

Delegated Safeguarding Partners (DSPs) - Terms of Reference



Purpose

The three Delegated Safeguarding Partners are the Chief Superintendent (West Midlands Police), Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Nursing Officer (Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care Board) and Director of Children's Services (Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council). Their role is to:

- Have joint and equal responsibility for multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in Solihull;
- Follow the Scheme of Delegation Framework set by the Lead Safeguarding Partners;
- Show strong leadership in delivering the multi-agency arrangements to help and protect children including support and challenge from the Independent Scrutineer;
- Deliver the strategic plan and priorities for the multi-agency arrangements;
- Direct the SSCP support team, ensuring task-oriented activity and effective delivery of agreed actions;
- Provide analyses of trends in practice from intelligent interpretation of data;
- Provide evidence about the quality/performance of multi-agency practice and use of allocated budgets;
- Identify and anticipate new challenges to the work of multi-agency teams and escalate any issues at the earliest opportunity;
- Act as a team, as opposed to a voice for their agency alone.

Frequency of Meetings

Meetings will be held on a bi-monthly basis including a joint meeting with the LSPs. DSPs may request an additional special meeting or series of meetings. Officers from other areas of the businesses may be invited to attend meetings, as required.

Each meeting will be pre-arranged to an agenda which will be circulated in advance of the meeting along with any papers including actions. Separate discussions should take place for urgent matters that require an immediate response.

Responsibilities

The Chair will:

- call meetings and ensure that suitable arrangements are made to host the meeting including the provision of administrative support;
- ensure an agenda is drafted and circulated along with any other relevant documents including actions;
- ensure notes and actions are taken at each meeting.

DSPs have committed to:

- attend meetings and come prepared to offer appropriate specialist and technical advice based on their area of expertise;
- ensure that decisions are conveyed to the appropriate stakeholders and actions are implemented as agreed.

Governance

Governance arrangements are outlined in the Children's Services Improvement Governance Map and Scheme of Delegation. DSPs will report to the LSPs, providing regular updates and escalating any issues at the earliest opportunity.

LSPs report into the Political/ Board Leaders. An annual assurance report will be produced on the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding for children in Solihull.

Relationships

SSCP Exec Group

LSPs

Strategic Quartet

Political/ Board Leaders