

# Lead Safeguarding Partners (LSPs) - Terms of Reference



## Purpose

The three statutory Lead Safeguarding Partners are the Chief Constable (West Midlands Police), Chief Executive (Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care Board) and Chief Executive (Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council). Their role is to:

- Have joint and equal responsibility for multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in Solihull;
- Show strong leadership in overseeing the multi-agency arrangements to help and protect children;
- Speak with authority on behalf of their agency;
- Commit their agency to the agreed actions of the SSCP;
- Hold their agency to account for the effective delivery of the arrangements;
- Act as a team, as opposed to a voice for their agency alone;
- Set the strategic plan and priorities for the multi-agency arrangements;
- Have arrangements in place to delegate functions to the Delegated Safeguarding Partners (DSPs) including support and challenge from the Independent Scrutineer;
- Produce an annual assurance report on the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding for children in Solihull.

## Frequency of Meetings

Meetings will be held on a bi-monthly basis. LSPs 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.

LSPs 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

DSPs

Strategic Quartet

Political/ Board Leaders