

Sutton Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2015-16 – Young People’s Summary



Welcome to the Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2015-16. This is your bite size report of all the important things you need to know about your Board in Sutton. But first...

What is a Local Safeguarding Children Board?

Sutton Local Safeguarding Children Board (or LSCB for short) is made up of organisations and local services across Sutton that all work together to make Sutton a safe place for children to live, study and enjoy life as they become young adults. The Board has representations from;

- Children’s Social Care
- The Police
- Local Schools
- Health services
- Early Help services,
- Voluntary and community services, and;

But also other organisations that have responsibilities for keeping children and young people safe.

They all come together and co-ordinate their work as everybody has a role to play and can have more impact when they work with each other. Sutton is not the only place with a LSCB. The Government says that all local authorities in the UK must have a LSCB with these key responsibilities;

- To write up and publish guidance for professionals
- To communicate and raise awareness on how to safeguard children and young people in the wider community
- Making sure that local Sutton services are working well for children and young people
- To help plan services for children and young people
- To advise organisations on how they can improve their services

Why are we writing this report?

The original annual report was written to help professionals that work with young people like you, understand what the priorities are for the LSCB and how they plan on making Sutton a better place for you. This version of the report summarises all that information so you know how working together can improve the support available for children and young people.

A short glossary...

Local Safeguarding Children Board Or LSCB or The Board	Sutton Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) is made up of local services and organisations (like police, youth justice, education, health and children services) to coordinate, monitor and challenge themselves to keep children safe and promote their welfare. LSCB's are a statutory body (which means the Government requires it to exist due to the Children Act)
Safeguarding is about...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promoting the safe and healthy development of children, and;• that children are supported to make good choices about their lives as they become more independent• Protecting children from abuse and neglect and suffering harm in the family or wider community
The Chair	The Chair is the head of the Local Safeguarding Children Board. It is about making sure that meetings run smoothly and that the work of the Board has an impact on keeping children and young people safe.
Serious Case Reviews	When a child dies or is seriously hurt, a serious case review is carried out to see where the Board and professionals could have done things differently. The focus is on the learning to protect children in the future.

Subgroup

Small groups set up to focus on specific areas of work. Sutton LSCB has 7 subgroups;

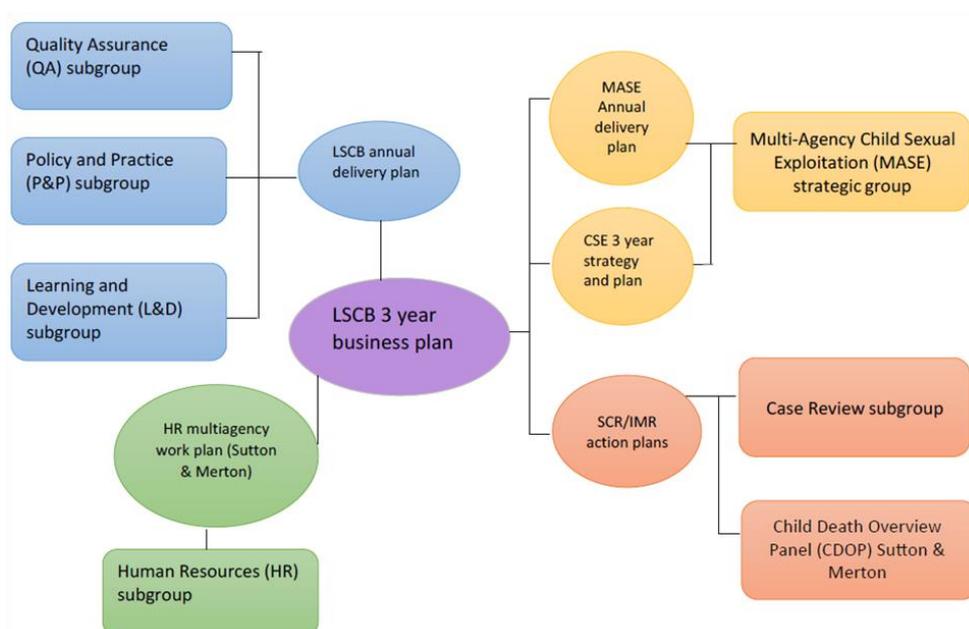
1. Learning and development subgroup
2. Human resources subgroup
3. Policy and practice subgroup
4. Quality assurance subgroup
5. Child death overview panel
6. Case review subgroup
7. Multi agency sexual exploitation and missing children group

How does the LSCB work?

The Board decides on the important safety issues that children and young people are facing in Sutton. The focus is on how members of the Board can make a difference to keep children and young people safe. The Board works in partnership with a number of organisations to set priorities which are based on guidance from a government document called Working Together. The document shows professionals what they should be doing to provide early help and safeguard children who are at risk of abuse and neglect.

The Board meets five times a year with representatives that feedback the most important actions to the subgroups. Sutton has 7 subgroups which all focus on different things. Each subgroup has to make sure that they are following up on the actions and priorities set by the LSCB.

As the subgroups complete their tasks, they report back to the LSCB to make sure that everyone knows that priorities have been completed.



The Board has a business plan to make sure that everyone knows about the priorities for the next year, and also shows professionals and people in the community, Sutton's approach to keeping children safe. Overall the LSCB wants to;

- Improve the protection of children
- Help organisations providing services for children and young people work better together
- Improve the effectiveness of the LSCB
- You can read more about the details of the LSCB priorities in our business plan [here](#).

How are young people shaping the LSCB?

The Board feel very strongly that with children and young people should have a voice and influence the work that it does. The priorities for the 3 year business plan reflect the views and experiences of a diverse group of young people who we talked to about what makes them feel unsafe in Sutton and their views on what the Board should focus on. Here are some of their responses:

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"I feel much less safe online than in person"

"Discrimination is bullying" and some students are treated differently because of their social backgrounds and mental health

The group fed back that there had been a positive significant change in attitude towards young LGBT people between 2013 and 2015

The support needed differs depending on the young person's age, family support, peer network, school/college as well as sexual orientation

There needs to be regular opportunities for young people to have their say

Young people need to be educated to prevent recording explicit, inappropriate or violent material

Progress and priorities

In the last year the LSCB has set up a project with the Volunteer Centre Sutton to put priorities in the Business plan into actions in the following areas:

- Peer pressure and bullying in schools and the wider community
- Education to protect children and young people
- Participation and decision making
- Virtual/online/social media safeguarding concerns

The LSCB now has a children and young person's engagement officer who is getting children and young people involved in the following priorities for the next year:

- 1) To produce a 2-year Children and Young People Engagement plan to have an impact on keeping children and young people safe in Sutton.
- 2) Developing a children and young people website area as part of upgrading the Sutton LSCB website.
- 3) Undertake consultation to help the LSCB to better understand the needs of young people who need help from alcohol and drug services in Sutton.
- 4) Influence the review of the multi-agency self-harm protocol and the learning from the self-harm case audit.
- 5) Ensure that the voices of children who are affected by Violence in their homes influence the safeguarding work coordinated by the Domestic Violence Partnership group.
- 6) Develop ideas for a network of School Safeguarding Champions.
- 7) To review two multi-agency training courses to ensure that the voice of children helps promote learning to professionals.

The full LSCB Annual Report about the Board's activities in the last year and priorities for 2016-17 is available on this [link](#) or by accessing the LSCB website on this link www.suttonlscb.org.uk



Introducing Christine Davies....



Christine is the Independent Chair of Sutton LSCB and has been in her role since April 2014. Being the Chair means that she has the responsibility for coordinating and checking that organisations in Sutton do all they can to keep children and young people safe and well. She is really passionate about children and young people getting the best help possible from services in Sutton.

Christine has the final say on what to do to find out about the circumstances when a child has died or been seriously harmed. She takes her role to speak up about the rights of children very seriously to make sure that there is learning from Serious Case Reviews.

Christine also regularly meets with local service leaders and school head teachers and speaks at learning events that are organised by the LSCB.

If you are worried about your safety or safety of someone else, please contact;

**Sutton Multi-Agency Safeguarding
Hub (MASH)**

**1st Floor Sutton Police Station
6 Carshalton Road
Sutton
SM1 4RF
MOB: 07736338962
Tel: 020 8649 0418
Email: mash@sutton.gov.uk**

**TELL A PARENT OR
TEACHER**

**Contact the NSPPC
here:**

**[https://www.nspcc.org.
uk/what-you-can-
do/report-abuse/](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-you-can-do/report-abuse/)**

**Call 0808 800 5000
to speak in
confidence, or text
anonymously to
88858**