

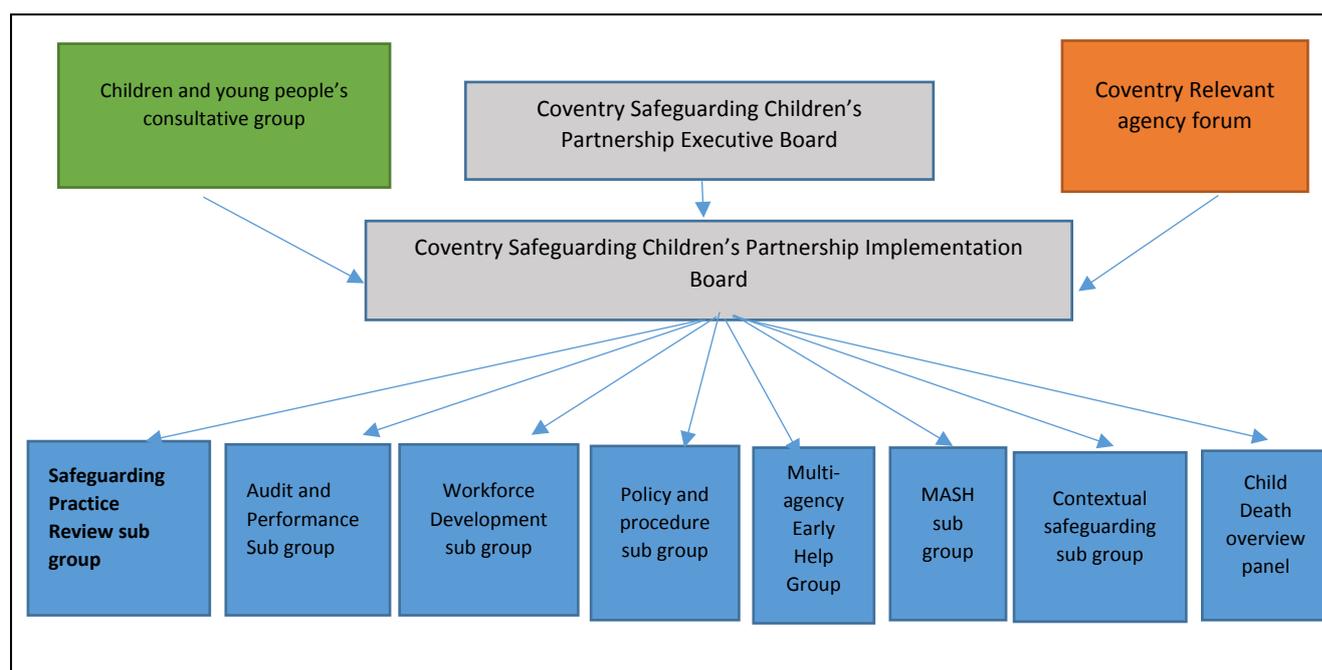
### Proposal for new Safeguarding Children’s Partnership

The 3 main partners for the Coventry Safeguarding Children’s Partnership are; Coventry Local Authority, Coventry and Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and West Midlands Police force. It should be noted that both Coventry and Rugby CCG and West Midlands Police cover an area larger than Coventry but these arrangements relate purely to the citizens of Coventry.

The lead representatives for the Safeguarding arrangements are:

 <p>Coventry City Council</p>	<p>Martin Reeves,</p>	<p>Coventry City Council, Chief Executive</p>
	<p>Mike O’Hara</p>	<p>Chief Superintendent, Coventry NPU</p>
	<p>Andrea Green</p>	<p>Accountable Officer, Coventry and Rugby CCG</p>

### Proposed structure chart



## **Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership Executive Board**

An Executive Safeguarding Children's Partnership group, consisting of the Local Authority Chief Executive, the Accountable Officer of the Clinical Commissioning Group and the Chief Officer of Police and their delegated officers, to include the Statutory Director of Children's Services, will be established whose role it will be to lead and oversee the co-ordination and effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements. The group will be chaired by an Independent Scrutineer. This group will meet quarterly in order to ensure a strong leadership approach and will look to fulfil 2 functions:

To satisfy the partners that statutory duties have been fulfilled.

To ensure that work is undertaken that drives action beyond usual institutional and agency constraints and boundaries

The importance of this group is to ensure that there is a commitment to the work from the very top of the organisations and that this is reflected in how these leads hold staff to account in delivering the work of the Executive Board.

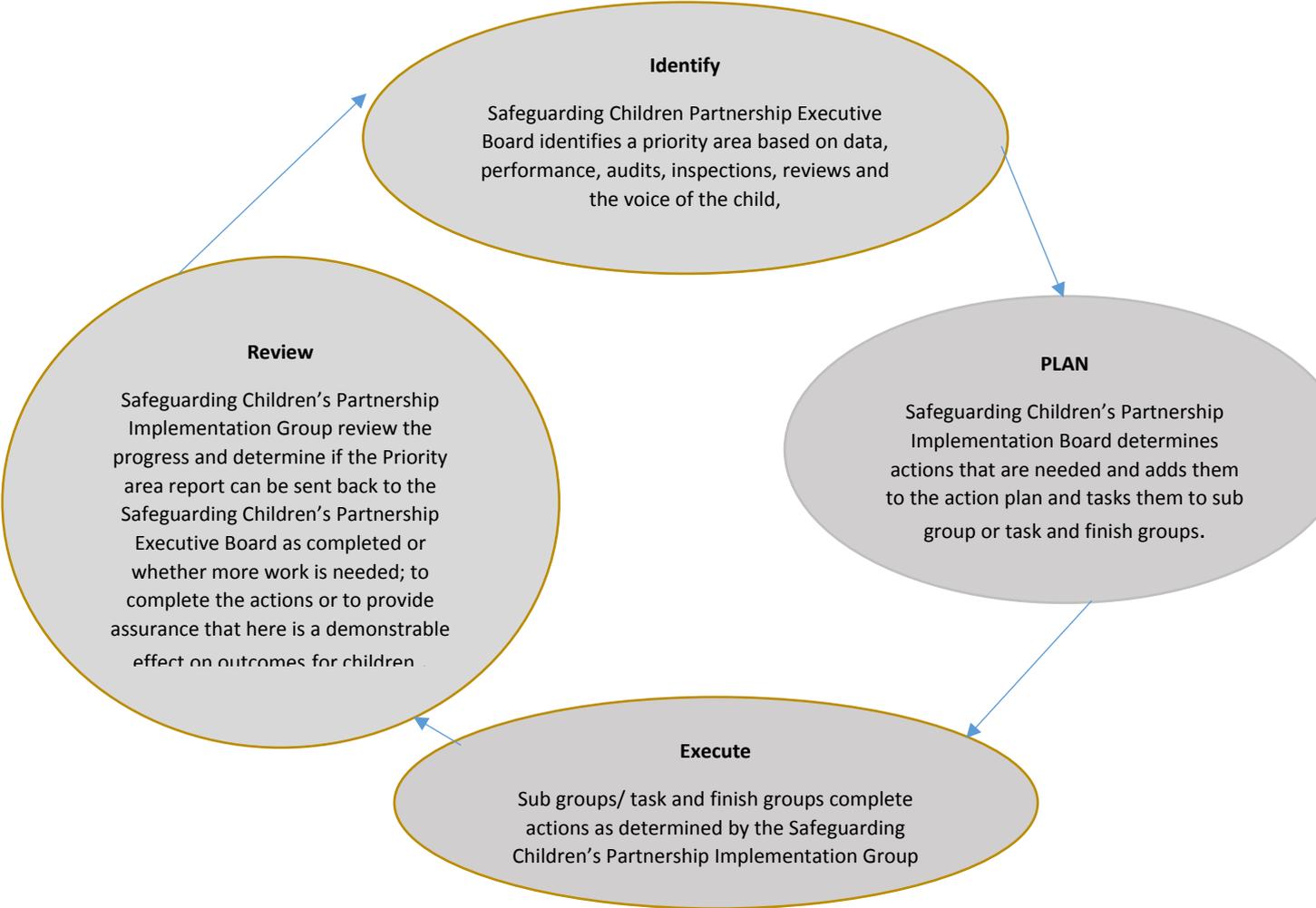
The priorities will be set by the Executive Board who will determine work that needs to happen on a quarterly basis. In order to ensure a Signs of Safety approach is promoted from the very top of the organisation the Executive Board will look at areas, defined by audits, data, national and local learning and the voice of the child, with the key lines of enquiry being; What is working well, What are we worried about and What needs to happen. This work will then be tasked to the Safeguarding Children's Partnership Implementation Board. In terms of what needs to happen, to again ensure ownership from the top of the organisation, this will be identified in terms of the level that the work needs to happen at either universally, in early Help, in multi-agency early help or within statutory interventions.

## **Coventry Safeguarding Implementation Group**

The Independent Scrutineer will also chair the Implementation Group. The members of the group will include senior officers from all existing agencies who attend the Coventry Safeguarding Children's Board. This will be subject to regular review. The aim of this group will be to ensure that work is delivered as assigned by the Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership Executive Board. Once the Safeguarding Partnership Priority areas are identified the actions that fall out of them will be held on an action plan that is owned and monitored by this group.

The meeting will have two halves; one which will oversee completed work, reports and statutory duties and the other which will focus on developmental work to identify what needs to happen next. The developmental role of the Implementation Board will allow for all partners around the table to collaborate, and ultimately to share the vision for how to achieve improved outcomes for vulnerable children.

The diagram below demonstrates how the process will function:



**Relevant agency forum**

Section 11 of the Children’s Act 2004 places duties on a range of organisations, agencies and individuals to ensure their functions, and any services that they contract out to others, are discharged having regard to the need to safeguarding and promote the welfare of children.

The Wood Review reflected that often Local Safeguarding Children Boards had little effect on frontline practice. The aim of the relevant agency forum is to ensure that work that is undertaken by the partnership is communicated to frontline teams and that emerging issues from the frontline are also identified. The forum

will be held bi-annually for those with supervisory or line management responsibilities for their organisations. The purpose of the sessions will be:

- To update practitioners in respect of the work of the Partnership and to make the Board more visible.
- To disseminate learning from Safeguarding Practice reviews, audits or national learning.
- To facilitate networking across agencies.
- To test out the effect of action on frontline practice.
- To identify emerging issues.
- To improve outcomes for children in the City.
- To give practitioners information to disseminate within their organisations.

### **Sub Groups**

#### **Coventry Safeguarding Practice Review Group**

The purpose of this group will be to:

Undertake rapid reviews to:

- Gather the facts about the case.
- Discuss whether there is any immediate action needed to ensure children's safety and share any learning appropriately.
- Consider the potential for identifying improvements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
- Decide next steps and whether to undertake a safeguarding practice review.
- Identify serious child safeguarding cases which raise issues of importance in relation to the area or nationally.
- Commission and oversee the review of those cases, where it is considered appropriate for a review to be undertaken.

#### **Child Death Overview Panel**

The purpose of the group is:

To collect and analyse information about each child death with a view to identifying:

- Any case giving rise to the need for referral to the national panel.
- Any matters of concern affecting the safety and welfare of children in Coventry.
- Any wider public health or safety concerns arising from a particular death or from a pattern of deaths in Coventry.
- To ensure in consultation with local Coroners, that local procedures and protocols are developed, implemented and monitored, in line with the guidance in Working Together 2018 on enquiring into unexpected deaths.
- To ensure the accurate identification of and uniform, consistent reporting of the cause and manner of every Child Death.
- To collect and collate an agreed minimum data set of information on all child deaths on Coventry and, where relevant, to seek additional information from professionals and family members.
- To evaluate data on the deaths of all children normally resident in Coventry, thereby identifying lessons to be learnt or issues of concern, with a particular focus on effective inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
- To evaluate specific cases in depth, where necessary to learn lessons or identify issues of concern.
- To identify any public health issues and consider, with the Director of Public Health and other provider services, how best to address these and their implications for both the provision of services and for training.
- To identify and advocate for needed changes in legislation, policy and practices to promote child health and safety and to prevent child deaths.
- To increase public awareness and advocacy for the issues that affect the health and safety of children.
- Where concerns of a criminal or child protection nature are identified, to ensure that the police and coroner are aware and to inform them of any specific new information that may influence their inquiries; to notify the lead from the CCG and the Local Authority of those concerns and advise them on the need for further enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act, or of the need for a Serious Case Review.
- To improve agency responses to child deaths through monitoring the appropriateness of the response of professionals to each unexpected death of

a child, reviewing the reports produced by the rapid response team and providing the professionals concerned with feedback on their work.

- To provide relevant information to those professionals involved with the child's family so that they, in turn, can convey this information in a sensitive and timely manner to the family.
- To monitor the support and assessment services offered to families of children who have died.
- To monitor and advise the child death review partners on the resources and training required locally to ensure an effective inter-agency response to child deaths.
- To co-operate with any regional and national initiatives in order to identify lessons on the prevention of child deaths.

#### **Coventry Workforce Development sub group**

The purpose of the group is to look at how:

- Inter-agency training will be commissioned, delivered and monitored for impact.
- Emerging training needs will be identified.
- Learning is promoted and embedded in a way that local services for children and families can become more reflective and implement changes to practice. Consideration will also be given to whether training can become income generating.

The group will look to develop more innovative ways of learning such as:

- Lunchtime briefings
- One minute guides
- E-learning
- Relevant agency forums
- School teacher training day events
- Roadshows

#### **Coventry Policies and Procedures sub group**

This is a joint sub group across Coventry and Warwickshire. The purpose of the group is to:

- Approve Tri-x proposed procedures, guidance and updates.
- To commission new policies and procedures as required.

- To provide advice to partner agencies or service providers from both Board areas concerning any single agency guidance or procedure relating to safeguarding children.
- To plan and co-ordinate the Tri-X procedure update twice yearly, taking into account local learning and improvement activity.

### **Coventry Contextual Safeguarding sub group**

Working Together 2018 defines contextual safeguarding as follows, 'As well as threats to welfare of children within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. These extra – familial threats might arise at school and other educational establishments from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and / or online. These threats can take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple threats, including: exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines: trafficking, online abuse: sexual exploitation and the influences of extremist materials. Any potential harmful effects to individuals identified as vulnerable to extremist ideologies or being drawn into terrorism should also be considered.

The sub groups remit is to share and analyse information from partner agencies in order to identify trends and emerging issues and agree co-ordinated actions by partner agencies to tackle these issues and trends. This work of this group cannot be completed by the Implementation group as it will require a different set of partners to other areas.

### **MASH sub group**

#### **The purpose of the group will be to:**

- Establishing a clear and joint owned vision for children, young people and families across the city including a clear direction for the Early Help offer and overseeing the development of the 'child's journey'.
- Establishing the right conditions to promote child-centred investigations and outcomes (overcoming cultural and operational differences) including strengthening current data sharing to enable joint planning and action.
- To agree a city-wide, multi-agency owned set of indicators to track progress and outcomes for children and their families.
- To plan and secure resource requirements supporting better value, minimising unnecessary costs and targeting resources appropriately.

### **Multi agency Early Help group**

#### **The purpose of the group will be to:**

- Provide leadership and effective partnership working to drive the Family Hub developments and the Early Help offer from partners.
- Provide oversight and challenge around practice and performance to enable the offer to always be in the child, young person and family's best interest.
- Understand resource requirements, actively ensure the right level of resources are available and mobilise people to deliver across agencies.
- Monitor the Early Help Implementation Plan.
- Develop and implement communication strategy across all agencies.
- Review and address key strategic risks and issues and report these through identified governance structures.

### **The Safeguarding Partnership/BoardTeam**

The Board team currently incorporates:

- FTE Safeguarding Board Manager
- FTE Training Officer
- FTE Quality Assurance Manager
- FTE Business Development Officer
- 2 x FTE Team leader administrators

The role of the team is to support both the Safeguarding Partnership and the Safeguarding Adult Board. It is envisaged that there will be a need for the team to remain in its current form in order to carry out the proposed work.