



Warwickshire  
Safeguarding

## **Inter-agency Child Protection Procedures - Changes from 1 June 2020**

Warwickshire Safeguarding has taken the decision to move over to the West Midlands platform for inter-agency policies and procedures from 1 June 2020. This means that all of the 14 West Midlands LSCPs, including 4 from the West Mercia Police area, are moving towards sharing the same set of high-level procedures. The vast majority of the West Midlands policies and procedures are the same, or very similar, to our existing guidance, however we are currently in the process of identifying any specific differences and working with Partners where necessary to address these.

The LSCP Safeguarding Partners carefully considered the implications of moving to a new Provider for the online inter-agency procedures. The advantages of doing so include:

- Greater consistency for practitioners who work across geographical borders
- A move towards more collaborative regional working with all other LSCPs having now agreed to join the same platform
- Best value for money at a time where resources are increasingly limited

### **1. Information for practitioners**

If you are a practitioner working in Warwickshire this means that from 1 June 2020 you will access inter-agency procedures via a new link.

The Regional Child Protection Procedures for the West Midlands are located at:

<http://westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/>

They will also be accessible as now from the Warwickshire Safeguarding website:

<https://www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk/>

You will immediately see that the structure and format of the new online procedures is different to the current Tri.X platform. On the home page of the West Midlands manual, practitioners will need to select Warwickshire from the drop-down list of options on the left-hand side of the page:

West Midlands Safeguarding Child Protection Procedures

Regional Child Protection procedures for West Midlands

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Quick Links

This contents list is sub divided into the following parts, each part contains relevant Chapters/Procedures: (Click on the title to jump to the part you require)

1. Statutory Child Protection Procedures
2. Regional Safeguarding Guidance
3. Local Area Specific Safeguarding Information and Procedures

1. Statutory Child Protection Procedures

Within the West Midlands, there are nine local areas that collaborate with regards to child safeguarding procedures. [View the introduction of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, each local area's multi agency safeguarding arrangements are led by the statutory safeguarding partners/organisations: local authorities, clinical commissioning groups and the police.](#)

- 1.1 Sharing information
- 1.2 Introduction
- 1.3 Early help
- 1.4 Responding to concerns about a child  
Definitions of abuse and neglect  
The concept of significant harm
- 1.5 Referrals  
Pre-birth referrals



The West Midlands manual is organised as follows:

**Level A procedures:** reflect statutory guidance requirements (shared by all LSCPs in the consortium)

**Level B policies and guidance:** guidance for responding to particular groups of vulnerable children including links to supplementary guidance (shared by all LSCPs in the consortium)

**Level C protocols, pathways and tools:** local protocols, pathways and tools which direct practitioners to the specific action to be taken in their local LSCP area (it is intended that Level C guidance does not replicate Level A or Level B policies and procedures)

The Contents Page provides the full list of Level A, Level B and Level C policies for the local area selected. Practitioners should always check whether there is a Level C policy to be followed in their LSCP area, as there are local area variations.

## 2. Information for strategic leads in partner agencies

It is very important that all partner agencies take a co-ordinated approach to raising awareness of the change within their organisations in advance of the switch-over date on 1 June 2020.

It should be noted that existing shortcuts to the Tri.X platform which have been set up on desktops or mobile phones will not work from 1 June 2020. In addition, arrangements will need to be made to change links currently hosted on staff intranets and other websites.

The following actions need to be completed within your organisation:

- Agree who in your organisation will take responsibility for co-ordinating a communications plan
- Ensure that all links to inter-agency procedures on staff websites or intranets are changed on 1 June 2020 to <http://westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/>
- Ensure that all current guidance produced by your agency containing a link to the inter-agency procedures is updated on 1 June (or as soon after as possible)
- Disseminate this briefing widely to all frontline staff
- Consider other opportunities for raising awareness of the change, e.g. newsletters, staff meetings, networks and other forums

It is, of course, possible that there may be technical glitches in the first few hours following the switch-over on 1 June, however we will work closely with the new Provider to ensure that any problems are addressed as quickly as possible.

If you have any questions about the information contained in this briefing please contact Amrita Sharma, Warwickshire Safeguarding Business Manager, by emailing [amritasharma@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:amritasharma@warwickshire.gov.uk)