

**East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership**

**Board - Terms of Reference**

**Introduction**

The purpose of the East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership is to support and enable all professionals working with children and families in East Sussex to work together in a system where:

* Children are safeguarded and their welfare promoted
* Partner organisations and agencies collaborate, share and co-own a vision for safeguarding children
* 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 accurate and timely decision making for children and families.

To enable the above, the East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership (ESSCP) is facilitated by a partnership ‘Board’ made up of statutory safeguarding partners and relevant agencies which meets on a quarterly basis, and a ‘Steering Group’, to support strategic and operational decision making. More details about ESSCP arrangements can be found here: [east-sussex-safeguarding-children-partnership.pdf (eastsussex.gov.uk)](https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/media/13530/east-sussex-safeguarding-children-partnership.pdf)

**Statement of Values**

The member agencies of the East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership believe that all children living in or visiting the County have the right to:

* Safety and security in a culture of high expectation, which provides protection from harm and exploitation and enables them to develop healthily to meet their full physical, intellectual and emotional potential.

In order for this to be realistic all member agencies are working to the standards within the Children Act 2004 to ensure that:

* All those who work with children and young people know what to do if they are worried about possible harm.
* When concerns are reported, action is taken quickly and sensitively to help children and their families.
* Agencies that provide children and young people with services take steps to ensure they are safe and comply with legal requirements.

East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership strongly believes that children and young people should have a say when decisions are made which may affect them. We also believe that children and young people should have the means and opportunities to be able to raise issues which are important to them, and ensure they are listened to. By doing so, we will create a stronger child protection system that is more responsive to the needs of our most vulnerable children.

East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership will endeavour to ensure that children and young people are appropriately involved in the governance and decision making of the board. We will also challenge and hold Board members to account on their engagement and involvement of children and young people within their own agencies.

**Board function:**

* To review and be accountable for safeguarding activity and agree strategic priorities.
* To inform and influence planning for children and young people in respect of safeguarding.
* To receive reports from all Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPRs) and learning from Rapid Reviews
* To disseminate key messages to agencies to ensure the co-ordination of child protection and safeguarding activity in East Sussex.
* To ensure the effectiveness of agencies’ activity to safeguard and promote the welfare of children through monitoring and review.

**Membership:**

Senior Representatives drawn from the statutory membership of the ESSCP Board Members

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| **NAME** | **TITLE, ORGANISATION** |
| **Chris Robson (Chair)** | Independent East Sussex SCP Chair |
| **Louise MacQuire-Plows** | Manager, East Sussex SCP |
| **Victoria Jones** | Manager, East Sussex SCP |
| **Harriet Martin** | Lay Member, East Sussex SCP |
| **Jacqueline Staveley** | Lay Member, East Sussex SCP |
| **Maxine Nankervis** | Admin Support Officer, East Sussex SCP |

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| **Gail Gowland** | Head of Safeguarding (adults and children), ESHT |
| **Gareth Knowles** | SECAmb Trust Safeguarding Lead, Clinical Supervisor |
| **Lynne Torpey** | Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Quality, Nursing and Quality Directorate NHS England |
| **Jayne Bruce** | Deputy Chief Nurse, Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust (SPFT) |
| **Judith Sakala** | Named GP for Child Safeguarding |
| **Martin Ryan** | Named Nurse/Associate Director Safeguarding Children (Interim) |
| **Michael Brown** | Head of Safeguarding and Looked After Children  Sussex NHS Commissioners |
| **Naomi Ellis** | Deputy Director Quality, Safeguarding & Looked After Children  Sussex NHS Commissioners |
| **Jo Tomlinson / Sergio Lopes-Gutierrez** | Designated Nurses linked to the ES partnership |
| **Tracey Ward (Deputy Chair)** | Designated Doctor Safeguarding Children, East Sussex |
| **Vikki Carruth** | Director of Nursing, ESHT |

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| **Andrea Holtham** | Service Manager, Sussex CAFCASS |
| **David Kemp** | Head of Community Safety, East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service |
| **Debbie Knight** | Snr Probation Officer, National Probation Service, Sussex |
| **Jon Hull** | D/Sup Sussex Police |

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| **Annabel Hodge** | Dir. Of Safeguarding, Bede’s Senior School |
| **Kate Bishop** | Head Teacher, Rotherfield Primary School |
| **Richard Green** | Deputy Head Teacher, Chailey Heritage School |
| **Richard Preece** | Executive Head teacher, Torfield & Saxon Mount Federation |

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| **Alison Jeffery** | Director of Children’s Services |
| **Ben Brown** | Consultant, Public Health, ESCC |
| **Cllr Bob Bowdler** | Lead Member for Children and Families |
| **Catherine Dooley** | Senior Manager, Standards and Learning Effectiveness (5-19), Children’s Services |
| **Douglas Sinclair** | Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance, Children’s Services |
| **Lucy Spencer** | SAB Manager |
| **Justine Armstrong** | Safer Communities Manager |
| **Kathy Marriott** | Assistant Director, Early Help and Social Care, ESCC |
| **Rachel Doran** | Legal and Coroner Services Manager |
| **Vicky Finnemore** | Head of Specialist Services, Children’s Services |

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| **Jeremy Leach** | Principal Policy Adviser, Wealden District Council |
| **Malcolm Johnston** | Executive Director for Resources, Rother District Council |
| **Oliver Jones** | Lewes DC + Eastbourne BC, Strategy and Partnerships Lead |
| **Seanne Sweaney** | Strategy and Corporate Projects Officer, Lewes DC and Eastbourne BC |
| **Verna Connolly** | Head of Personnel and Organisational Development, Hastings Borough Council |

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| **Kate Lawrence** | Chief Executive Home-Start East Sussex |

To be quorate the meeting must include representatives in attendance from Health, Police and Children’s Social Care.

Board Members need to:

* Be a lead senior officer for children’s safeguarding who will represent their agency on the ESSCP and act as a point of contact for their organisation.
* Be able and prepared to report to the ESSCP on their agency’s activities to promote and safeguard the welfare of children.
* Participate in the activities of the ESSCP as appropriate, being responsible for noting and carrying forward any action identified for them/their agency.

Board Members will also need:

• Champion children’s safeguarding within their organisations and link to other organisations where appropriate.

* Speak for their organisation with authority and attend and participate in the ESSCP

• Commit their organisation on policy and practice matters

• Commit resources on behalf of their organisation

* Allocate resources to ESSCP projects

• Hold their organisation to account

• Chair a subcommittee as required

• Be responsible for ensuring effective communication between the ESSCP and the organisations they represent.

**Chair:**

* ESSCP Independent Chair.
* In the event that the Chair is unable to attend a Board meeting, the meeting will be chaired by the Vice Chair.

**Frequency of Meetings:**

* The Board will meet 4 times a year and may meet more frequently should this become necessary, for example to consider the learning and publication of LCSPRs.

**Administration:**

* The ESSCP Manager and the ESSCP Administrative Support Officer will support the group.

**Accountability:**

* The Group is accountable to the three lead safeguarding partners.

April 2022