



JOINT PROTOCOL BETWEEN:

- East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board**
- East Sussex Local Safeguarding Children Board**
- East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board**
- East Sussex Children and Young People's Trust**
- East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership**

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1. Introduction

Safeguarding is everyone's business and this document sets out the expectations of the relationship and working arrangements between the above listed partnerships, all involved to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the community. It covers their respective roles and functions, membership of the partnerships, arrangements for challenge and oversight scrutiny. Further details can be found on the respective website for each Board/Trust. This document will be reviewed every year from the date of signing or with any changes in legislation or guidance.

2. Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)

The role of the LSCB is set out in legislation 'The Children Act 2004' and this is explained in government guidance "Working Together to Safeguard Children" (2015).

<http://www.workingtogetheronline.co.uk/>

Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 requires each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) for their area and specifies the organisations and individuals that should be represented on LSCBs. In accordance with national guidance and in order to provide scrutiny the LSCB should be independent. It should not be subordinate to, nor subsumed within, other local structures.

The LSCB has a range of roles and statutory functions including developing local safeguarding policies and procedures and scrutinising local arrangements. The statutory objectives and functions of the LSCB are described below:

- To coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area.
- To ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.

The main functions through development and application of protocols are around:

- Developing policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area of the authority.
- Action to be taken where there are concerns about a child's safety or welfare, including thresholds for intervention;
- Training of persons who work with children or in services affecting the safety and welfare of children;
- Co-operation with neighbouring children's services authorities and their Board partners.
- Communication to persons and bodies in the authorities area as to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, raising their awareness of how this can best be done and encouraging them to do so.
- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by the authority and their Board partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and advising them on ways to improve.
- Supporting around Individual Management Reviews and Serious Case Reviews.

Current LSCB Priorities for Business Plan 2015-2018:

- Strengthen the multi-agency response to Child Sexual Exploitation, Missing and Trafficked children
- Strengthen safeguarding in all schools, including Early Years, and Further Education providers
- Strengthen the multi-agency response to children affected by domestic abuse
- Co-ordinate a multi-agency approach to online safety for children and their families

Statutory partners

The LSCB is chaired independently; the LSCB members include:

- East Sussex District and Borough Councils
- East Sussex Children's Services
- Sussex Police
- Hastings and Rother/Eastbourne, Hailsham, and Seaford/High Weald, Lewes, and Havens CCGs
- Community Rehabilitation Company, and the National Probation Service
- The Youth Offending Team
- CAFCASS
- Two lay members
- The governing body of a maintained school.
- The proprietor of a non-maintained special school.
- The governing body of a further education institution
- Voluntary Sector representation

Arrangements in East Sussex

The LSCB Board and the LSCB Steering Group both meet quarterly. These 2 meetings together provide a strategic overview of performance, as well as leadership and direction on partnership issues and safeguarding of children in East Sussex.

The LSCB also has several sub-groups which carry forward the specific functions of the LSCB:

- Quality Assurance and Audit group
- Case Review group
- Training group
- Child Sexual Exploitation, Trafficking & Missing group
- Child Sexual Exploitation Education group
- Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)
- Pan Sussex Procedures group
- Local Safeguarding Liaison Groups – East and West of the county
- Independent Schools Safeguarding group

The LSCB Annual Report is presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Safeguarding Adults Board, and the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner.

3. Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB)

The Care Act 2014 sets out the first ever statutory framework for adult safeguarding, which stipulates local authorities' responsibilities, and those with whom they work, to protect adults who may be at risk of abuse or neglect.

These provisions require the local authority to:

- Carry out enquiries into suspected cases of abuse or neglect
- Establish Safeguarding Adults Boards in their area. The role of these Boards is to develop shared strategies for safeguarding and report to their local communities on their progress.

The SAB has three core duties:

- To publish a strategic plan setting out how it will meet its main objectives and what members will do to achieve this. This plan must be developed with local community involvement and the SAB must consult the local Healthwatch organisation.
- To publish an annual report detailing what the SAB has done during the year to implement its strategic plan as well as detailing the findings of any Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs).
- To conduct any SAR in accordance with section 44 of the Care Act.

Through the Sussex Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures, members of the SAB and the organisations they represent, aim to achieve their commitment to:

- Safeguarding and promoting the independence, wellbeing and safety of adults at risk.
- Raising public awareness of safeguarding.
- Promoting work on the prevention of abuse.
- Tackling abuse in all settings.
- Ensuring that all staff and volunteers understand their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding.
- Involving people who access services and carers in continual service improvements and the management and development of Safeguarding arrangements across East Sussex.
- Contributing and applying learning from SARs.
- Ensuring that staff and volunteers are provided with appropriate training in safeguarding.

Current Core priorities

- Ensure the effectiveness and transparency of the SAB to oversee and lead adult safeguarding and the prevention of abuse
- Ensure section 42 safeguarding arrangements are in place under the Care Act, with appropriate feedback and review arrangements
- Develop clear mechanisms for responding to and monitoring quality concerns
- Focus on personalising and integrating safeguarding responses, and measure safeguarding outcomes that bring safety and people's wishes together
- Allow the voice of clients, carers, and the local community to be heard in safeguarding policy and practice
- Ensure that people are aware of safeguarding and know what to do if they have a concern
- Ensure transition arrangements from Children's to Adult services, for those at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation, are addressed in a multi-agency context
- Ensure that all people involved in safeguarding have the appropriate skills, knowledge and competencies

- Ensure clear links exist between Partnership Boards with accountability arrangements documented and understood to avoid duplication of work-streams

The SAB consists of representatives from the following agencies:

- East Sussex Adult Social Care
- Sussex Police
- Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
- Sussex Community Foundation Trust
- Trading Standards
- East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service
- South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
- Eastbourne, Hailsham & Seaford Clinical Commissioning Group
- Hastings & Rother Clinical Commissioning Group
- High Weald Lewes Havens Clinical Commissioning Group
- Residential Care Association
- Lewes Prison
- Safer Communities
- National Probation Service
- Kent, Surrey, Sussex Community Rehabilitation Service
- Homecare representatives
- Lewes District Council Housing (representing the District and Borough Councils)
- Further Education representative
- Local Safeguarding Children's Board
- Care for the Carers
- Healthwatch
- NHS England
- Change, Grow, Live (CGL)

The SAB meets quarterly and also has several subgroups to carry forward specific functions of the SAB:

Operational Practice Sub-group This group co-ordinates local safeguarding work, and ensures the priorities of the SAB are put into place operationally. Currently, its particular focus is to ensure an outcomes-focused approach is embedded in safeguarding practice, as well as ensuring advocacy provision will meet the Care Act duties.

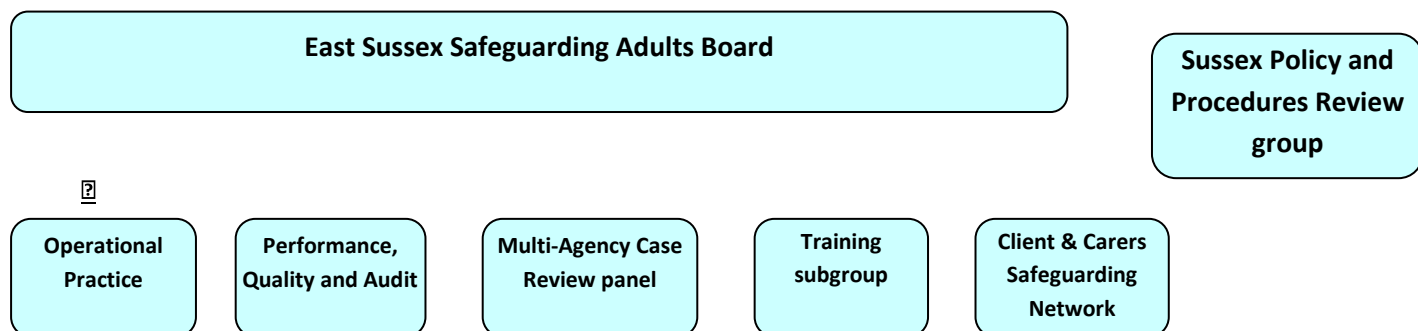
Performance, Quality & Audit Sub-group This group establishes effective systems for monitoring, reporting and evaluating performance across agencies, and links annual reporting to improvement planning. The group highlights staffing groups or service areas that require further awareness or training.

Multi-agency training and workforce development subgroup: This group is responsible for delivering the objectives of the training strategy 2015-18 and overseeing training opportunities in key safeguarding matters affecting a number of agencies. Currently the group is focused on developing multi-agency self-neglect training.

Clients & Carers Safeguarding Advisory Network (CCSAN) This network enables two-way communication and exchange of information between the SAB and clients and carers to improve safeguarding experiences and inform policy development. The network has expanded its membership to include organisations that support and represent people with disabilities, mental ill health and learning disabilities, together with older adults and carers.

Sussex Policy and Procedures review group: This consists of the statutory partners of the SABs across Sussex, with the purpose of reviewing and updating the Safeguarding Procedures in line with any policy and legal updates.

Multi-Agency Case Review group: considers all SAR referrals and makes recommendations to the chair of the SAB. The panel consists of the statutory partners and is primarily concerned with SAR thresholds and weighing up what type of review will promote effective learning and improvement action. Where the threshold for a SAR has not been met, the panel considers other types of review and learning.



Governance

The East Sussex SAB is independently chaired and is accountable to the East Sussex County Council Scrutiny Committee and through the Lead Member for Adult Social Care. The Board produces an annual report stating what both the SAB and its members have done to carry out and deliver its objectives. This report is sent to the Chief Executive and Lead member, the local policing body, Healthwatch and the Chair of the Health & Wellbeing Board. The report is also accessible to the public on the SABs and Council's website.

4. Health and Wellbeing Board.

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 created a common flexible framework, by requiring the establishment of a Health and Wellbeing Board.

The East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board is a forum where key leaders from the Health and Care system work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population and reduce health inequalities. From April 2013 statutory functions included the development of a Joint Strategic needs assessment and a joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, to ensure there is a shared and comprehensive understanding of local health and wellbeing needs.

Members include:

- County councillors
- Local Healthwatch
- Director of Adult Social Care and Health
- Director of Children's Services
- Director of Public Health
- CCG representation
- Invited observers with speaking rights
- District and Borough Councils

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2019 outlines the vision to protect and improve health and wellbeing in East Sussex and to reduce inequalities so that everyone has the opportunity to have a safe, healthy and fulfilling life. The aim is to deliver a fully integrated health and social care system by 2018. It will ensure people receive high quality and coordinated care, supporting them to live independently and achieving the best possible outcomes. The East Sussex Better Together programme established in August 2014 is a key delivery vehicle for the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The emerging Connecting 4 You programme for the High Weald Lewes Havens area will also contribute to achieving the Strategy outcome of improving health benefits for the population.

Current Core Priorities

- Integrating health and care provision through accountable care
- Improving access to services
- Improving emergency and urgent care
- Improving health and wellbeing
- Improving mental health care
- Improving primary care
- Better use of medicines
- Better community services
- Ensuring that tackling health inequality is embedded throughout this work

5. The Children and Young People's Trust

The Children's Trust arrangements were introduced in Section 10 of the Children Act 2004 and in East Sussex the Children and Young People's Trust (CYPT) was formed. In 2010 formal requirements to have a Children's Trust were removed and are no longer defined in legislation, though co-operation through effective local partnerships to improve children's wellbeing remains in place.

The aim of the CYPT is to improve outcomes for children and young people, particularly those who are vulnerable to poor outcomes.

The CYPP is the over-arching shared plan that the CYPT partners agree for the whole county. It sets out the shared priorities of the Children and Young People's Trust partners to improve the lives of children, young people and their families in East Sussex. The plan describes:

- the aspirations that partners have agreed for all children and young people in the county
- priorities for collective action by partner organisations over the three years of the plan
- how partners will ensure the plan makes a difference and organisations work together as effectively as possible.

Much of the work of CYPT partners is designed to help families address problems which have either been (in part) caused by, or have led to, relative poverty, and to support them in moving out of poverty. The 2015 – 2018 Children and Young People's Plan also constitutes the statutory Child Poverty Strategy for East Sussex. It reflects and takes account of the three core aims of the national Child Poverty strategy namely:

- Tackling child poverty now – helping parents move into work, work enough hours and earn enough
- Supporting families' living standards – increasing incomes, reducing costs, preventing problem debt, tackling poor housing
- Preventing poor children becoming poor adults – removing barriers to attainment, improving educational outcomes, raising aspirations and improving opportunities

Current Core Priorities

1. Improving the school readiness of young children, particularly early communication, language development and numeracy
2. Helping more parents enter, sustain and progress in work
3. Improving the quality of life of low income families in other ways where possible
4. Maintaining and strengthening early help for vulnerable families; and ensuring effective safeguarding for all children and young people
5. Improving skill levels of young people 14-19, including through better access to a wider range of apprenticeship, vocational training and work experience opportunities as well as a strong academic route
6. Improving support to children, young people and families

Alongside these specific priorities there are three key issues which are very important for the Children and Young People's Trust partners but which are not covered in detail in this Plan. This is because they are covered in other major plans. These three issues are:

- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Educational Attainment
- Physical health and wellbeing

Membership

The CYPT brings together partner organisations who aim to improve outcomes for children and young people through collaborative working. Member organisations of the CYPT include:

- Sussex Police
- East Sussex Healthcare Trust
- Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust
- East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service
- District and Borough Councils
- Local Safeguarding Children Board
- Education setting members (primary and secondary schools)
- East Sussex County Council
- Youth Cabinet
- Voluntary sector members
- National Probation Service / Kent, Surrey & Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company
- Job Centre Plus
- Public Health

Governance

The CYPT reports to East Sussex Strategic Partnership on an annual basis.

6. Safer Communities Partnership

Community safety continues to remain one of the top priorities for the people of East Sussex. Community Safety Partnerships aim to reduce crime and disorder, re-offending and substance misuse. This co-ordinated approach was encapsulated in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, which made it a statutory duty for each local authority area to have a Community Safety Partnership and work with “Responsible Authorities”, to formulate and implement partnership plans setting out their priorities and strategies to tackle crime and disorder.

There are five Community Safety Partnerships in East Sussex and this year these partnerships are undertaking trial mergers in response to changes to the Sussex Policing model. The trial mergers encompass:

- Eastbourne, Wealden and Lewes; and
- Hastings and Rother

In addition to these local Community Safety Partnerships there is also a county-wide strategic partnership known as the Safer Communities Partnership. This Partnership is governed by the Safer Communities Board. The Safer Communities Board is also a statutory body and is the county’s response to the Crime and Disorder Act Regulations 2007, which states that: *“for each county area there shall be a county strategy group whose function shall be to prepare a partnership plan for the county area on behalf of the responsible authorities in that county area”*.

The East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership is the key strategic partnership in overseeing the plans to tackle crime and disorder, re-offending and substance misuse which are best addressed together from the perspective of strategy, economy and efficiency. The partnership involves a range of agencies that are committed to ensuring East Sussex remains a safe place for residents and visitors. The Safer Communities Board also has responsibility for the commissioning of services such as domestic and sexual abuse and drug and alcohol services.

The East Sussex Partnerships' plan is based on a strategic assessment, which sets out an analysis of crime, disorder, substance misuse and re-offending and identifies work streams for joint work.

- When selecting their work streams the partnership also takes into account those of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Sussex Police and District and Borough Community Safety Partnerships.
- The assessment assists the District and Borough Community Safety Partnerships in selecting their local priorities.
- The Safer Communities Partnerships' plan includes the District and Borough plans and represents a plan for the county at both an East Sussex and a District and Borough level.

The Resources and Performance Group within the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership has responsibility for monitoring performance and delivery against this plan, and is accountable to the Safer Communities Board. This group also fulfils the function of the Drug and Alcohol Action Team Board, Civil Military Partnership, and the Against Scams Partnership.

Current Core priorities

Partners have selected the following priorities and work streams for inclusion in the Partnerships' Plan for 2017-2018

Priorities

These have been highlighted as posing the most threat, risk and harm to community in East Sussex using the MoRiLE process:

- Serious Organised Crime
 - Identify vulnerable adults at risk of fraud and rogue trading and develop targeted preventative support
 - Begin to explore cyber-crime with a focus on cyber bullying and online safety
 - Explore further opportunities for partners to engage in early preventative work in relation to organised crime and the exploitation of young people, including links to County Lines
 - Gain a better understanding of the risk of modern slavery

Work Streams

In addition to the priorities adopted by the partnership, the Safer Communities Partnership will be working on the areas outlined below:

- Develop a partnership approach to preventing violent extremism by strengthening community resilience and building more cohesive communities
- Biannual Confidential Inquiry into Drug Related Deaths and associated actions
- Production of a Drugs and Alcohol Strategy
- Recommissioning of the East Sussex Drug and Alcohol Service

- Development of a partnership offending plan that looks at areas of concern that have been identified
- Reviewing the local domestic abuse strategy
- Continued delivery of the MARAC and contributing to the delivery of a 'Second Generation' MARAC model
- Piloting the Women's Aid 'Ask Me' safe enquiry scheme
- Ensuring there are consistent care pathways delivered by a skilled workforce in relation to violence and abuse

District and Borough Community Safety Partnerships will work on priorities that are most relevant to their area.

The Board meets quarterly and the Resources and Performance group meets bi-monthly. The partnership has various groups which deliver the work of the partnership and these groups bring together partners, including representatives where appropriate from the Local Safeguarding Children Board and Safeguarding Adults Board, and to progress shared priorities.

<p style="text-align: center;">Governance / Strategic Meetings</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Safer Communities Board, Engagement Events (extended Safer Communities Board) Resources and Performance, Prevent Board</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Partnership/Operational Meetings</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences, Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences Professionals, Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Oversight Group, Chanel Panel, Integrated Offender Management, Scams Working Group, Operational Offending Group</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">District and Borough Meetings - Community Safety Partnerships</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Eastbourne, Lewes and Wealden Community Safety Partnership, Hastings and Safer Rother Community Safety Partnership</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Operational meetings Joint Actions Groups, Anti-Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conferences, Road Safety Groups (Hastings Rother and Wealden), Business Crime Reduction Partnerships (Eastbourne and Hastings), Rough Sleepers and Street Community meetings (Hastings and Rother and Eastbourne)</p>

Governance

The Safer Communities Board is chaired by the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, who is also the lead member for Adult Social Care and the Vice Chair of the Sussex Police and Crime Panel. The Board is accountable to the East Sussex County Council Scrutiny Committee and through the Lead Member for Adult Social Care. The Board produces an annual plan stating what the partnership will focus on in the forthcoming year and what it has done to carry out and deliver its objectives from previous years. This plan is sent to all partner organisations and is also accessible to the public on the Partnerships' website.

The governance of the District and Borough Community Safety Partnerships is carried out in a similar fashion.

The Safer Communities Board and Resources and Performance Sub Group comprises of representatives from the following agencies:

Safer Communities Board
Portfolio Holders with responsibility for Community Safety, East Sussex County Council and the 5 District and Borough Councils
Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Children’s Services, East Sussex County Council
East Sussex County Council
Eastbourne, Lewes and Wealden Community Safety Partnership (3 representatives)
Hastings and Rother Community Safety Partnership (2 representatives)
Police and Crime Commissioner
Chief Superintendent East Sussex
Chief Fire Officer East Sussex
Clinical Commissioning Group (armed Forces representative)
Resources and Performance Group
Portfolio Holders with responsibility for Community Safety, East Sussex County Council and the 5 District and Borough Councils
Eastbourne, Hastings, Lewes, Rother and Wealden District and Borough Councils
East Sussex County Council (including Public Health, Youth Offending Team, Adult Social Care, Children’s Services, Communities, Economy and Transport)
Clinical Commissioning Groups (Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford; NHS High Weald Lewes Havens; NHS Hastings and Rother
East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service
Sussex Police
Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company
National Probation Service
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Surrey Sussex Criminal Justice Board
Royal British Legion
Ministry of Defence
Civil Military Partnerships Lead NHS Hastings and Rother Clinical Commissioning Group

The voluntary and community sector and service user groups attend an annual meeting of the Safer Communities Board to give their views on what the risk areas are for Community Safety.

7. Ensuring the Boards are working well together

Shared priorities and responsibilities

As set out above, the Boards and partnerships cover a wide range of issues. However there are a number of shared priorities where the named Boards will need to ensure that leadership and accountability for issues is clear and that information is effectively shared. These shared priorities relate to protecting vulnerable adults and children from harm and include:

- domestic violence and abuse
- mental health/emotional wellbeing
- child sexual exploitation, , missing people, rape sexual violence and abuse, harmful practices (Female Genital Mutilation, Forced Marriage and ‘so called’ Honour Based Violence) human trafficking and modern slavery
- Financial abuse/scams

The Boards/Partnerships will work together and take a pragmatic approach to achieve the best outcomes for people and ensure there is no duplication of effort or aspects of work missed due to one partnership thinking another is dealing with it. Each Board/Partnership has the opportunity to input into an area of work where it carries a responsibility or has relevant knowledge and expertise.

The effective links are established for statutory review processes, for example Serious Case Reviews (SCRs), Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) and Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs).

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Abuse Management Oversight Group

This group provides strategic and operational oversight of multi-agency responses in East Sussex to Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA), Sexual Violence (SV) and other forms of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) in East Sussex.

The overarching strategic outcome for the group is that local residents and communities are free from DVA, SV and VAWG by:

- Increasing survivor safety
- Holding perpetrators to account
- Decreasing social tolerance and acceptance
- Increasing people's ability to have violence-free, safe and equal lives.

The group is responsible for:

- Supporting planning for future service delivery by maintaining a picture of victim and perpetrator profiles in East Sussex
- Identifying any emerging risks and issues and agreeing appropriate actions
- Reviewing and disseminating emerging learning, best practice and national, regional, local policy in the development and delivery of partnership activities
- Developing, coordinating and monitoring the relevant East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership strategy and action plans
- Supporting the delivery of other relevant strategies and actions plans e.g. Child Sexual Abuse (CSA including CSE)
- Overseeing the response to recommendations arising from Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) and Near Miss Reviews (NMR)
- Supporting the response to other relevant recommendations from Serious Case Reviews (SCR), Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SAR) Reviews or any other relevant review commissioned by a local organisation or partnership
- Monitoring the performance, quality and effectiveness of the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process and developing, , coordinating and monitoring a MARAC action plan
- Developing a training plan for the ES workforce based on local needs.
- Assisting in the Quality Assurance of local agency responses to DVA, SV and VAWG and supporting Quality Assurance in associated areas e.g. CSA
- Maintaining links with the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and the Safeguarding Adult Board (SAB) to enable opportunities for shared learning and joint delivery
- Maintaining links with other local and regional forums, including the Pan Sussex partnership structures, to enable opportunities for shared learning and joint delivery.

The group is accountable to the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership Board and will report regularly on progress and escalating issues by exception as required. Representatives from the LSCB and SAB will provide a link to the respective partnerships and report regularly on progress and escalating issues by exception as required.

Leadership and accountability

- The Local Safeguarding Children Board is the statutory lead partnership for ensuring the effectiveness of services that ensure the welfare and safety of children.
- The Safeguarding Adults Board is the lead partnership for ensuring the welfare and safety of vulnerable adults.
- The Safer Communities Partnership has the strategic lead for understanding need, and performance in relation to crime and disorder, re-offending, and substance misuse.
- The Health and Wellbeing Board has the strategic lead for understanding need in relation to the health and wellbeing of the population and for delivering the priorities in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- The Children and Young People's Trust Board takes a holistic view of the child and is responsible for understanding need, developing a broad strategy with partners and monitoring performance in relation to the agreed strategic partnership priorities.

Where a piece of work with cross-cutting themes is identified, the other Boards will be contacted to clarify the relevance of the theme for them. The relevant Boards will then agree:

- Responsibility and accountability for the area of work
- Which Board will lead and how the other partnerships can feed into this
- Information sharing and reporting arrangements



Mutual Challenge and support

The Boards/Partnerships will work together in a way that is open and honest in appreciation of their common goal to achieve the best outcomes for residents in East Sussex.

The Chairs or through their direction will provide constructive challenge to each other across the issues identified above. This is to ensure that core priorities and business aims are met, and the commissioning of services is in line with safeguarding practices. The relevant Board will need to be alerted to any issues identified either through the Chairs or via a report that is referred if the issue is complex and detailed.

The following routes may be instigated when required:

- A Chair can make a formal written request of another chair for information or consideration of an area of concern.
- A Chair can make a request of another chair for an item to be placed on a Board meeting agenda to address a particular area of concern.

- A Chair can request a meeting between Board representatives to consider and agree a way forward regarding issues that have not been resolved by the above.

Information sharing

Information will continue to be shared across the Boards through consultation on strategies, annual reports, inspection reports and through shared membership. The following arrangements will promote information sharing:

- The Chairs and business managers will receive a copy of each other’s agendas and minutes and note relevant recommendations and issues.
- The Chairs or business managers will formally report their Annual Reports to each Board.

Members who sit on more than one Board are expected to attend meetings regularly. They have a key role in ensuring they represent their organisations and share information on the issues and concerns being discussed at both Boards. They are a key mechanism for linking and sharing information at this strategic level.

There is the following common membership across the Boards:

	Local Safeguarding Children Board	Children and Young People’s Trust	Safeguarding Adults Board	Health and Wellbeing Board	Community Safety Partnership
East Sussex County Council (ESCC) Children’s services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ESCC Adult Social Care & Health	✓		✓	✓	✓
Clinical Commissioning Groups	✓		✓	✓	✓
Sussex Police	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
District & Boroughs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Through this protocol Chairs and partners will:

- have an ongoing and direct relationship, communicating regularly;
- work together to ensure that action taken by one partnership does not duplicate action taken by another; and
- ensure that they are committed to working together to ensure that there are no strategic or operational gaps in policies, protocols, services or practice.



Chair
East Sussex Local Safeguarding Children Board



Chair
East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board



Chair
East Sussex Children and Young People's Trust



Chair
East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board



Chair
East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership