

INFORMATION SHEET

MULTI-AGENCY SAFEGUARDING ARRANGEMENTS

LEGISLATION

The three statutory safeguarding partners, the London Borough of Barnet, the Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group and the Metropolitan Police, and other organisations, including schools, will work together as a Barnet Safeguarding Children Partnership to safeguard children and young people in the London Borough of Barnet. These new arrangements are in response to the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and meet all of the requirements set out in Working Together 2018. These changes were implemented as of September 2019

WHAT IS DIFFERENT?

The BSCP has taken the opportunity to look afresh at how partners work together to improve outcomes for young people and children in Barnet. We have made a number of key changes to governance to streamline the number of meetings and effectiveness of working together. We are focused on working with families and the local community to provide our children with the support and opportunities they require at all stages of their life. We recognise how strong partnerships and communities are essential to making sure that young people receive the best support possible.

CHANGES INCLUDE

- hiring of an independent Scrutineer
- increased flexibility through the dissolution of the Executive Board
- independent Chair for Serious Case Reviews/Learning
- increased consultation with children and families
- new constitution
- increased partnership and ownership across agencies

OUR VISION

At the heart of our vision for children and young people in Barnet is the concept of Resilient Families and Resilient Children. Our ambition is to drive forward a strong partnership that enables children and families to thrive and achieve. There is a significant body of evidence that resilience is pivotal to delivering the best outcomes for children and young people. Some of this research can be accessed here: Resilience is defined as “the ability to bounce back from stress and adversity and take on new challenges, leading to better outcomes”).

Resilience means having the 3 Cs:

Control - belief in ability to influence situations

Challenge - seeing mistakes as an opportunity for growth

Commitment - an active engagement in activities that give meaning to life.

OUR VISION

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

1. children are safeguarded and their welfare promoted
2. partner organisations and agencies collaborate, share and co-own the vision for how to achieve improved outcomes for vulnerable children
3. organisations and agencies challenge appropriately and hold one another to account effectively.
3. there is early identification and analysis of new safeguarding issues and emerging threats
4. learning is promoted and embedded in a way that local services for children and families can become more reflective and implement changes to practice which are shaped by the experiences and concerns of Barnet children and families.
5. information is shared effectively to facilitate more accurate and timely decision making for children and families.

STRATEGIC GROUPS

The Leadership Forum who provide the strategic direction for the partnership with a membership of the three senior leaders from the London Borough of Barnet, London Metropolitan Police and Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group.

The Thematic Learning and Review Group an independently chaired meeting looking at serious incidents and deaths involving children and young people

Performance and Quality Assurance Group will provide insight to the Leadership Forum on the effectiveness of local arrangements for safeguarding children and young people, through multi-agency audits, thematic review, performance reporting and service user feedback.

