



# Hull Safeguarding Children's Partnership

Local Safeguarding Arrangements

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# Introduction

Following the guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018', from 1 September 2019 Hull Safeguarding Children Board will be replaced with new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements led by three key safeguarding partners, who are jointly responsible in partnership for keeping children in Hull safe.

The three safeguarding partners are:

- Hull City Council (Chief Executive)
- Humberside Police (Chief Constable)
- NHS Hull Clinical Commissioning Group (Chief Operating Officer)

The Chief Officers have delegated the day to day running of the multi-agency arrangements to the Director of Children, Young People and Family Services (Hull City Council), the Chief Superintendent (Humberside Police) and the Director of Quality and Clinical Governance/Executive Nurse (NHS Hull Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)).

These officers have delegated authority to speak on behalf of the safeguarding partner they represent, to make decisions on behalf of their organisation and commit them on policy, resourcing and practice matters. They will also hold their own organisation and other organisations to account on how effectively they participate in and implement the local arrangements.

In Hull we believe children should grow and achieve within their own families, when it is in their best interests and it is safe for them to do so. Through these working together arrangements, we aim to develop flexible services that are responsive to children and families' needs.

The primary focus for Children's Social Care is children's safety and welfare. Social workers are committed to supporting families to enable them to safely care for their children wherever this is possible. The statutory social work service intervenes where children and young people have been harmed or may be at risk of significant harm.

Humberside Police are fully committed to safeguarding and protecting children consistently and effectively. The safety of children and young people is a priority and an area of constant focus and scrutiny.

Local children and families also receive services from a number of health agencies, commissioned by Hull CCG. Their responsibilities include ensuring that those who are vulnerable are identified as early as possible. Health partners recognise that integrated early help services and good partnership working are essential to improving outcomes for children, young people, their families and carers.

Schools and colleges are an essential part of the safeguarding system in Hull. They have responsibility to identify concerns early, provide help for children and prevent concerns from escalating. All schools and colleges in Hull have designated safeguarding leads in place.

The Hull Safeguarding Children Board will cease on the 1 September 2019 and will be replaced by the Hull Safeguarding Children's Partnership. The Executive Board of these multi-agency safeguarding arrangements will be chaired by one of the three key safeguarding partners.

All agencies in Hull share a strong commitment to work together to keep children safe, to continuously improve and learn from multi-agency practice. The partnership aims to build on the strengths of the current arrangements whilst focusing efforts on how multi-agency frontline practice can improve outcomes for children, young people and their families. Learning will be shared and implemented widely, from frontline practice, learning reviews and research. This will form the basis of the new arrangements' success. This document sets out the detail of how the new partnership arrangements will function.

## Context

Our ambition is to develop an equal and effective partnership between the three statutory partners to deliver effective safeguarding arrangements in Hull. The new arrangements set out our proposed learning model and approach to partnership working. This aims to shape and influence policy and service development in order to improve practice through a whole system approach. The overarching aim is to provide positive outcomes for children and young people in Hull.

The vision for Hull's children and young people, as set out in the 'Hull Children, Young People and Families Plan 2019-2023', is to:

**"Make Hull an inspiring City where it is safe and healthy to learn, play, work and live. We want all children, young people and their families to make healthy lifestyle choices, be safe from harm and have the confidence to be ambitious and to achieve their aspirations."**

The Chief Officers are excited to have this opportunity to lead and strengthen multi-agency collaboration and alliances to improve safeguarding across all agencies.

*"The new guidance on multi-agency safeguarding arrangements provides a long overdue opportunity to strengthen our focus on what really matters in protecting children, learning from what works in practice, embedding good practice from all stakeholders in order to improve outcomes for our most vulnerable children and young people."*

Alison Murphy, Hull City Council Director of Children, Young People and Family Services

*"The Wood Review has provided us all with an opportunity to refresh our partnership working, and further enhance the partnership to deliver the best service we can. It is absolutely essential that we place our young people at the heart of what we do and ensure we do all we can to provide the best future for them as individuals and communities. I am committed to ensure the Police do all we can for everyone, and that we support and challenge other partners to deliver the same."*

Darren Downs, Humberside Police Chief Superintendent

*"Our foremost priority is that children and young people are safe and protected from harm, living happy fulfilled lives and achieving their potential. Hull partners are committed to a whole system improvement and learning approach to the revised safeguarding arrangements with strong and effective leadership. In particular, as senior leaders, I anticipate that a measure of success of these shared arrangements for safeguarding will be the extent to which partners problem solve and find solutions together, to improve outcomes for children. This will include effective partnership challenge and support and where risks are identified they will be closely monitored, together, in partnership."*

Sarah Smyth, Hull CCG Director of Quality and Clinical Governance/Executive Nurse



# Hull Local Context

Kingston-upon-Hull is a port city and unitary authority in East Yorkshire. It lies upon the River Hull, as it merges with the Humber Estuary, 25 miles (40 km) inland from the North Sea. Hull lies east of Leeds, southeast of York and northeast of Sheffield.



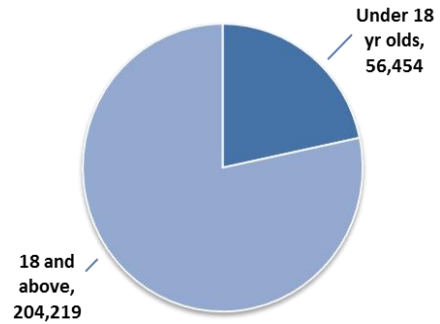
## Population in Hull

### Population



The population of Hull is 260,673  
(data source ONS 2017)

### Under 18 year old Population

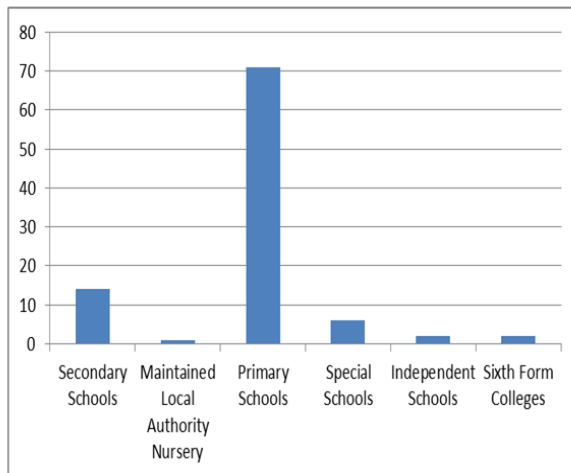


### Population Growth



Population growth is slower than England at 4.31% from 2001 – 2017. England growth for the same period is 12.48%

## Education

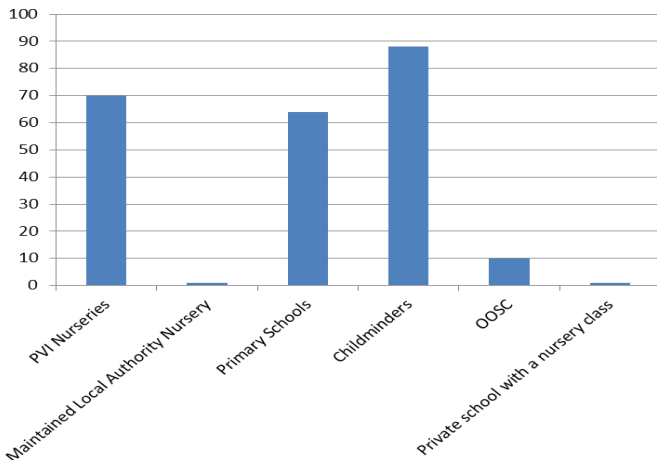


In Hull there are:

- 14 Secondary Schools, including 11 academies, (3 of which have Sixth Forms), 1 University Technical College and 1 Free School
- 1 Maintained Local Authority Nursery
- 71 Primary Schools: 5 of which are Local Authority Maintained, 66 are Academies
- 6 Special Schools – all of which are academies
- 2 Independent Schools
- 2 Sixth Form Colleges

At May 2019 (source – Ofsted data view) 82% of the city's schools were good or outstanding (the England average was 85%).

### Early Years



In Hull there are:

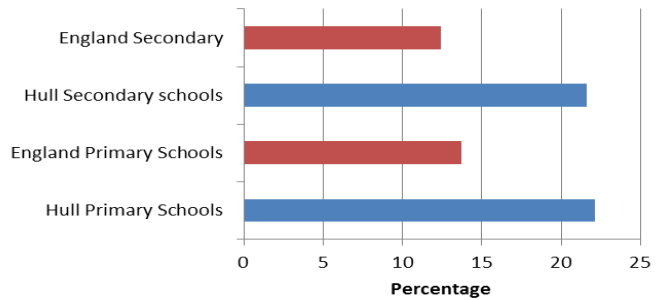
- 70 PVI Nurseries (Private Voluntary, Independent)
- 1 Maintained Local Authority Nursery
- 64 primary schools with nursery classes
- 88 Childminders
- 10 OOSC (Out of school clubs)
- 1 private school with a nursery class

### Deprivation



The percentage of children living in child poverty is 36%

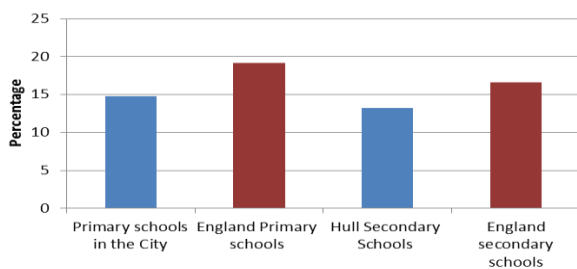
### Free School Meal Eligibility



- England Secondary – 12.4%
- Hull Secondary Schools – 21.6%
- England Primary Schools – 13.7%
- Hull Primary Schools – 22.1%

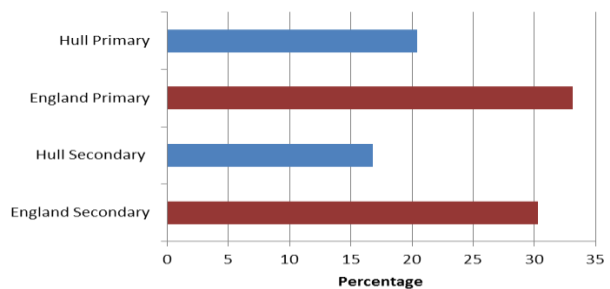
### Diversity

#### Percentage of pupils with English as an additional language



- Hull Primary schools – 14.8%
- England primary schools – 19.2%
- Hull Secondary Schools – 13.2%
- England Secondary schools – 16.6%

#### Percentage of minority ethnic pupils



- Hull Primary - 20.4%
- England Primary - 33.1%
- Hull Secondary - 16.8%
- England Secondary - 30.3%

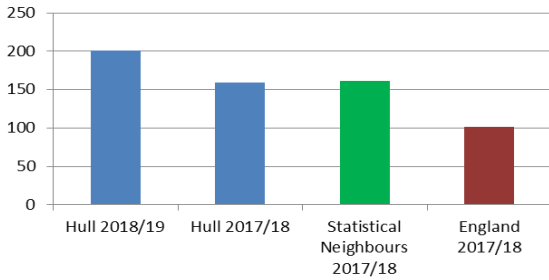
The largest minority ethnic group in the city's schools is – 'Any Other White Background'



### Children in Need of Protection

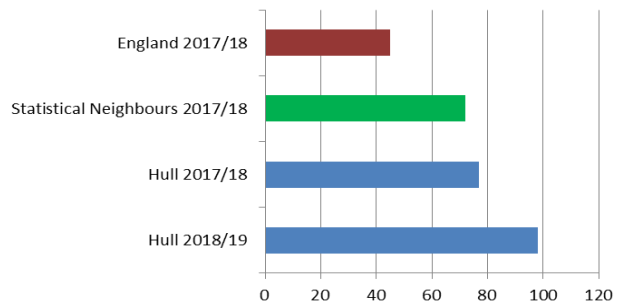
Rate of Child Protection Plans at any point during the year

**Child Protection Plans at any point during the year**



- At any time during 2018/19 there were 1134 children who had a child protection plan. A rate per 10,000 of 200.9
- In 2018/19, 2855 strategy discussions took place at a rate of 5057 per 10,000 under 18 population
- In 2018/19, 2134 Section 47 enquiries were undertaken which equates to 378 per 10,000 under 18 population or 3.78% of all children.

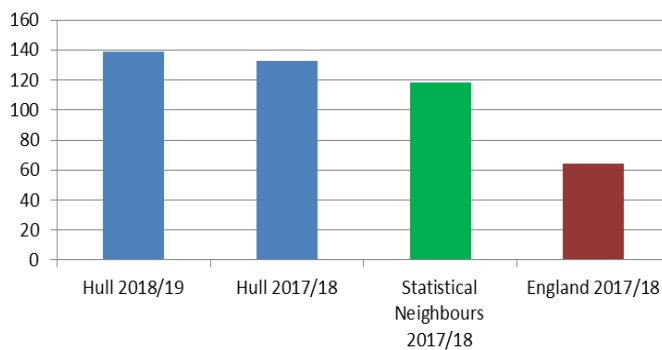
**Child Protection Plans open on 31/03**



### Children Looked After

On the 31 March 2019 there were 797 children looked after by Hull City Council. This equates to 139 per 10,000 population under 18.

**Children Looked After per 10,000 population on 31/03**



# Developing the New Child Safeguarding Arrangements

The Wood Review 2015 and the subsequent government guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018' require all local areas to review their safeguarding arrangements.

Partners from Hull City Council, Humberside Police and Hull CCG have met over a period of months to consider the implications on local arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in Hull.

The priority in developing these arrangements is to assure the partnership that children and young people are safe. This focus steered agreement on the initial principles outlined below:

- Place the interests and rights of children and young people at the heart of everything we do.
- Learn from experience, evidence, research and what is working well.
- Examine and analyse practice quickly with a clear focus on improvement.
- Involve all relevant partner agencies in the arrangements to protect children, with visible leadership from the three statutory partners.
- Build on existing strategic and operational arrangements where they are effective.
- Have accountable oversight and feedback on performance and outcomes.
- Reduce duplication across the partnership.

# The Child Safeguarding Arrangements

The Hull Safeguarding Children Board will be replaced by the Hull Safeguarding Children's Partnership on 1 September 2019. Safeguarding partners in Hull will work together to identify and respond to the needs of children through the new partnership arrangements.

The partnership will operate in line with the requirements of the statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018' and will cover the geographical area of Hull, as defined by the local authority boundaries. The geographical footprint corresponds with that of Hull City Council, Hull CCG and Humberside Police.

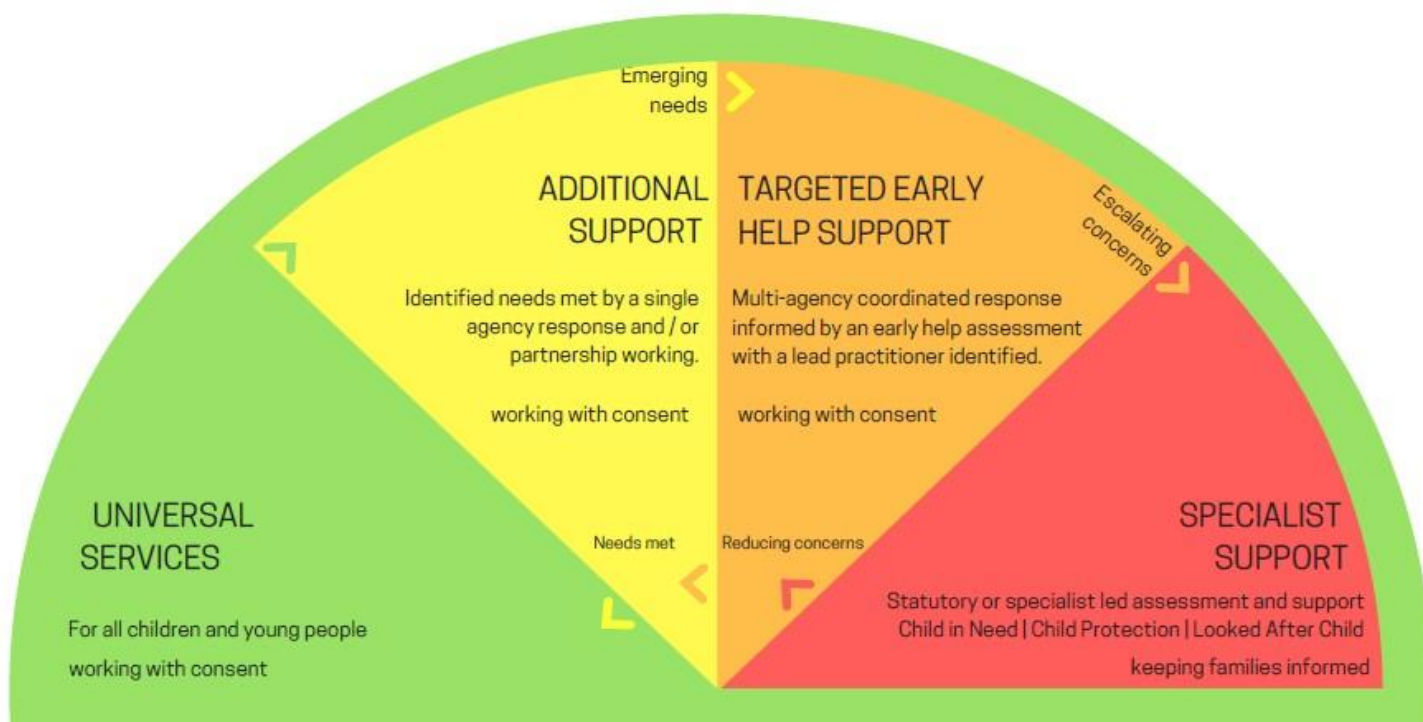
The safeguarding partners, together with other organisations and agencies included in these arrangements, will fulfil their statutory duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children from Hull who live or are placed outside of our local authority area.

## Our Values

- The child is at the heart of everything we do
- Effective information sharing between partners, and operating with trust and openness
- Continuous learning and flexibility to develop the partnership as needs change
- Ensuring everyone has a voice and is heard including children, young people and families
- Shared accountability and responsibility between partners with each partner leading on a priority
- Effective communication and engagement within the partnership
- A balance of respect for individual organisations and appropriate challenge
- Involvement and focus on frontline practitioners in identifying and sharing learning and good practice
- Preventative focus and adopting a 'Think Family' approach for the benefit of children, young people and families
- Key priorities set jointly between the safeguarding partners, with input from relevant agencies

## Thresholds and Levels of Need

The partnership oversees the safeguarding of children and young people across Hull. The table below, from the Hull Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) threshold of need document shows the local framework for responding to the needs of children and young people.



This continuum forms an integral part of Hull's approach to supporting children, young people and families, ensuring the right support is provided by the right agency at the right time, based on the child's level of need and 'team around the child' model of working. The approach also promotes earlier support for families to address issues before they escalate to crisis point, to ensure that children are kept safe from harm.

## Relevant Agencies Involved

The three lead partners understand that to be effective the partnership is dependent on working collaboratively with all relevant agencies whose involvement is necessary to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. The organisations listed below can provide key strategic and operational insight to the work of the partnership, but the list is by no means exhaustive.



The three lead partners will request representatives from these, and any other agencies, as required:

- Education Services
- Schools
- Voluntary and Community Sector
- Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust
- Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
- Public Health
- Substance Misuse Services
- Neighborhoods and Housing
- Health providers
- National Probation Service
- Youth Justice Service
- CAFCASS
- City Health Care Partnership (CHCP)
- Adult Social Care and the Safeguarding Adults Board

Schools and education settings are vital safeguarding partners. Schools will be engaged as part of the Executive Board to ensure joint working to safeguard children within a multi-agency shared approach. Termly twilight sessions for head teachers and Designated Safeguarding Leads, in schools, will reflect the Learning Hub priorities and will act as a mechanism for schools to develop, as well as an opportunity to provide feedback and participate in the work of the partnership. Early years settings, both private and voluntary, will be engaged through the Learning Hub.

Strong links will be maintained with the Safeguarding Adults Board, which shares many of the same partner agencies and overall objectives.

NHS England will be invited when necessary and will otherwise be represented by the registered nurse.

Other providers of commissioned services to children and families will be invited to contribute to specific areas of focus. They will be required to give regular updates about their work to ensure high standards of safeguarding practice and that oversight is embedded in their arrangements, as part of contracting and quality assurance processes.

# The Back to Practice Model

The Back to Practice model will build a strong focus on frontline practice and what works in improving safeguarding outcomes for children, young people and families. It aims to create stronger connections between the inter-agency policy and strategic functions of the Hull Safeguarding Children's Partnership, senior managers and frontline safeguarding practice.

The model replaces the traditional structure of the LSCB with an Executive Board comprised of the three safeguarding partners, which will meet monthly. A Stakeholder Group comprising all wider stakeholder agencies will meet quarterly; holding learning events three times a year, with the fourth meeting focusing on reviewing the impact of work in the previous year and developing priorities for the year ahead.

The Learning Hub is at the heart of the safeguarding partnership's work on multi-agency practice and is central to the Back to Practice model. The Learning Hub is made up of three seconded frontline operational leads, from each of the three statutory partners and co-opted relevant professionals from all of the Hull Safeguarding Children's Partnership agencies as appropriate.

The role of the Learning Hub is to improve the effectiveness of Hull's safeguarding and child protection practice across partnership agencies, with a clear line of sight into practice across provision for Hull's most vulnerable children including those in receipt of early help services. A large focus of the Learning Hub is to examine a range of information from a variety of sources relating to multi-agency practice issues and to make recommendations to the Executive Board on how multi-agency safeguarding practice can be improved, to impact on outcomes for children, young people and families.

The Learning Hub should bring together the views of children, their families and professionals to inform the continuous development of services and the adoption of evidence based approaches aimed at protecting children from harm and making a positive difference to their lives.

The Learning Hub will be structured around a four-monthly cycle of events as follows, with three priorities being worked on in a twelve month cycle:

- Month 1 – Initial scoping
- Month 2 – Single and multi-agency auditing
- Month 3 – Feedback from children, young people, families and practitioners
- Month 4 – Agreeing recommendations and actions to be presented to the Executive Board

The group will meet monthly and the seconded Practice Review and Learning Leads will each lead on one of the priorities, gathering information from a variety of sources. This will then be presented to their initial Learning Hub group in order to inform the first set of discussions about the practice issue being considered.

For the three priorities being considered in the year, the leads will present information in a delivery plan that will include the following:

- Current data and performance
- Success and impact measures
- Relevant statutory and other guidance
- Evidence from previous learning
- Evidence from visits and observations by the Practice Review and Learning Leads
- Evidence from self-assessments and peer challenge
- Evidence from serious case and learning reviews, child deaths, Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), national reports, inspection reports (including from other areas)

A report with clear recommendations for improvements to practice will be produced with a clear implementation plan, including training cascade materials and updates to policies and procedures for consideration by the Executive Board.

## Safeguarding Champions

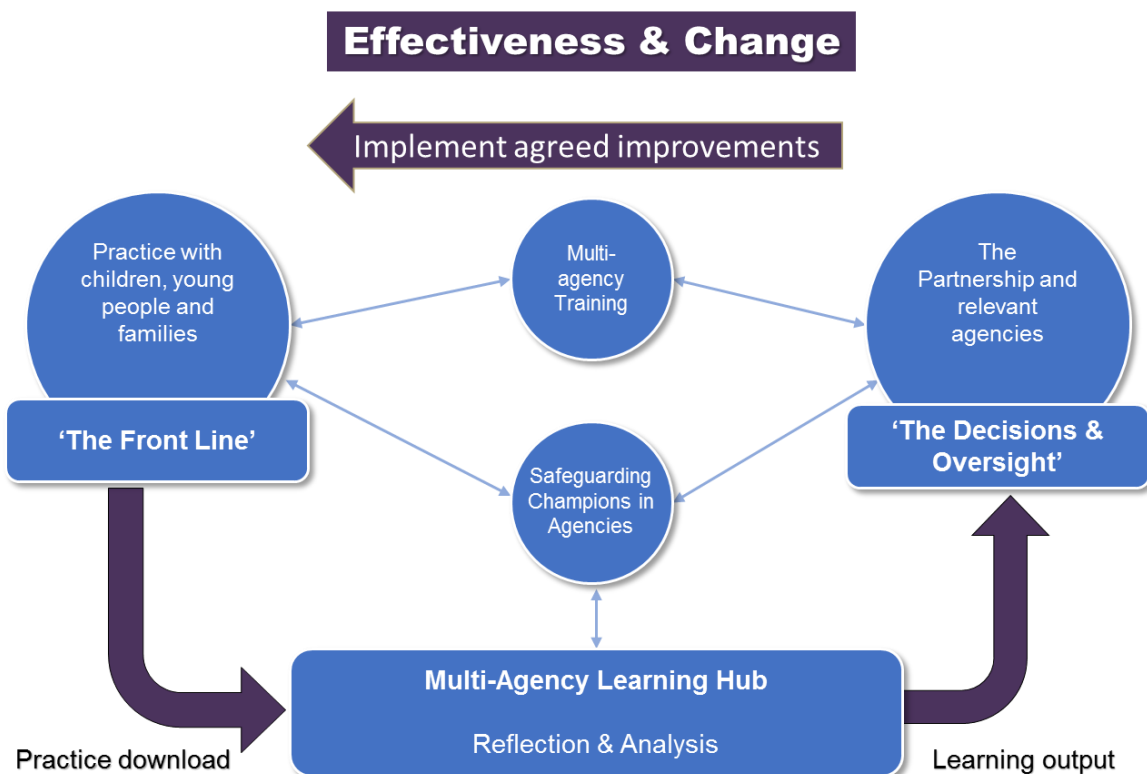
All stakeholder agencies will identify Safeguarding Champions. The role is central to the Back to Practice model, as the key focal point in each agency for two-way communication between the Learning Hub and frontline practice on sharing good practice, learning from audits, learning reviews, research and Learning Hub activities.

The outline of the champion's role and responsibilities is:

- To be the focal point for the safeguarding Stakeholder Group and actively contribute and share learning from case reviews, audits and local and national priorities to staff within their setting.
- To attend occasional workshops, where they will be provided with information in a multi-agency setting and have the opportunity for discussion and collaboration with colleagues from other agencies, to then share and inform their individual work settings.
- To cascade information to their colleagues through team meetings, learning and training events, supervision and staff briefings.
- To be the contact for the stakeholder, to receive bulletins and updates and to share relevant information with their colleagues.

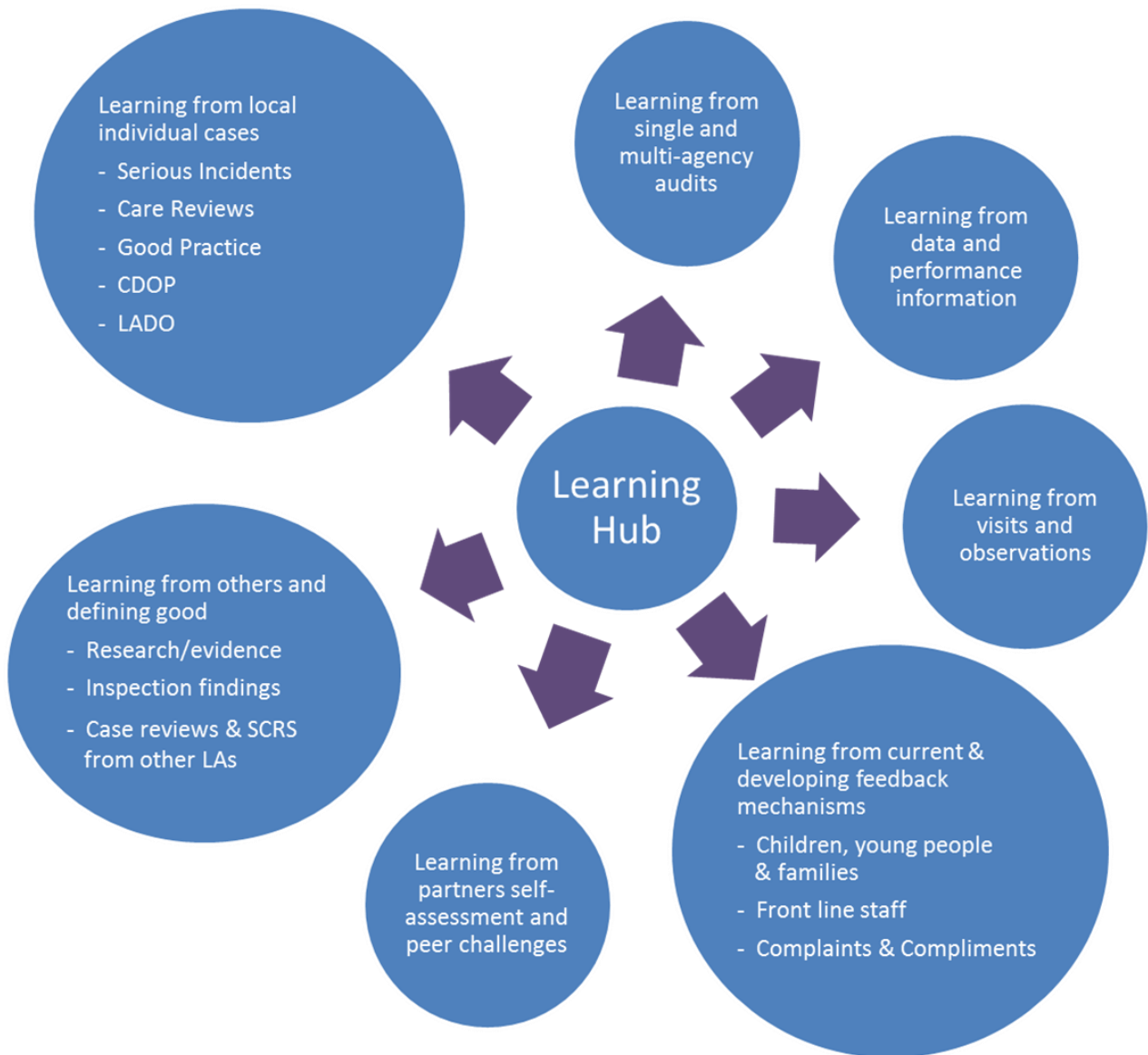
- To gather evidence to inform whether learning has made a difference to practice.
- To inform the safeguarding stakeholders what is working well in their individual setting and what are the challenges in respect of working together to safeguard children in Hull.

## The Operation of the Learning Model

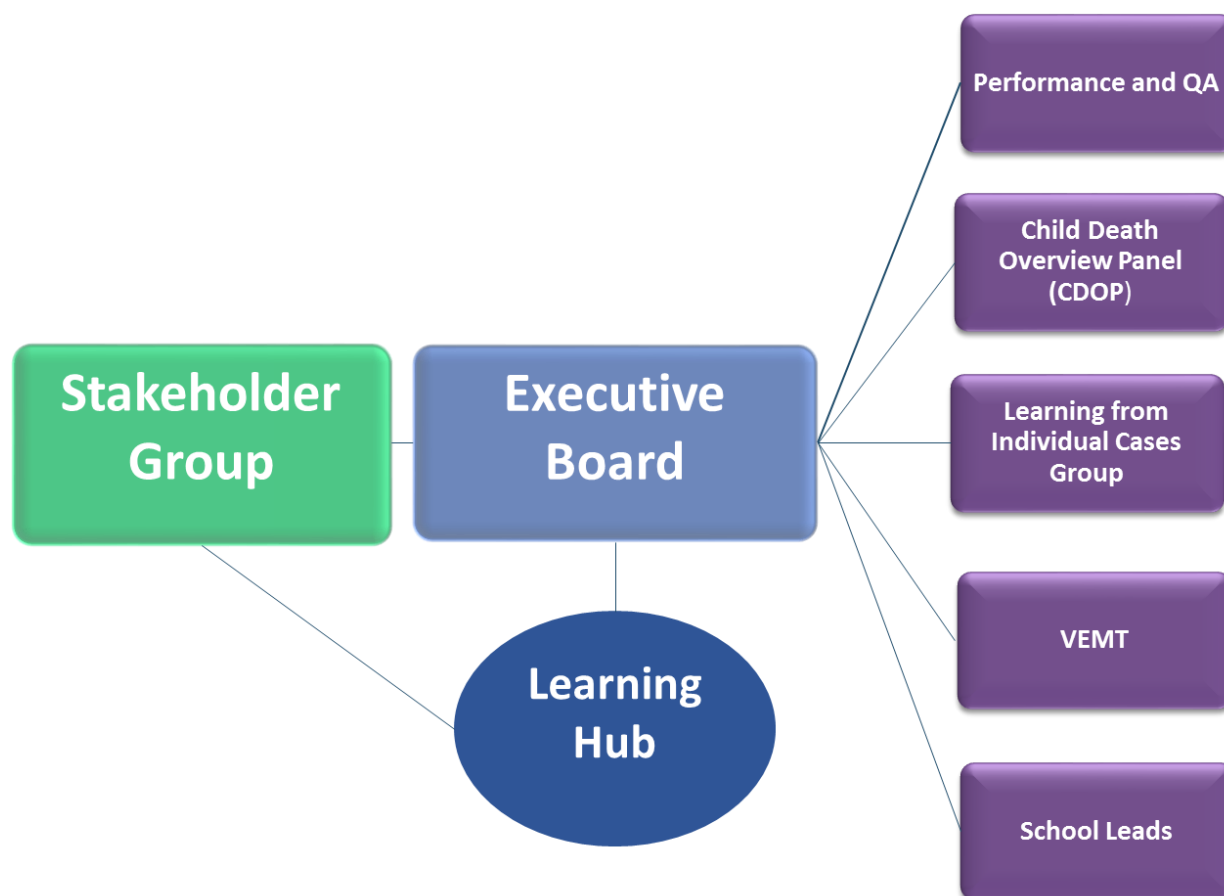




# The Capture and Dissemination of Learning through the Learning Hub



# Structure of the Safeguarding Partnership



## **Executive Board**

The three safeguarding partners – the Local Authority, Police and CCG – will form the Executive Board to drive forward the work of the partnership. A plan will be delivered each year that identifies the three key practice priorities that the Executive Board will progress throughout the year. The Executive Board will ensure effective scrutiny arrangements are in place across the partnership. The Executive Board will meet monthly and will be supported by a small operations support team.

The chairs from Child Death Overview Panel; the Individual Cases Group; Performance and Quality Assurance; Vulnerable, Exploited, Missing, and Trafficked and School Lead Groups will report regularly to the Executive Board on progress of the plans.

## **Stakeholder Group**

All key partner agencies will be part of the Stakeholder Group. A fixed core membership retains flexibility to co-opt other relevant agencies and professionals to contribute to specific agenda items and priorities as and when appropriate.

The Stakeholder Group provides a forum for wider engagement of partner agencies in assessing strengths and areas for development in the local safeguarding system, to help define annual priority areas for the Learning Hub.

The learning events at the conclusion of the work of the Learning Hub, on each of the three priorities set at the beginning of the year, enable wide dissemination of findings and recommendations from this activity. The Safeguarding Champions positioned across agencies also play a key role in disseminating learning, training and changes to practice from the work of the Learning Hub.

### **Learning from Individual Cases Group**

The Learning from the Individual Cases Group forms part of Hull's framework for learning and improvement, which aims to drive improvements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

The function of this group is to oversee all serious incident cases and their corresponding action plans, consider examples of good practice and ensure the timely completion of reviews and dissemination of findings.

Key findings from case reviews will be shared with the Learning Hub and Safeguarding Champions to ensure learning points and changes to practice and policy are implemented across the system, to ensure a real impact on improving outcomes for children.

The Learning from Individual Cases Group will be chaired by the Assistant Director of Children, Young People and Family Services, supported by the operations support team.

The Learning from Individual Cases Group has a fixed core membership drawn from organisations across the safeguarding partnership, with the flexibility to co-opt other relevant professionals to discuss certain cases as and when appropriate.

The core membership of the group will be:

- Assistant Director of Children, Young People and Family Services
- Head of Hull & East Riding Local Delivery Unit, National Probation Service
- Humberside Police, Protecting Vulnerable People
- Designated Doctor, NHS Hull CCG
- Designated Safeguarding Nurse, NHS Hull CCG
- City Safe and Early Intervention Manager, Hull City Safe

### **Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)**

The purpose of the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) is to review the deaths of all children normally resident in the local authority area, and if they consider it appropriate, the deaths in the area of non-resident children, in order to better understand how and why local children die. Findings are used to take action to prevent other deaths and improve the health and safety of children and young people.

Professionals in all agencies have a responsibility to notify the relevant CDOP of the death of any child of which they become aware, to share information for the purposes of reviewing the child's death and to participate in local review arrangements when they have been involved with the child or family. The CDOP should conduct an anonymised secondary review of each death, where the identifying details of the child and treating professionals are redacted. This review should be informed by a standardised output and the draft Analysis Form, from the Child Death Review Meeting (CDRM).

The CDOP will be chaired by Hull City Council's Assistant Director for Health and Wellbeing and have a permanent core membership drawn from the key organisations represented in the safeguarding partnership. Other members may be co-opted to contribute to the discussion on certain types of death when they occur. The CDOP is accountable to the Executive Board and the child death review partners. The Chair of the CDOP is a member of the Stakeholder Group.

CDOP will devise and deliver an agreed work plan that reflects the specific statutory responsibilities relating to child death review arrangements. The Chair of CDOP will provide written reports and updates at the safeguarding partnership meetings, or at other times as agreed by the child death review partners. CDOP will produce an annual report each year on local child deaths, and collaborating with East Riding, North Lincolnshire, North East Lincolnshire, North Yorkshire and York CDOP areas, will have an appropriate CDOP footprint in compliance with 'Working Together 2018' for further analysis of child deaths.

The functions of CDOP include:

- To collect and collate information about each child death, seeking relevant information from professionals and, where appropriate, family members
- To analyse the information obtained, including the report from the CDRM, in order to confirm or clarify the cause of death, to determine any contributory factors, and to identify learning arising from the child death review process that may prevent future child deaths
- To make recommendations to all relevant organisations where actions have been identified which may prevent future child deaths or promote the health, safety and wellbeing of children
- To notify the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and local safeguarding partners when it suspects that a child may have been abused or neglected
- To notify the Medical Examiner (once introduced) and the doctor who certified the cause of death, if it identifies any errors or deficiencies in an individual child's registered cause of death; any correction to the child's cause of death would only be made following an application for a formal correction
- To provide specified data to NHS Digital and, once established, to the National Child Mortality Database
- To produce an annual report for CDR partners on local patterns and trends in child deaths, any lessons learnt and actions taken, and the effectiveness of the wider child death review process



- To contribute to local, regional and national initiatives to improve learning from child death reviews including, where appropriate, approved research carried out within the requirements of data protection.

## **Learning Hub**

The Learning Hub will concentrate on three priorities each year. These priorities will be significant areas of practice identified by the Executive Board and for each theme the Executive Board will identify a senior manager from the Local Authority, CCG or Police to lead the work programme.

The aim of the Learning Hub is to ensure a clear overview of practice across provision in Hull. The Learning Hub should bring together the views of children, their families and professionals, to inform the continuous development of services and approaches aimed at safeguarding children from harm and making a positive difference to their lives.

The collection of feedback from children, young people and families will be through existing mechanisms, bespoke feedback events and engagement activities.

## **Vulnerable, Exploited, Missing and Trafficked (VEMT)**

This group focuses on vulnerable young people in Hull who are at risk of going missing, Child Sexual Exploitation, Child Criminal Exploitation, trafficking, gang affiliation and County Lines. The group is leading the strategic local framework for all partner agencies' work in delivering a collective approach in this area. The developing contextual safeguarding approach across the partnership is built on sharing best practice and has led to improved data and intelligence collection and a system for the continuous monitoring of performance, with early signs of improved outcomes for young people.

Reporting is via the Early Help and Safeguarding Hub (EHASH) Board with regular updates to the Executive Board. Within this group there is a clear focus on children who are privately fostered in the city, ensuring partner agencies understand, and are aware of, these care arrangements. Multi-agency auditing of private fostering arrangements is undertaken on an annual basis.

## **Schools**

Schools will feedback to the Executive Board and the Stakeholder Group via the primary, secondary, special schools and college leads, and via the schools designated safeguarding leads and Safeguarding Champions Network.

## **Performance and Quality Assurance**

The Executive Board will use data intelligence and single and multi-agency audit reports to ensure the help being provided to children in Hull is effective. Performance Business Intelligence leads, within each of the three lead partner organisations, will provide information and data on a monthly basis in a performance

dashboard for the Executive Board. Detailed data and performance monitoring reports will be provided on each priority for consideration within the Learning Hub.

Multi-agency auditing forms part of the Learning Hub's four-monthly cycle of activity. Audits will be planned by the Learning Hub, led by the Practice Review and Learning Leads and coordinated by the operational support team. Learning Hub members will contribute to the case audits and practitioners working on selected cases will be invited to a reflective discussion, facilitated by the Practice Review and Learning Leads. Findings from audit activity will be reported into the Executive Board and will form part of the quarterly stakeholder learning events.

## **Multi-Agency Learning and Development**

Multi-agency safeguarding learning and development needs that require a multi-agency approach to develop the workforce to a high standard will be planned and managed within the Learning Hub.

The focus will be:

- Planning and organising appropriate multi-agency safeguarding learning and development activities, as well as challenging or influencing the activities and training delivered by individual agencies
- Ensuring identified multi-agency learning needs on safeguarding children are addressed for the children's and adults workforces, this may include planning and commissioning appropriate multi-agency safeguarding learning and development activities
- The commissioning and delivery of consistently high quality multi-agency safeguarding learning and development activities that incorporate relevant research, national good practice and learning from case reviews and safeguarding adult reviews
- Evaluation of the impact of multi-agency learning and development activities to seek assurance that delivery is of high quality and has made a difference to inform future planning
- A regular report to the Executive Board and the Hull Safeguarding Adults Board on how inter-agency training will be commissioned, delivered and monitored for impact, including how learning will be embedded across different agencies

## **Training and Development**

'Working Together 2018' describes the following responsibilities of the three safeguarding partners in terms of training: "The three safeguarding partners should consider what training is needed locally and how they will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of any training they commission".

The three safeguarding partners will regularly review the training offer to ensure the core training offer from the Hull Safeguarding Children's Partnership is fit for

purpose and continues to meet changing training needs.

## Independent Scrutiny Arrangements

The independent scrutiny function, as set out in statutory guidance, provides critical challenge and appraisal of the effectiveness and impact of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements on outcomes for children and young people.

The three safeguarding partners are responsible for determining local arrangements, including involving other relevant agencies in the independent scrutiny function. The Executive Board will ensure that each of the three annual priorities has external scrutiny that reflects the necessary expertise required for that area of work and so may be commissioned from different people as required. This will maximise the scrutiny with experts in the chosen area providing support and challenge.

The independent scrutiny role will form part of these arrangements to:

- Provide assurance on the effectiveness of services to protect children
- Ensure that the voices of children, young people and their families are appropriately represented and heard in the work of the partnership
- Mediate when there is disagreement between the leaders responsible for protecting children, in the agencies involved in multi-agency arrangements
- Support a culture and environment of robust scrutiny and constructive challenge
- Assess how well organisations come together and co-operate with one another, to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to hold each other to account for effective safeguarding
- Contribute to the content of the partnership's annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements, their performance and the effectiveness of local services
- Assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families including early help
- Provide assurance that the three safeguarding partners are fulfilling their statutory obligations
- Scrutinise any quality assurance activity including multi-agency case file auditing and processes for identifying lessons to be learned
- Work with the safeguarding partnership's operational support team to plan the programme of activity
- Provide assurance that effective performance management, audit and quality assurance mechanisms are in place within partner organisations which will support the three safeguarding partners to fulfil their statutory objectives, and that will enable the partnership to identify and measure its success and impact

## Voice of Children, Young People and Families

The learning model adopted ensures that children, young people and families have the opportunity to engage in the work of the partnership and offer their views on the support being provided to them. The Learning Hub will collect feedback from children, young people and families through existing mechanisms and bespoke feedback events. The Learning Hub members for each of the partnership's priorities will lead on these engagement activities and will be supported by the partnership's operational support team.

In addition, the partnership will:

- Ask relevant agencies and other partners how they ensure they have captured the voices of children, young people and families in their work, as well as identifying other innovative ways to gather this feedback through the partnership.
- Where possible, involve families in learning reviews and events.
- Conduct a review on how best to link in with existing forums for children and young people, to inform the future model of engagement of children and young people, in shaping multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

## Resolving Professional Differences

Agencies have their own escalation policies and should use these first to resolve professional differences. Any statutory agency can request a multi-agency meeting where there is a need to resolve professional differences.

There is an expectation that agencies will have systems for recording when escalation policies are used and how disagreements are resolved.

The Hull Safeguarding Children's Partnership is committed to the continuous improvement of multi-agency safeguarding and child protection practice. Differences and debates are all part of multi-agency working. Escalation policies are in place to provide an effective framework for exploring and resolving professional disagreements where serious differences in views on safeguarding vulnerable children and young people occur.

If it has not been possible to resolve significant professional differences between agencies, relating to safeguarding children, then this can be brought to the attention of the Executive Board.

## Transition

The Executive Board is in place and has directed that a transition plan be developed to support the phased transition from the Local Safeguarding Children Board to Hull Safeguarding Children's Partnership. Leading up to September 2019, the plan will form a key aspect of the work being undertaken by the operational support team, which will work closely with all partner organisations. Regular reports will be presented to the Executive Board regarding progress against the transition plan.

## Funding and Operational Support

The safeguarding partners are committed to equitable and proportionate funding of the operational support team and the work of the partnership as a whole.

The three lead partners will provide a full time secondment into the Learning Hub to drive the priorities. Funding agreements are under development, to ensure these will be sufficient to cover all elements of the arrangements, including the cost of local child safeguarding practice reviews and will be subject to regular review.

# Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

The responsibility for how partners, across the system, learn lessons from serious child safeguarding incidents lies at a national level with the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and at a local level with the safeguarding partners.

The Learning from Individual Cases Group will consider cases that might meet the criteria for national and local learning reviews. The group will agree the scope for each local review, monitor progress with the review and lead on the development and subsequent scrutiny of any improvement plans coming out of the review.

Reviews of local practice will be conducted alongside families, shifting the emphasis towards family practice learning enquiries. This approach ensures practice makes a real difference as well as when it is not good enough.

The function of the Learning from Individual Cases Group is in line with the arrangements set out in Chapter 4 of 'Working Together to Safeguard Children Guidance', including the following:

- Purpose of child safeguarding practice reviews
- Decisions on local and national reviews
- The Rapid Review
- Commissioning a reviewer(s) for a local child safeguarding practice review
- Local child safeguarding practice reviews expectations for the final report
- Actions in response to local and national reviews

These arrangements represent a shift in emphasis for local safeguarding arrangements, placing the child or young person central to a learning culture, founded on improving outcomes for children.

## Contact Information

For more information on the work of the partnership, please see the partnership's website: <http://www.hullsafeguardingchildren.co.uk/>

Or contact:

Email: Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership at [hscp@hullcc.gov.uk](mailto:hscp@hullcc.gov.uk)

Address: Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership, Midmere Centre, Dorchester Road, Hull, HU7 6BD

Telephone: 01482 379090



## Signatures of Agreement

Signature of Local Authority Chief Executive

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Jukes". The letters are written in a cursive style, with the first letters being larger and more prominent.

*Matt Jukes, Chief Executive, Hull City Council*

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Signature of the accountable officer for the Clinical Commissioning Group

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emma Latimer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a fluid, connected script.

*Emma Latimer, Chief Officer, Hull CCG*

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Signature of the Chief Constable

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lee Freeman". The signature is highly stylized and cursive, with many loops and flourishes.

*Lee Freeman, Chief Constable, Humberside Police*

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