

Greater Manchester

S A F E G U A R D I N G

Greater Manchester Safeguarding Children Partnership

Purpose

The purpose of the Greater Manchester Safeguarding Children Partnership is to ensure that, wherever it is possible, the delivery of safeguarding children across the 10 local authority areas is consistent and supports the continuation of improving practices. For all partner agencies there will be benefits from a consistent interface with Greater Manchester agencies leading to an increase in commonality of approach with resultant efficiencies and economies of scale.

The GMSCP will undertake developments and activities on behalf on the 10 LSCBs and produce an annual work plan. An agreed communication strategy will ensure formal reporting arrangements with the 10 LSCBs: this will consist of:

1. annual meeting with the chairpersons and business managers to review and develop the annual work plan
2. ½ yearly report on the work plan for the LSCBs
3. informal reporting to each LSCB from their member on the GMSCP

Membership

Membership will replicate the membership of local safeguarding children boards ensuring representation from all delivery agencies:

One representative from:

- Chairpersons of Local Safeguarding Children Boards
- Directors of Children's Services
- PCTs
- Acute Hospital Trusts
- Gt Manchester Police
- Gt Manchester Probation Service
- NCVCCO
- CAFCASS
- Adult mental health services
- Housing
- Leisure
- Coroner
- Crown Prosecution Service
- Drug and Alcohol Service [children & adults]
- Fire service
- Young Offenders' institutions

Co-opted members:

- Regional Safeguarding Adviser [GONW]
- Strategic Health Authority
- Gt Manchester Police Authority

Terms of reference

1. To produce common procedures, minimum standards and ensure common implementation.
2. To develop and keep updated a web site that:

- a. contains common procedures for agencies and for the public to access
 - b. has a secure discussion forum for the development of ideas, sharing concerns and good practice etc
 - c. has a secure section for sharing of SCRs
 - d. contains useful documents, guidances etc
 - e. reports developments – locally, sub regionally and nationally
 - f. offers local contact information
3. To promote and improve practices that are of a priority for LSCBs for example young women looked after and sexually exploited; developing a range of approaches, i.e. commissioning research; co-coordinating conferences; creating and delivering training programmes.
 4. To undertake publicity activities / public campaigns on behalf of the 10 LSCBs on emergent issues and where this is of benefit – issues of promotion and prevention for example:
 - a. low incidence and high impact e.g. dangerous dogs
 - b. promotion – sleeping with babies
 - c. young runaways being attracted to city centres
 5. To develop and implement specialist development programmes i.e. working with young sex offenders
 6. To develop shared outcomes and evaluation frameworks
 7. To coordinate and analyse child deaths information; SCRs etc and identify implications for local practice
 8. To facilitate a consistent approach to the undertaking of serious case reviews i.e. a pool of expertise; interpret practice improvements
 9. To support Greater Manchester safeguarding children groups and report on their work e.g.: designated doctors and nurses
 10. To support LSCBs in influencing their local Children & Young People Strategic Partnerships and Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships on safeguarding issues
 11. To liaise with the NW Regional Safeguarding Strategy Board on issues i.e.:
 - a. escalating incidents
 - b. draft national policies
 - c. local and sub regional obstacles

Constitution

Chairperson

The chairperson can be a member of the group and elected by the group or an independently appointed person i.e.: CE of LA or PCT. Maximum term of office is 3 years.

Personal requirements: excellent chairing skills; awareness of safeguarding children and experienced in multi agency professional working

Vice Chairperson

The vice chairperson is to be a member of the group and elected by the group: term of office no longer than 3 years [period should not mirror the chair's tenure]

Personal requirements: if the chairperson is independent then required to have significant knowledge of safeguarding children

Support Capacity

A business manager and administrator are required to:

- convene and administratively support the GMSCP
- keep updated and maintain the contents of the website
- lead on and co-ordinate specific developments/activities for the GMSCP

Membership

Members representing each of the key professional areas will be a member of and nominated by each of the 10 Great Manchester LSCBs.

Members will represent their professional peers from the other LSCBs and will be expected to speak on their behalf and /or the agency and to seek their views and cascade information accordingly.

Also members will be able to share the collective views of their respective LSCBs.

Substitute members will be from the 10 LSCBs and expected to attend in the absence of their professional peer.

Operational Arrangements

The GMSCP will be responsible for sub-regional developments focusing on safeguarding – protection, prevention and promotion.

It will meet, initially, on a bi monthly basis and ensure the implementation of a work programme.

Impact

GMSCP will develop a set of impact measures for all the activities undertaken within the annual work plan and monitor usage and benefit of the web site.

Financial arrangements

The financial requirements for maintaining GMSCP and implementing the work plan will be planned annually and submitted to the 10 LSCBs.

The annual budget will be administered by the business manager and regular reports submitted to the Partnership.