



**Southwark**  
Clinical Commissioning Group

# Working Together 2018

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Safeguarding Children

GP Forum 5.12.2018

The best possible health outcomes for Southwark people



# Background

- Wood review
- Children and Social Work Act 2017
- Working together - A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- The Department for Education released the updated version of Working Together to Safeguard Children in July 2018.
- Strengthens in statute what was previously best practice.



# The revised version makes significant changes to the following:

- **Multi-agency safeguarding arrangements**
- **Organisational responsibilities**
- **Assessing need and providing help**
- **Local and national child safeguarding practice reviews**
- **Child death reviews**



# Multi-agency safeguarding arrangements



Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) replaced by three safeguarding partners:

- local authorities,
- chief officers of police,
- clinical commissioning groups

equal and joint responsibility as strategic leaders to make arrangements to work together with relevant agencies to safeguard and protect the welfare of children in the area and implement local and national learning including from serious child safeguarding incidents.



# Organisational responsibilities



The NHS definition has been expanded to include independent sectors and General Practitioners.

Under Section 11 duties, the NHS now includes NHS organisations and agencies and the independent sector and has added General Practitioners. The Primary Care Safeguarding annual review, now entering its 3<sup>rd</sup> year, will be updated in line with these new arrangements.



Organisations and agencies are reminded that it is an offence to fail to make a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service without good reason, if an individual (paid worker or unpaid volunteer) is removed from work in regulated activity such as working with children (or would have been removed, had they not left first).





# Assessing need and providing help



The guidance highlights specifically that practitioners should be alert to the potential need for early help for a child who:

- is disabled and has specific additional needs
- has special educational needs (whether or not they have a statutory Education, Health and Care Plan)
- is a young carer



- is showing signs of being drawn into anti-social or criminal behavior, including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups
- is frequently missing/goes missing from care or from home
- is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking or exploitation requiring referral to the National Referral Mechanism



- is at risk of being radicalised or exploited
- is in a family circumstance presenting challenges for the child, such as drug and alcohol misuse, adult mental health issues and domestic abuse
- is misusing drugs or alcohol themselves
- has returned home to their family from care



- is a privately fostered child”.
- The right to special protection and help for child refugees is emphasised.
- The specific role of health practitioners in providing information to strategy discussions is addressed.



# Contextual Safeguarding

Recently developed child protection framework (in UK).

This offers an approach to understanding, and responding to, young people's experiences of significant harm beyond their families and includes peer relations, schools and environment.



Examples of contextual safeguarding include:

- exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime networks such as county lines exploiting children to sell drugs;
- trafficking,
- online abuse;
- sexual exploitation and the
- influences of extremism leading to radicalisation.



# Local and national child safeguarding practice reviews





Serious child safeguarding cases are those in which:

- Abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected **and**
- the child has died or been seriously harmed

Local authority must notify the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel of any such case within 5 working days.



# Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel (national level)

Informs Secretary of State if National review to be undertaken

Serious child safeguarding cases which, in its view, raise issues of complex or national importance.

Maintain oversight of both national and local reviews



The Safeguarding partners must also consider whether a case meets the criteria for a local review.

- Holds a rapid review meeting to inform decision making
- Commissions and supervises reviewers
- Manages and publishes the report and sends to the National panel.

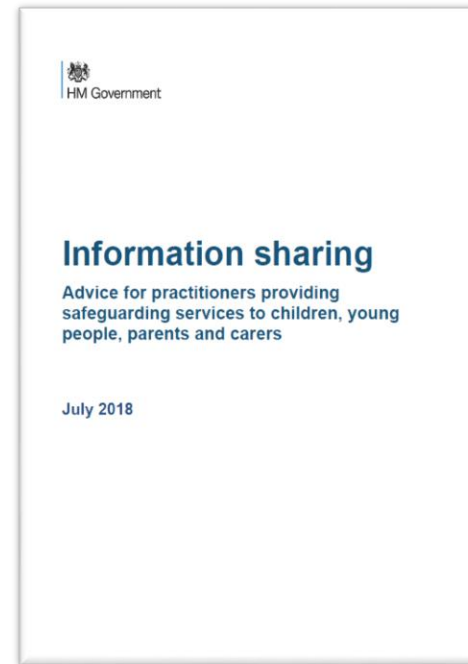


# Child death reviews



# Information Sharing DfE (July 2018)

- This has been strengthened
- This guidance provides advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers.
- A myth-busting guide to information sharing has been added covering the Data Protection Act 2018 and General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).



# Links to new guidance

- [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018](#)
- [London Child Protection Procedures 2018](#)
- [Child Death Guidance 2018](#)
- [Information sharing for safeguarding practitioners 2018](#)

