

APPENDIX 2

SAFEGUARDING GROUPS – LINKS and DEPENDENCIES

The June 2010 meeting of the Cross Departmental Safeguarding Group requested information on the various safeguarding groups, their links and dependencies.

The overarching principle for safeguarding work with children is that is not the business of one unit, organisation or department, but the business of everyone. Structures and links reflect this principle.

The Local Safeguarding Children's Board, for Hampshire the Hampshire Safeguarding Children's Board (HSCB) is the statutory body set up to facilitate and ensure relevant defined agencies work together to address children's safeguarding issues.

Some key agencies (e.g. police) cover a geography which also includes all or part of Southampton, Portsmouth and the IOW, each of whom has their own Safeguarding Children Board. There is close cooperation between these Boards who come together to form the partnership known as the 4LSCB. The 4 LSCB produce the safeguarding procedures for all agencies across this wider geography.

The HSCB conducts its business through a number of sub groups:

- Communication and Awareness Raising Group (CARG)
- Monitoring and Effectiveness Scrutiny Committee (MESC)
- Workforce Development (WD)
- Serious Case Review Committee (SCRC)

In addition to these groups managers come together in more local groups, Multi-Agency Safeguarding Fora (MASF) based on the Children's Services Department's operational areas. These feed into the HSCB through the MESC.

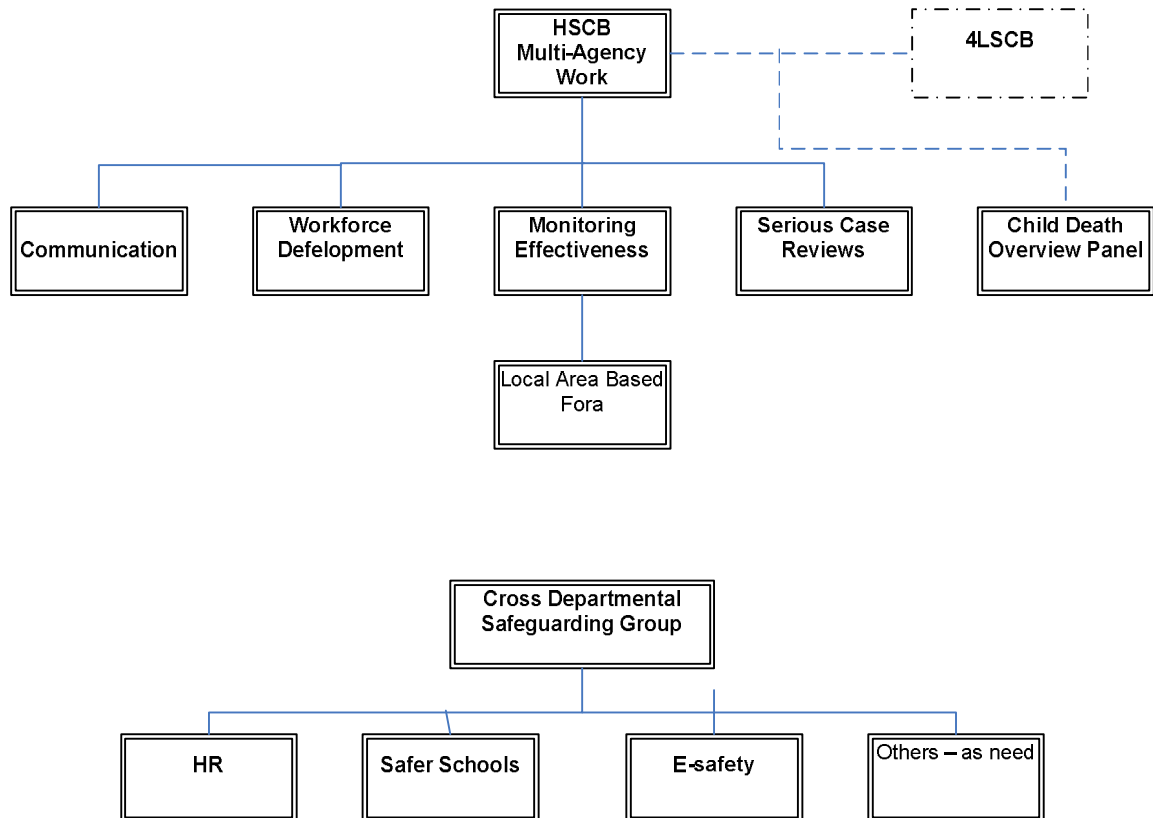
Through a comprehensive and multi-disciplinary review of child deaths, the 4LSCBs Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) aims to better understand how and why children in our locality die and use our findings to take action to prevent other deaths and improve the health and safety of our children.

The Cross Departmental Safeguarding Children Group (sometimes referred to as the Corporate Safeguarding Group) is not a statutory group but provides the focus for safeguarding issues relating to children across Hampshire County Council's different departments. Many issues addressed (e.g. HR, access to sensitive sites) have relevance for Adult services. They are represented on and have a particular interest in this group.

This group also has sub groups, sometimes responding to identified need rather than standing groups, such as the **HR**, the **Safer Schools** and the **e-safety** sub groups.

A strong link exists between the **HSCB** and the **Cross Departmental Group**. The Children's Services Deputy Director for the Children and Families Branch chairs the

Cross Departmental Group and attends the HSCB. The Deputy Director for Education and Inclusion is a member of both the Group and Board, as is the Children and Families Area Director with the lead for Safeguarding. Other member of the Cross Departmental Group are members of HSCB sub groups.



Finally, within the Children’s Services Department, the Safeguarding Unit has a quality Assurance function for departmental safeguarding work and delivers a number of functions best serviced at a County, rather than local operational, level. The HSCB is based in the same building as, but operates independently from, the Safeguarding Unit.

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