



PAN DORSET SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP PLAN

Changes to safeguarding children partnership arrangements in line
with Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018

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Introduction

Over the past few months, senior leaders from Dorset CCG, the 3 current local authorities and Dorset Police have overseen and engaged on an option appraisal to consider potential models for future safeguarding children partnership arrangements to meet the new requirements of *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018*.

The outcome of the option appraisal was that a pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership would provide the most effective mechanism for addressing current and emerging safeguarding risks and vulnerabilities of children.

This paper sets out a summary of the option appraisal process along with the key elements required to establish the new arrangements and seeks organisational approval from the statutory partners of the CCG, local authorities and police. This will need to be followed by independent scrutiny of the plan prior to submission to the Secretary of State for Education (see timeline at App 1).

Background

Significant changes have recently been made to multi agency working as part of the Children and Social Work Act 2017. The Act abolishes local safeguarding children boards and creates new duties and a system of collective accountability for CCGs, local authorities and police to make arrangements locally to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in their area. Safeguarding children partners must have published their new arrangements before **29th June 2019** and have **up to three months** from the date of publication to implement the arrangements.

The development of a new safeguarding children partnership comes at a time of significant change locally for the key agencies of CCGs, local authorities and police.

In May 2018, parliament authorised the creation of a new unitary council for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole along with a separate unitary council for Dorset. Recruitment to new senior leadership roles for the new councils is nearing completion. Dorset CCG is one of eight first wave integrated care systems with strategic programmes for prevention at scale, integrated community services and a single acute network. Dorset Police has a collaborative partnership with Devon and Cornwall Police and had volunteered for merger although this is not now going ahead.

Developing vision and priorities

The current vision and priorities for children and young people across Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset is expressed within the strategic plans of the existing children's trusts, the integrated care system local transformation plan and the police and crime plan. These plans include common themes of:

- Children feeling cared for, safe and secure
- Enabling children and young people to fulfil their full potential

- Children feeling prepared for adulthood
- Promotion of mental health, early identification and intervention to address mental illness in children and young people
- Protecting children and young people from risks such as exploitation
- Addressing the needs of children in care and care leavers

Once established, the new safeguarding children partnership will develop its vision and priorities for safeguarding children on a pan Dorset basis. This will enable new leaders to the local system and current partners to develop a shared ambition for improving impact and outcomes for safeguarding children and young people.

Process for developing the pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership

Over the summer of 2018, senior leaders from across the CCG, 3 local authorities and the police oversaw an option appraisal process for the development of future safeguarding children partnership arrangements.

The process followed National Audit Office endorsed guidelines and included the development of an initial long list then a detailed assessment of a short list of potential models against the following criteria:

1. Ensures excellent practice is the norm
2. Ensures learning is promoted and embedded
3. Enables the public to feel confident that children are protected from harm
4. Enables partner agencies to hold one another to account effectively
5. Enables new safeguarding issues to be identified
6. Enables information to be shared effectively
7. Opportunity to reduce business support costs
8. Maximises leadership and staff capacity

Learning and experience from “early adopter” sites elsewhere in the country provided valuable ideas and insight to provide the most effective arrangements.

Following assessment of the options against the appraisal criteria, a pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership was identified as the preferred model to enable a single, more joined up approach in addressing vulnerability and risk for children and young people across Bournemouth, Christchurch, Dorset and Poole.

The following diagram summarises the key elements of the proposed structure for the new safeguarding children partnership and is described in further detail within this paper.



There has been wide scale engagement on the proposal for a pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership including discussion with LSCB/DSCB board members, other strategic partnership groups and via networks including early years and education providers.

This had provided endorsement for the proposal with helpful suggestions on how the new safeguarding children partnership should continue to engage with the wider safeguarding network. Comments received during the engagement period along with responses to these are detailed at App 2.

Safeguarding children partners

The pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership will be led by the 4 statutory partners of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council, Dorset Council, Dorset CCG and Dorset Police. The partnership arrangements will cover 2 local authority areas.

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 names the lead representatives from each of the safeguarding partners “the local authority chief executive, the accountable officer of a clinical commissioning group, and a chief officer of police”.

For the pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership, the lead representatives are:

Graham Farrant	Chief Executive	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council
Matt Prosser	Chief Executive	Dorset Council
Tim Goodson	Chief Officer	Dorset CCG
James Vaughan	Chief Constable	Dorset Police

As set out in *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018*, the lead representatives are able to delegate their functions although they retain accountability for any actions or decisions taken on behalf of their agency. The lead representatives have identified the

following senior officers in their respective agencies who have responsibility and authority for ensuring full participation with these arrangements:

TBC	Director of Children Services	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council
Sarah Parker	Executive Director – People (Children)	Dorset Council
Vanessa Read	Director of Nursing and Quality	Dorset CCG
Paul Kessell	Head of Crime and Criminal Justice	Dorset Police

These named senior officers have delegated authority to speak on behalf of the safeguarding partner they represent, make decisions on behalf of their organisation or agency, commit them on policy, resourcing and practice matters, and hold their own organisation or agency to account on how effectively they participate in and implement the local arrangements. The accountability arrangement will include responsibility for the named senior officers and the lead representatives to develop relevant scrutiny arrangements for safeguarding within their own individual agencies.

It is recognized that the Children Acts of 1989 and 2004 which underpins *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018*, set out specific duties including a duty on the local authority to provide services to children in need in their area, regardless of where they are found and requires local authorities to undertake enquiries if they believe a child has suffered or is likely to suffer significant harm. The Director of Children’s Services and Lead Member for Children’s Services in local authorities are the key points of professional and political accountability, with responsibility for the effective delivery of these functions.

As the portfolios for Directors of Children’s Services and relevant elected and lead members of the new councils are developed, further consideration will be given to how they will discharge the accountability detailed above within the context of the new pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership arrangements.

In order to bring transparency for children, families and all practitioners about the activity undertaken, the safeguarding partners will publish a report in line with *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018* requirements at least once in every 12-month period which will set out what they have done as a result of the arrangements, including child safeguarding practice reviews, and how effective these arrangements have been in practice.

Geographical boundaries

The pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership will cover the geographical boundaries of the 2 new unitary authorities with a combined children and young people population of 142800. This includes children in the pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership area who have gone missing and who have been found in another area.

The area includes the relatively densely populated conurbation of Bournemouth and Poole, whilst Dorset county is more sparsely populated with inhabitants living in a number of seaside/market towns including Dorchester and Christchurch along with more isolated rural villages.

Relevant agencies

Senior leaders for the proposed pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership have identified the following organisations as “relevant agencies” whose involvement the safeguarding partners consider is required to safeguard and promote the welfare of local children.

However, in line with statutory guidance, safeguarding partners note the option to request representatives from other agencies/organisations as the partnership develops or the need arises from particular areas of partnership work.

NHS organisations and independent healthcare providers	Youth Offending Service	Probation	Adult services
Primary Care	Schools, Colleges and other Education providers	Early Years and Childcare providers	Public Health
Local Council services inc Licencing and Tourism	British Transport Police	Community Rehabilitation Company	Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Services
Sports Organisations/Groups /Associations	Relevant housing providers	Voluntary, Charity, Faith based organisations and hard to reach community groups	UK Visa, Immigration Enforcement and Border Force
Children’s Homes, Independent Fostering Agencies and Supported Housing for Young People	Prisons	Coroner	Secure Training Centres and Secure Estate
Armed forces			

The safeguarding children partnership will engage with “relevant partners” on a regular basis to identify emerging safeguarding priorities and review impact of safeguarding arrangements including information sharing. A range of approaches will be used to maintain engagement including links via existing networks such as the Designated Safeguarding Leads network in education, planning events and webinars.

The safeguarding children partnership will promote via its website information on how to escalate concerns, how any disputes will be resolved along with details of the independent scrutiny and whistleblowing procedures.

Holding agencies to account for co operating and integrating their services to safeguard and promote the welfare of children is an important element of the new arrangements and will be formalised through an accountability framework to evidence that relevant agencies have appropriate, robust safeguarding policies and procedures in place and how information will be shared amongst all relevant agencies and the safeguarding partners.

Those agencies not under a statutory duty, should nevertheless cooperate and collaborate with the safeguarding partners and this will be assessed through periodic audits including section 11 audit and participation in local case reviews.

The Chairs of the sub groups including the local practice review group will account directly to the safeguarding children partnership.

Role of early years' settings, schools and other educational establishments

Ensuring support is in place to enable early years, schools and other education institutions to continue to fulfil their safeguarding children responsibilities will remain a key priority for the pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership.

Strong links will be maintained through the Education Safeguarding Advisors/their equivalent to Designated Safeguarding Leads within child minding, pre-school/nurse provision, children centres, out of school provision, schools, colleges and other education institutions.

Working through these networks will provide a rich source of intelligence about emerging safeguarding needs and risks so that training, policies/procedures can meet the needs of this diverse group of front line staff.

The pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership will seek assurance on schools safeguarding practice through feedback on *Keeping Children Safe in Education* audits/findings from OFSTED inspections and effective engagement in relevant local practice reviews.

Voice of children, young people and families

Capturing the voice of children, young people and their families will enable the pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership to hear about the experience and impact of multi-agency support, improve understanding about the safeguarding context in the local area and shape priorities to help keep children and young people safe.

The pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership will seek assurance on how individual agencies regularly seek and act upon feedback from children and young people including feedback through corporate parenting panels and youth parliament participants. Where possible, the partnership will involve families in local learning reviews and strengthen links with local voluntary and community groups working with children and young people.

Resource has built in to the proposed infrastructure to develop engagement and participation activities to explore new ideas for directly and indirectly involving children and young people in the work of the partnership.

Learning hub incorporating quality assurance mechanism

Learning and improvement is fundamental to effective safeguarding arrangements and a pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership should lead to a larger pool of knowledge, benchmarking to drive improvement and enable commissioning of high quality evidence based learning.

This will be represented in a “learning hub” that brings together learning from a variety of sources including audit, outcomes based performance data, feedback from children/young people and their families, feedback from staff and peer review.

The learning hub will be one of the key ways in which the partnership engages directly with staff so that the partnership has line of sight to front line multi agency practice and can hear first hand of emerging concerns and opportunities to build excellent practice.

It will provide the quality assurance function of the pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership, ensuring consistently high quality safeguarding practice is the norm across all agencies and co-ordinate statutory audits such as Section 11 and Section 175 audits.

The learning hub will be based on the well regarded model at Bexley Safeguarding Children Partnership and operate on a 4 monthly cycle. This will include:

- Month 1 initial problem identification/scoping
- Month 2 multi agency audit
- Month 3 collating feedback from children, young people, families and staff
- Month 4 analysis, recommendations for improving practice/service improvement

Re audit to enable analysis of impact will be built into the cycle.

There will be a close link to the work of the local practice review group reflecting learning and improvement as the central tenet of the partnership.

Local practice review

The pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership will identify and oversee the review of serious child safeguarding incidents. This includes undertaking initial “rapid review” and liaison with the national Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel to agree the most appropriate level and form of investigation.

This should ensure robust, proportionate investigation of cases when things go wrong and ensure the timely sharing of learning at a local and national level. There is a particular opportunity to align the learning from safeguarding adult reviews, domestic homicide reviews, mental health homicide reviews and other relevant statutory investigations.

Child death review partners

The responsibility for ensuring child death reviews are carried out is held by “child death review partners” who are defined as the local authority for the area and any clinical commissioning group operating in the local authority area.

Child death review partners for 2 or more local authorities may combine and agree their area may be treated as a single area for the purpose of undertaking child death reviews.

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 requires child death review partners to cover a geography that could expect at least 60 child deaths per annum. The present pan Dorset child death review panel reviews circa 40 deaths per year. As such, discussions have taken place with Somerset for a proposed partnership covering Bournemouth, Christchurch, Dorset, Poole and Somerset.

Themed task and finish groups - working with the wider safeguarding partnership

The pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership will use a problem solving approach to address safeguarding children priorities and improve outcomes on the safety and welfare of children and young people. This will be progressed through a small number of task and finish groups and where possible co ordinated with the work of other relevant pan Dorset strategic partnerships which have a role in safeguarding such as:

- Safeguarding Adults Boards
- Community Safety Partnerships
- Pan Dorset Community Safety and Criminal Justice board
- Pan Dorset Domestic Abuse Strategic Group
- Multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA)
- Health and Wellbeing Boards

Through a shared sense of responsibility, joint and aligned priorities partners should be able to achieve greater impact in addressing vulnerabilities and risks to children and young people in areas such as sexual abuse, sexual violence, exploitation and domestic abuse. The model should also enable efficiencies in use of resource and specialist skills such as data analysis.

Learning, training and development

The safeguarding children partnership will maintain the current training unit hosted by Dorset Council which operates as a self-funding training function and offers a comprehensive programme of face to face multi agency and on line training for statutory, voluntary and independent workers.

This includes the following:

- Two-day Safeguarding Children course and one day follow up,
- Serious Case Review Workshops,
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Courses on neglect, emotional abuse and sexually harmful behaviour.
- Safer Recruitment
- Managing Allegations
- Supervising to Safeguard and Working with Resistant Families.

All training programmes are commissioned and delivered within a quality assurance framework to ensure high standards of learning which are evaluated immediately on completion of the course, at 8 weeks and 6 months.

The new learning hub will ensure future training is skills based and commissioned based on learning needs from the 4 monthly learning and improvement cycle along with learning from local practice reviews, national reviews and evidence informed practice published through the improvement bodies such as the What Works Centres, National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and the College of Policing.

Funding

In line with *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018*, safeguarding partners have reviewed the financial contribution from each partner to ensure this is sufficient to cover all elements of the arrangements, including the cost of local child safeguarding practice reviews.

Analysis of historic contributions has highlighted that 98.3% of financial contribution has come from local authorities, the CCG and police with a pan Dorset baseline contribution from these agencies of £270106.

It has been agreed that this sum and the current agency split of contributions will be maintained in 2019/20 to enable a smooth transition of responsibilities from the former LSCBs and ensure an appropriate infrastructure can be established for the new safeguarding children partnership.

It is recognised that the level of funding secured from each partner should be equitable and proportionate which will require some adjustment between agency contributions going forward. To enable appropriate budget planning and business case development it has been agreed that when a new budget is set for 2020/21 onwards, the 2 local authorities, CCG and police will each contribute 25% of this funding.

Dispute resolution

The pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership and its relevant agencies must act in accordance with the arrangements for their area, and will be expected to work together to resolve any disputes locally. These arrangements will be formalised in a dispute resolution

policy including appropriate escalation from senior officers to lead representatives of the partnership. Public bodies that fail to comply with their obligations under law are held to account through a variety of regulatory and inspection activity. In extremis, any non-compliance will be referred to the Secretary of State.

Independent Scrutiny

The role of independent scrutiny is to provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area. This is undertaken through objective scrutiny, acting as a constructive critical friend, promoting reflection to drive improvement and considering how well the safeguarding partners are providing strong leadership to fulfil their safeguarding children role.

As detailed on page 6, named senior officers and the lead representatives will ensure relevant scrutiny arrangements for safeguarding within their own individual agencies.

Further consideration will also be given to how relevant elected and lead members of the new councils will discharge their accountability within the context of the new pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership arrangements.

The independent scrutiny will form part of a wider system which includes the independent inspectorates' single assessment of the individual safeguarding partners and the Joint Targeted Area Inspections (JTAs).

Local senior leaders have agreed that in the first instance they will establish an independent chair role which in due course may change to other means of accessing independent scrutiny.

Infrastructure

The new pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership plans to facilitate and drive action beyond usual agency constraints and boundaries to improve safeguarding outcomes for children and young people. To do this, the partnership needs a dynamic and flexible infrastructure which engages with children, young people, families, practitioners and managers to put learning and improvement at the centre of its work and plans to do this through the development of a learning hub.

This will be coupled with a multi agency problem solving approach, linking with other strategic partnership groups to pre-empt and address the greatest challenges and needs.

At the same time, there is still a need to hold agencies to account for their safeguarding work and build public confidence in local safeguarding arrangements so the safeguarding children partnership will need robust systems to manage its business including preparation of annual reports for independent scrutiny.

As such, the proposed infrastructure places particular emphasis on the following skills – some of which will be reflected in dedicated roles whilst others such as data analysis, engagement and communication will be brought in under a service level agreement.

- practice review and learning
- project management
- data analysis, audit and operational research
- business support including budget management
- engagement and communication
- relationship management

Transitional arrangements

Business continuity

Bournemouth and Poole Local Safeguarding Children Board(LSCB) and Dorset Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) will formally handover any outstanding actions or ongoing priorities from their business plans for 2019/20. This process has already begun and was discussed at a planning event held in December 2018 when it was agreed that the following Dorset priorities could now become business as usual:

- Reducing the number of children experiencing significant harm
- Reducing the number of children and young people who come into care

At present, it is anticipated that actions for the following priorities will be ongoing at the time of handover:

- Child exploitation including actions from the JTAI that took place in Dorset in May 2018.
- Child sexual abuse
- Neglect

In addition, there is ongoing work on a joint basis with the adult safeguarding boards on whole family working.

The LSCB/DSCB maintain a risk register with the highest risks at present relating to insufficient management capacity across partner organisations to support the delivery of LSCB/DSCB work streams and the risk of loss of LSCB/DSCB business team capacity due to uncertainty from the changes to safeguarding children arrangements. Mitigations are in place to address these risks and any outstanding risks at the time of formal handover will be notified to senior leaders within the new safeguarding children partnership.

Serious case reviews

At the time of writing, the LSCB and DSCB will be handing over the following cases:

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole:
No current SCRs
Multi agency learning event planned for 1 case
Single agency case audit in out of area placement

Dorset:
SCR 31 due to be published April 2019
Multi agency case audit 28, 30, 32 learning events held or planned for April 2019
Advice awaited from national child safeguarding review panel on 1 further case

In addition, the archive of historical reports from serious case reviews and action plans is accessible via the relevant local authority hosted databases.

Training and development

It has been agreed that the existing training business unit will continue to be hosted for at least the first year of operation of the new safeguarding children partnership by Dorset Council. A full programme of courses has been commissioned for 2019/20 and staff will continue to be able to book these via the Nexus system.

Policies and Procedures

The Pan-Dorset Multi-Agency Safeguarding Policies and Procedures Manual which is an online resource provided by tri.x has recently been updated. The contract with tri.x remains in place and will ensure continuity of access to the wide range of procedures required by the multi agency workforce.

Summary

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 introduces significant changes to multi agency safeguarding children arrangements and in particular bringing to an end LSCBs and replacing these with new safeguarding children partnerships.

This comes at a time of significant organisational change locally with 2 new unitary councils being formed and major strategic developments within the CCG and police. As such, work to develop a vision and priorities for safeguarding children will be an early activity for new and existing senior leaders of the pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership.

Local senior leaders have been proactive in considering potential safeguarding children partnership models including information from “early adopter “sites elsewhere in the country and overseeing an option appraisal to ensure optimum arrangements locally.

This has led to a proposal to develop a pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership which should enable a single more, joined up approach in addressing vulnerability and risk for children and young people across Bournemouth, Christchurch, Dorset and Poole.

Engagement on the proposals has endorsed the plan as an effective means of strengthening multi agency safeguarding work to further improve the safety and welfare of children and young people locally.

The enclosed plan sets out the key components of the new arrangement including the geography to be covered, identifies “relevant agencies” including the role of early years, education and other education institutions as organisations essential to safeguarding children and young people.

The plan details the proposed structure which is centred around a learning hub incorporating the quality assurance function and will bring together learning from a variety of sources including audit and outcomes based performance data. It will also be one of the ways the partnership engages directly with front line staff and receives feedback from children/young people and their families.

The governance arrangement outlined in the plan will ensure accountability, transparency clear escalation routes and the means of resolving any differences.

Working beyond agency boundaries and with other strategic partnerships in a problem solving, outcome focused way should lead to achieving greater impact in tackling some of the greatest challenges within safeguarding children practice.

Timeline

Approval of pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership plan through appropriate governance channels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Shadow Council • Dorset Shadow Council • Dorset CCG • Dorset Police 	February 2019/March 2019
Independent Scrutiny of safeguarding children partnership plan	April 2019
Finalise safeguarding children partnership plan	May 2019
Publication of plan and send plan to Secretary of State for Education	No later than 29 th June 2019
Commence new safeguarding children partnership arrangements	No later than 29 th September 2019

Comments received on Discussion Paper re Proposed Pan Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership

Reference in the responses to “the plan” refers to the Pan Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership Plan

Contributor	Theme of Comment	Response
Safeguarding Adults Boards	The proposals are welcomed and there is an intention to undertake a similar review of safeguarding adult partnership arrangements from Spring 2019. Importance of maintaining joint work in areas such as whole family approach	The new safeguarding children partnership is committed to joint work in all relevant areas.
SARC	Grateful for inclusion of SARC to comment on proposal. Think Pan Dorset partnership is the best solution. Would like to continue to be included in relevant communications.	The importance of effective communication is recognized with resources prioritised for this which is detailed in the infrastructure section of the plan.
Head Teacher	Need to refine agenda and focus issues for relevant partners and build partnerships at a local level	The new partnership plans to engage with partners on the development of a small number of priorities and encourages multi agency working at a local level.
CEO CVS	Like proactive approach. Would like the new safeguarding partnership to engage with the CVS where people are best placed to make an impact.	The voluntary sector as a “relevant partner” is recognised as having an important community links with children and young people and the partnership welcomes the opportunity to strengthen joint work.

Contributor	Theme of comment	Response
Bournemouth Senior Management Team	<p>Positive about proposals</p> <p>Will be important to consider role of elected members as move to new safeguarding children partnership goes forward.</p>	<p>As the portfolios for new Directors of Children services and lead members/portfolio holders are developed, further consideration will be given to how they will discharge their accountabilities within the context of the new safeguarding children partnership arrangements.</p>
Manager NHS England	<p>Need to reference integrated care system of Dorset CCG</p> <p>Like the assessment criteria but struggling to see where voice of the child features.</p> <p>Understand other models were considered including joint partnership with adults' boards. Would like to see how priorities will be jointly planned with other boards.</p> <p>Good to see how experience from early adopters was used but can't see in proposal how learning from early adopters will continue going forward.</p> <p>Need to see a clear dispute resolution process.</p>	<p>Now referenced on page 3 of the plan.</p> <p>Further detail now provided on capturing the voice of the child through resourced engagement work of partner agencies and through direct involvement in the learning hub cycle. Page 8 of the plan.</p> <p>The partnership will align relevant priorities with a range of other strategic partnerships detailed on page 10 of the plan.</p> <p>The partnership continues to review the publications of early adopter sites and links have already been made with Bexley LSCB to learn further about their Learning Hub.</p> <p>This is now described in the plan at page 11.</p>

Contributor	Theme of comment	Response
<p>Childrens Trust Poole</p>	<p>Need to be clear if Independent chairing role is to be ongoing and if not build into job description of leadership role within infrastructure responsibility re facilitate partnership working.</p> <p>Safeguarding partnership needs to respond to issues as they arise in a timely way.</p> <p>Importance of maintaining links with the safeguarding in education groups and education leads. The size of the forum is already large and may not be effective if expanded further.</p> <p>Little said about the voice of the child will be captured. Need vision for this and funds to enable engagement work.</p> <p>Need to be clear on who will receive communication from the safeguarding children partnership and the infrastructure for this.</p> <p>Armed forces are not captured within the relevant agencies.</p> <p>Need clarification on partners intention re Tri.X contract.</p>	<p>Learning from early adopter sites on the role of the independent scrutineer continue to be reviewed.</p> <p>Proposed task and finish groups should enable timely response to issues as they arise. The escalation policy also offers a formal mechanism to resolve such difficulties.</p> <p>The role of early years and education is essential to the safety and welfare of children and further detail has been included within the plan page 7.</p> <p>Further detail now provided on capturing the voice of the child through resourced engagement work of partner agencies and through direct involvement in the learning hub cycle. Page 8 of the plan.</p> <p>The importance of effective communication is recognized with resources prioritised for this which is detailed in the infrastructure section of the plan.</p> <p>Now added to the list of relevant agencies page 7 of the plan.</p> <p>Page 13 of the plan confirms the intention of the partnership to continue with the Tr.X contract.</p>

Contributor	Theme of comment	Response
Head Teacher School	<p>Seems well considered and organized approach.</p> <p>Would like to see communications with designated safeguarding leads continued.</p> <p>Would like confirmation of continued access to training.</p> <p>Wants clarity on who will be the main point of contact in the new partnership</p>	<p>The role of early years and education is essential to the safety and welfare of children and further detail has been included within the plan page 7.</p> <p>A full training programme will continue to be available to the current cross section of workers and is detailed in the plan at page 10. Once published, the infrastructure for the new partnership will make clear key contact points. Meanwhile, the current websites and business team contacts continue to be available.</p>
Bournemouth and Poole LSCB	<p>Colleagues feel this is a good opportunity to shape the new arrangements,</p> <p>Need to ensure the Voice of the Child is embedded in the new arrangements.</p> <p>Colleagues who had worked with Bexley found their model to be good.</p>	<p>Further detail now provided on capturing the voice of the child through resourced engagement work of partner agencies and through direct involvement in the learning hub cycle. Page 8 of the plan.</p> <p>Senior leaders have reviewed plans from early adopters across the country and incorporated relevant features in the proposals including development of a “learning hub” based on the Bexley model</p>

Contributor	Theme of comment	Response
Dorset SCB	<p>Query whether the sub-groups would remain and the difficulty of maintaining the balance of wider agency involvement, such as criminal justice, in the new partnership arrangements.</p> <p>Recognition that Bexley and Devon have published their new arrangements, as an early adopter, for us to compare ours with.</p> <p>Query on how the new arrangements will be evaluated in comparison with the present arrangement.</p>	<p>It is anticipated that the new safeguarding children partnership will have less “standing” sub groups but will form outcome focused task and finish groups to address key priorities.</p> <p>Senior leaders have reviewed plans from early adopters across the country and incorporated relevant features in the proposals including development of a “learning hub” based on the Bexley model.</p> <p>Evaluation mechanisms will be built into the priority setting of the new safeguarding children partnership. The learning cycle described in the plan is based on a continuous process of learning and improvement including evaluation.</p>
Pan Dorset Safeguarding Children Planning Event	<p>Needs to be a strong emphasis on improving outcomes and demonstrating the impact of partnership working for the benefit of children and young people</p> <p>Needs to be alignment on priorities with other partnership groups.</p> <p>Needs to be clear mechanism to feed in and out of the safeguarding children partnership.</p>	<p>This is emphasised in the principles of the proposed safeguarding children partnership and will underpin its work in all areas.</p> <p>The partnership will align relevant priorities with a range of other strategic partnerships detailed on page 10 of the plan.</p> <p>The importance of effective communication to feed in and feed out ideas and key developments is recognized with resources prioritised for this which is detailed in the infrastructure section of the plan.</p>

	<p>Like the Learning hub based on Bexley 4 month learning cycle</p> <p>Need to consider the direct role of Probation and the Community Rehabilitation Company</p> <p>Need to build on current strengths of LSCBs</p> <p>The vision needs to be developed and co-owned with all agencies</p> <p>Clarity needed on expectations of partners</p> <p>The partnership needs to be visible</p> <p>Practice approaches should be based on service user feedback, academic evidence and practitioner views</p> <p>Training needs to be more skills based</p> <p>Learning hub needs to seek out best practice from elsewhere</p>	<p>The “learning hub” based on the Bexley model is described in the plan at page 9</p> <p>Probation and the Community Rehabilitation Company are detailed as relevant agencies with the option to request representatives from these agencies as the partnership develops or the need arises from particular areas of partnership work.</p> <p>Learning from the strengths of the existing LSCBs has been incorporated within the plan. As new and existing leaders are confirmed within the safeguarding children partnership, an early priority will be engagement on developing the vision for safeguarding children</p> <p>An accountability framework will be developed to supplement Working Together requirements of partners.</p> <p>An engagement and communications plan will address the range of ways that the partnership will be accessible and visible.</p> <p>The “learning hub” learning cycle incorporates these elements</p> <p>A new learning and improvement framework will place a greater emphasis on skills based training</p> <p>The learning cycle starts with drawing on best practice and evidence from elsewhere</p>
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Contributor	Theme of comment	Response
Designated Safeguarding Lead	<p>Have "partners" that produced this document been prescribed by the new laws / practices around safeguarding?</p> <p>Were schools not invited because we are not on this a list?/Do we appear in a table of lots of other partners as a result of this?</p> <p>Is the rest of the document a kind of corporate level response to the new set of requirements set out by the Government?</p> <p>It reads to me as a set of very good intentions that appear to be set out in a manner to ensure compliance with a set of requirements.</p>	<p>Partners have developed plans in line with the requirements of new safeguarding children partnerships detailed in Working Together 2018</p> <p>The national consultation on Working Together considered schools as a 4th statutory partner within the new safeguarding children partnerships but this was not considered feasible due to no single representative agency for schools and other education establishments. At a local level, schools have been identified as a relevant agency.</p> <p>It has been important to structure the plan in line with statutory requirements to evidence how the safeguarding children partnership will be able to deliver against its responsibilities.</p>
Members of CCG Board	<p>Proposal seems sensible</p> <p>Engagement with relevant partners will be key</p> <p>No immediate concerns</p> <p>I'm content there has been a full option appraisal but reference to other strategic partnerships seems vague.</p> <p>Option appraisal refers to difficulty in operationalising the model in the pros and cons- need to be confident the proposed model will be effective.</p>	<p>The key strategic partnerships are listed on page 10 of the plan and were part of the engagement process.</p> <p>The larger geography of a pan Dorset safeguarding children partnership was considered a potential challenge but should be overcome with clear priorities, effective communication arrangements and robust processes.</p>
Dorset County Council Senior Leadership Team	Broad level of support. Several senior managers have been directly involved in developing proposals.	