chair QA | Chief Exec and Scrutiny     |
| <b>Link to paper</b> | <b>Group and Area of Responsibility:</b>                                             | <b>Action:</b>                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>Lead:</b>         | <b>Accountability to:</b>   |
| 2.5 (b)              | holding agencies to account                                                          | <b>QA 4.</b> Independent Chair is also the co-chair of the Partnership Executive and will hold partners to account there and through QA activities                                 | Independent Chair QA | Chief Exec and Scrutiny     |
| 2.5 (c)              | publishing annual report                                                             | <b>QA 5.</b> responsibility for the publication of an annual report.                                                                                                               | Independent Chair QA | PE, Chief Exec and Scrutiny |
| 2.6 (b)              | using data to assess the effectiveness of help provided to children and families     | <b>QA 6.</b> quality assuring practice and auditing (work of CA & Review subgroup)                                                                                                 | Independent Chair QA | Chief Exec and Scrutiny     |
| 2.6 (b)              | using data to assess the effectiveness of help provided to children and families     | <b>QA 7.</b> assessing organisational safeguarding responsibilities (work of SE subgroup)                                                                                          | Independent Chair QA | Chief Exec and Scrutiny     |
| 2.7 (c)              | Review of the use of restraint within secure establishments                          | <b>QA 8.</b> a review of the use of restraint within local secure establishments and the findings of the review to be reported to the Youth Justice Board.                         | Independent Chair QA | PE and YJB                  |
| 2.9 (b)              | Implementing procedures to ensure a coordinated response to unexpected child deaths. | <b>QA 9.</b> a review within audit cycle, and against statutory requirements, of the Rapid Response service.                                                                       | Independent Chair QA | PE, Chief Exec and Scrutiny |
|                      | <b>Expert Reference Group (ERG)</b>                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                    |                      |                             |
| 2.2 (a)              | Statutory Board partners and relevant persons and bodies                             | <b>ERG 1.</b> LSCB membership requirements - all current membership to be represented on Partnership Executive, Quality Assurance group or within the wider Expert Reference Group | ERG Chair            | PE                          |

|                      |                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                              |              |                             |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| 2.4 (a)              | Developing policies and procedures                                               | <b>ERG 2.</b> consultation through the Expert Reference group network                                                                                                        | ERG Chair    | PE (via Chairs pre-meeting) |
| 2.6 (b)              | using data to assess the effectiveness of help provided to children and families | <b>ERG 3.</b> All Board partners responsibility to contribute performance data to the QA group as requested                                                                  | all partners | QA                          |
| <b>Link to paper</b> | <b>Group and Area of Responsibility:</b>                                         | <b>Action:</b>                                                                                                                                                               | <b>Lead:</b> | <b>Accountability to:</b>   |
| 2.8                  | Review of policies and procedures                                                | <b>ERG 4.</b> consultation on Information Sharing agreement review through the Expert Reference group network                                                                | ERG Chair    | PE (via Chairs pre-meeting) |
|                      | <b>SCR subgroup (SCR)</b>                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                              |              |                             |
| 2.4 (d)<br>2.6 (a)   | Undertaking reviews of serious cases and advising on lessons to be learned       | <b>SCR 1.</b> responsibility for review of cases, implementing, commissioning and supervising quality and timeliness of SCRs and for communications with the National Panel. | SCR Chair    | QA                          |
|                      | <b>Case Audit &amp; Review (CA&amp;R)</b>                                        |                                                                                                                                                                              |              |                             |
| 2.6 (b)              | using data to assess the effectiveness of help provided to children and families | <b>CA&amp;R 1.</b> quality assuring practice and auditing (work of CA & Review subgroup)                                                                                     | Chair CA&R   | QA                          |
|                      | <b>Safeguarding Effectiveness (SE)</b>                                           |                                                                                                                                                                              |              |                             |
| 2.6 (b)              | using data to assess the effectiveness of help provided to children and families | <b>SE 1.</b> assessing organisational safeguarding responsibilities (work of SE subgroup)                                                                                    | Chair SE     | QA                          |
|                      | <b>Policies and Procedures subgroup (P&amp;P)</b>                                |                                                                                                                                                                              |              |                             |
| 2.4 (a)              | Developing policies and procedures                                               | <b>P&amp;P 1.</b> responsible for oversight of developing/agreeing/reviewing policies and procedures                                                                         | P&P Chair    | PE (via Chairs pre-meeting) |

|         |                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |             |                             |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 2.8     | Review of policies and procedures                                       | <b>P&amp;P 2.</b> responsible for the review of existing Information Sharing agreements to ensure a Devon wide agreement which can be integrated into the commissioning process.                      | P&P Chair   | PE (via Chairs pre-meeting) |
|         | <b>Communications Group (Comms)</b>                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |             |                             |
| 2.4 (b) | Communicating the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children | <b>Comms 1.</b> responsibility for the Communications Strategy and for communicating both general (revised single website, newsletter) and specific information ( publication of SCRs, campaigns etc) | Comms Chair | PE (via Chairs pre-meeting) |

| Link to paper | Group and Area of Responsibility:                                                                          | Action:                                                                                                                                                                       | Lead: | Accountability to: |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------------------|
|               | <b>Complex Safeguarding Group (C S-G)</b>                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                               |       |                    |
| 2.7 (a)       | Regular assessments on the effectiveness of Board partners' responses to child sexual exploitation         | <b>CS-G 1.</b> The Complex Safeguarding group will provide information from partners regarding CSE through the work of the CSE subgroup                                       |       | QA                 |
| 2.7 (b)       | Appropriate data on children missing from care                                                             | <b>CS-G 2.</b> The Complex Safeguarding group will provide information from partners regarding missing children through the work of the CSE and missing in education subgroup |       | QA                 |
|               | <b>Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)</b>                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                               |       |                    |
| 2.9 (a)       | Collecting and analysing information about each death with a view to identifying trends and wider concerns | <b>CS-G 1.</b> The Complex Safeguarding group will provide information from partners regarding CSE through the work of the CSE subgroup                                       |       | QA                 |