



Milton Keynes Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 20 January 2010 - 31 March 2011

Approved: 20 January 2010

1. PURPOSE of MKSCB

The Milton Keynes Safeguarding Children Board was established under section 13 of the Children Act 2004 as the statutory mechanism for agreeing how the relevant organisations within Milton Keynes co-operate to safeguard, promote the welfare of children and young people and ensure the effectiveness of the work undertaken by partners in this area.

MKSCB is a multi-agency independent strategic, rather than operational, Board. It and its activities are part of the wider Children's Trust (CT) arrangements, without being subordinate to, or subsumed within those arrangements.

2. FUNCTIONS OF MKSCB

The broad functions of the Board are as follows:

- a) The Board is responsible for ensuring that the Milton Keynes Children's Trust has a coherent strategic approach to safeguarding, and that all Children's Trust partners are performing their safeguarding responsibilities.
- b) The Board is responsible for developing and agreeing, in partnership with the Children's Trust, the staying safe priorities in the Children and Young People's Plan and regularly reviewing these outcome indicators so that work within and across agencies is held to account.
- c) The Board is responsible for ensuring the development and maintenance of multi-agency safeguarding policies, procedures and good practices across Milton Keynes.
- d) The Board is responsible for ensuring that single and inter-agency training on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is provided to meet the needs of the children's workforce and others in Milton Keynes and evaluating the impact of this training on the children's workforce.

- e) The Board is responsible for raising awareness around how children can be safeguarded and their welfare promoted, and how this is everybody's business and ensuring that it has a high profile in Milton Keynes.
- f) The Board is responsible for ensuring effective quality assurance systems are in place across and within all partners, and that scrutiny systems across agencies are in place to carry out its responsibilities through audits and data analysis as appropriate.
- g) The Board is responsible for encouraging and monitoring safe recruitment and workforce practices across all services and agencies.
- h) The Board is responsible for monitoring all child deaths that occur in Milton Keynes and enquiring into and evaluating all unexpected child deaths.
- i) The Board is responsible for ensuring that effective arrangements are in place to determine when to hold a Serious Case Review, to ensure the review is carried out in an efficient and independent manner, and to ensure that learning from the review is disseminated across partner agencies and wider and leads to improved practice.

In order to fulfil its functions MKSCB agrees priorities and a Business Plan. The MKSCB Business Management Group monitors progress against these and oversees the work of the sub-groups against their work programmes developed from this Business Plan.

In October 2009, MKSCB agreed the priorities for 2010/12 to be:

1. Improve the effectiveness of MKSCB's functioning by implementing the new Constitution, incorporating lessons learnt from the national stocktake of LSCBs and responding to Laming and Working Together.
2. Develop further the participation strategy for children and young people and communities and implement this, taking account of current mechanisms for participation in Milton Keynes.
3. Develop further the communication strategy for raising the awareness of safeguarding in Milton Keynes and the work of MKSCB.
4. Develop robust systems to audit and quality-assure multi-agency safeguarding processes and practice.

5. Improve information, written and electronic, about MKSCB and safeguarding for children, parents, those working with children, and for the public.
6. Develop the inter-agency training strategy taking account of the areas identified for development in the review of training underway.
7. Review and make more accessible inter-agency policies and procedures and make these electronically available to all working with children and young people.
8. Ensure inter-agency guidance regarding safer employment including CRB checking, Vetting & Barring scheme etc, is in place and widely known.
9. Ensure recommendations from the Serious Case Review undertaken in 2008-9 are implemented.
10. Audit safeguarding within agencies and provide support/challenge where required to improve these.
11. Improve quality and analysis of data provided to MKSCB.

The Business Plan 2010-11 describes how these priorities will be carried forward at a strategic level. Detailed work plans for the Business Management Group and sub-groups will be developed covering in more detail the actions to be taken. Progress against the work plans will be monitored by the Business Management Group which will report progress against the overall Business Plan to each MKSCB meeting.

Desired Outcome	Actions	Performance Measures	Lead	Resources required	By when	Progress report	RAG
1. Clear governance arrangements are in place for safeguarding children	All partners sign the MKSCB Constitution and attend meetings regularly, avoiding substitution wherever possible	Attendance at MKSCB, BMG and sub groups is 80% and consistent	Business Management Group	Time and commitment of all members	October 2010 March 2011		
	Ensure progress against Business plan and agreed action plans of sub groups	Business plan and sub group work plan actions completed within timescale	Business Management Group	As detailed below Time and commitment of all members	Progress reports to each MKSCB meeting March 2011		
	Undertake an annual review of safeguarding effectiveness in Milton Keynes	Annual report presented to MKCT, partners boards and Local Strategic Partnership	Business Management Group/ MKSCB	MKSCB staff time and support of members	October 2010 and annually thereafter		
	Review Constitution in line with national guidance	Constitution is up to date and effective	Business Management Group	Print costs of annual report Time and commitment of all members	July 2010 and annually thereafter		
	Review the effectiveness of MKSCB	Partners assured that MKSCB is effective in improving the safeguarding of	Business Management Group	Time and commitment of all members Possible cost	October 2010		

Desired Outcome	Actions	Performance Measures	Lead	Resources required	By when	Progress report	RAG
		children in Milton Keynes		of commissioning external consultant			
2. Children and Young people, their parents, professionals and communities are aware of how children can be safeguarded and their welfare promoted	Develop and implement an improved communication strategy to include awareness raising and publicity that reaches professionals, children and young people and their families and the community	Children, young people, their families and communities have information about what to do if they are concerned about a child	Communications and Engagement sub-group	Time and commitment of members £12,000 for publicity materials and campaign	May 2010		
		Reporting of appropriate concerns is increased			March 2011		
3. Children and young people and communities are involved in the work of MKSCB	Develop and implement a participation and engagement plan	Children and young people are involved in the work of MKSCB	Communications and Engagement sub-group	Time and commitment of members £3,000 for expenses of children, young people, lay members	March 2010		
		Communities are involved in the work of MKSCB	Communications and Engagement sub-group		February 2011		
		Lay members involved in MKSCB	Communications and Engagement sub-group	December 2010			
4. Safeguarding	Complete review of	Safeguarding	Training sub	MKSCB staff	March 2010		

Desired Outcome	Actions	Performance Measures	Lead	Resources required	By when	Progress report	RAG
training is provided effectively to the children's workforce and promotes the objectives of MKSCB	current safeguarding training programme, identifying gaps and priorities, Implement agreed training strategy and delivery programme and monitor effectiveness	training is reported to be widely available and meeting the identified needs of the children's workforce	group	and members time and commitment £40,000 for developing training pool, new materials, and buying in some training	July 2011		
5. Safe recruitment and workforce practices are in place across all services and agencies.	Improve understanding of processes for responding to allegations against staff and volunteers in all organisations working with children and young people	Audit demonstrates that all settings working with children & young people are practicing safe recruitment ISA registration is effectively achieved by all relevant staff	Safer Workforce sub-group	Time and commitment of all members Possible cost of commissioning external audit	October 2010		
	Develop guidance regarding safer employment in line with changes in national policy and ensure this is widely publicised	Audit demonstrates that all relevant settings are practicing safe recruitment	Safer Workforce sub-group	As above	October 2010		
	Develop support and	Reduction in	Safer	Time and	March 2011		

Desired Outcome	Actions	Performance Measures	Lead	Resources required	By when	Progress report	RAG
	advice for schools and all relevant settings regarding allegations management	referrals to LADO	Workforce sub-group	commitment of members			
6. Effective quality assurance systems are in place across and within all partners, and that scrutiny systems across agencies are in place.	Develop audit programme for priority areas	Practice is improved in agencies and future audits identify progress against action plans	Quality assurance sub group	Time and commitment of members	April 2010		
	Undertake audits and monitor progress against action plans			£8,000 for commissioning external audit	April 2011		
	Develop MKSCB complaints system and review learning from complaints made	Practice is improved when areas for improvement are identified	Quality Assurance sub group	Time and commitment of members	July 2010		
	Develop systems for collating and interpreting multi agency safeguarding data	System in place for reporting, including analysis Task completed	Data task and finish working group	Time and commitment of members	March 2010		
				£20,000 for system development			

Desired Outcome	Actions	Performance Measures	Lead	Resources required	By when	Progress report	RAG
7. Effective arrangements are in place to determine when to hold a serious case review, to ensure the review is carried out in an efficient and independent manner, and to ensure that learning from the review is disseminated across partner agencies and wider and leads to improved practice	Review process in line with the national review of chapter 8 Working Together	SCRs that take place are graded good or better	Standing Serious Case Review Panel	Time and commitment of members	January 2010		
	Ensure there are sufficient trained staff to undertake individual management reviews	Learning is reported to the Children's Trust and changes in practice take place where identified as required	Standing Serious Case Review Panel	Time and commitment of members	July 2010		
	Develop the process for commissioning Overview Report writers, in line with regional/national initiatives	Overview reports for SCRs that take place are graded as good or better	Standing Serious Case Review Panel	Time and commitment of members £15,000 for commissioning overview report writer if required	July 2010		
8. Multi-agency safeguarding Policies and Procedures are up to date and easily accessible to staff across agencies	Develop and update local policies procedures and guidance documents in response to local and national initiatives	All policies are up to date within 3 months of new guidance	Policy and Procedures sub-group	Time and commitment of members £3,500 for maintenance and updating of web based procedures	3 months from new/ revised guidance being published		

Desired Outcome	Actions	Performance Measures	Lead	Resources required	By when	Progress report	RAG
	Review agencies safeguarding policies and procedures.	These are in line with MKSCB overarching policies and procedures	Policy and Procedures sub-group	Time and commitment of members	December 2010		

APPENDIX 1 MK CYPP STAY SAFE PRIORITIES 2010-12

During 2009-11 we will work to ensure that:

- All children and young people and their families feel and are safe and secure, living in stable homes, neighbourhoods and communities.

Stay Safe: All children and young people and their families feel and are safe and secure, living in stable homes, neighbourhoods and communities						
What are we going to do?	Lead (s)	Measure - How do we know we have succeeded?	National 2008/09	MK 2008/09	Target 2009/10	Target 2010/11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the effectiveness of the Milton Keynes Safeguarding Children Board (MKSCB), including provision of training to the children's workforce around risk assessment Provide training to schools and other educational establishments to enable implementation of revised restraint policy Improve joint working between children's and adult services by using a Think Family approach to put families firmly at the centre and provide more targeted and integrated support for vulnerable families, particularly where parents have substance misuse or mental health issues Ensure there is a wide range of effective family support services in place including intensive family support Support schools and settings to develop measures to prevent bullying or racist incidents as well as effective and swift responses when they occur Support and develop Safer Schools Partnerships Promote safer recruitment of staff, across the children's workforce, including the voluntary sector 	Assistant Director, Specialist Services	Self assessment of local procedures and protocols to respond to the needs of runaway or missing children- maximum 15 from a basket of measures (NI71)	Not available	4	8	10
	Assistant Director, Specialist Services	Improved long term stability of placements for children in care (NI 63) <i>LAA Target</i>	65.7%	72.3%	74%	76%
	Assistant Director, Specialist Services	Reduced proportion of children in care with 3 placement moves or more in a year (NI 62)	11.4	10.3%	10%	9%
	Assistant Director, Specialist Services	Reduced proportion of children in care in residential placements (Local)	Not available	15.2%	14%	12%
	Community Safety	Repeat incidents of domestic violence (NI 32)	New indicator	New indicator	28% or less	28% or less

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work with SaferMK to improve the quality and effectiveness of services when there are children under the age of 18 living with violence in the home ▪ Provide stability for all our children in care, in family settings where possible 	Manager		for 2009/10	for 2009/10		
	Assistant Director, Targeted Services	Fewer children and young people report having experienced bullying: response from Tellus Survey (NI 69)	48%	47%	45%	43%
	Assistant Director, Specialist Services	All Child Protection Plans are reviewed in timescale (NI 67)	99.4%	88.6%	100%	100%
		Percentage of Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more (NI 64)	5%	0%	4% In line with NA or less	4% In line with NA or less
		Percentage of initial assessments completed in timescale (NI 59)	71%	77.9%	80%	82%
Percentage of core assessments completed in timescale (NI 60)		80%	84.7%	85%	85%	

