

New Multi-agency Safeguarding Arrangements for Croydon

Presentation to Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel

14th January 2019

Statutory requirements

- The Children and Social Work Act 2017 replaces LSCBs with new local safeguarding arrangements, led by the **three named statutory safeguarding partners (local authority, clinical commissioning group (health) and the police).**
- The three safeguarding partners will assume the responsibilities that currently sit with Croydon's Safeguarding Children Board.

The three statutory safeguarding partners

The three statutory safeguarding partners are required to:

- set out how they will work together and with relevant agencies;
- agree on ways to coordinate their safeguarding services;
- act as a strategic leadership group in supporting and engaging others;
- implement local and national learning including serious child safeguarding incidents;
- publish their new safeguarding arrangements by June 2019 and implement by September 2019, and
- publish a report every 12 months evaluating the effectiveness of their new arrangements.

Purpose of the local arrangements

The purpose of these local arrangements is to support and enable local organisations and agencies to work in a system where:

- **Children are safeguarded, and their welfare promoted**
- Partner organisations and agencies collaborate, share and **co-own the vision**
- Organisations and agencies **challenge appropriately and hold one another to account**
- There is **early identification and analysis of new safeguarding issues**
- **Learning is promoted and embedded** in a way that local services for children and families can become more reflective and implement changes to practice
- **Information is shared effectively** to facilitate more accurate and timely decision making for children and families

Developing new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements for Croydon

The three statutory safeguarding partners have been meeting regularly as an Executive Group to drive partnership improvement and to shape the new arrangements. They have decided to:

- build on the positive work that has already been undertaken to improve the effectiveness of the CSCB following the Ofsted inspection in 2017;
- use the new arrangements as an opportunity to improve the partnership focus on safeguarding priorities and the effectiveness of multi-agency working;
- identify opportunities to improve effectiveness through joint working with other partnerships e.g. Safeguarding Adults Board and Safer Croydon;
- reduce unnecessary bureaucracy and simplify the structure, and
- include the Director of Education as a member of the Executive Group in order to maximise full engagement with schools and other education partners.

Proposals (1)

Croydon Safeguarding Partners Executive Group

This group will act as the 'engine room' of the partnership where the statutory partners (local authority, CCG and police) set the safeguarding agenda and ensure multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and promote positive outcomes for Croydon's children and young people are robust and effective. The Director of Education will be a member of this group to facilitate the participation and engagement of schools and other education partners.

Croydon Safeguarding Children Partnership (meets three times per year)

This group will include broad representation from relevant agencies and stakeholders from across the partnership. The meetings will not be business meetings but events designed to support multi-agency learning, sharing of best practice and also opportunities for scrutiny and challenge.

Proposals (2)

Partnership Priority Groups

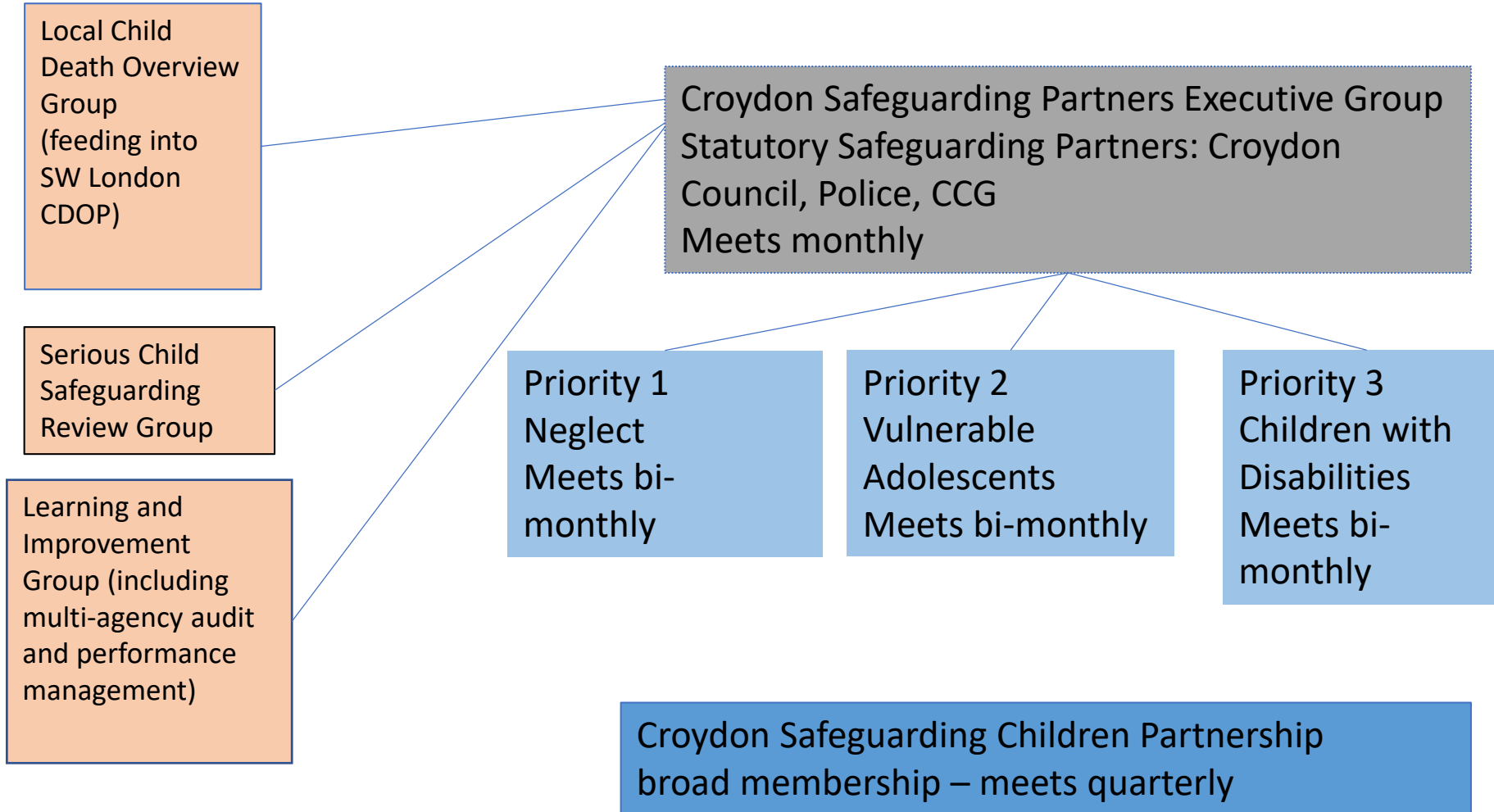
The current complex arrangement of sub-groups will be replaced with three priority groups each chaired by a member of the Safeguarding Partners' Executive Group. Each priority group will be responsible for the development and implementation of a delivery plan.

It is proposed that these priority groups are established from April 2019.

Priority groups in the first year will focus on the delivery of current CSCB priorities:

- Neglect
- Vulnerable young people
- Children with disabilities

Croydon - Proposed Multi Agency Safeguarding Children Arrangements



Links with other Croydon Strategic Partnership Boards:

- Children and Families Partnership
- Safer Croydon Partnership
- Croydon Safeguarding Adults Board
- HWB

Timeline

- Further development of outline proposals by Executive Group – 16th January
- Presentation of draft proposals to CSCB Board for comment – 28th January
- Development of final proposals by Executive Group – 4th February and 21st March
- Planned implementation of Priority Groups – 1st April
- Formal publication of final proposals by required date – June
- Implementation must take effect by September 2019 or earlier