



MINUTES

Meeting Ref:	WSCP Executive Meeting
Date:	Wednesday 10 th September 2025
Time:	10:00 -12:00
Venue:	Microsoft Teams

Present:	Initials
Monica Fogarty (Chief Executive Officer, WCC) Alexander Franklin-Smith (Chief Constable, Warwickshire Police) Samantha Godrey (Director of Safeguarding and Attendance) Nigel Minns (Warwickshire County Council, Executive Director for CYP) David Andrews (Detective Chief Inspector, Warwickshire Police) Johnny Kyriacou (Director of Education, WCC Education Services) Jackie Channell (Associate Chief Nurse for Safeguarding - Warwickshire ICB) Ramandeep Sandhu (Business Manager, Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Partnership) Derek Benson (Independent Scrutineer) Jasmine Nahal (Business Development Officer, Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Partnership)	MF AF SG NM DA JK JC RS DB JN
Apologies:	
Charlie Naughton (Detective Superintendent, Warwickshire Police) Ellie Monkhouse (Chief Nursing Officer, Coventry & Warwickshire ICB) Pete Sidgwick (Director of Social Care and Support, WCC) Peter Hawkins (Assistant Head, St Paul's CoE Primary) Philip Johns (Coventry & Warwickshire ICB)	

Item	Discussion	Action Required (if any)	Owner
1.	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies: MF welcomed all partners to the meeting. Apologies were shared on behalf of those not attending. Representation from the Integrated Care Board (ICB) was noted, with JC in attendance on their behalf.		

2.	Minutes from Previous Meeting: Minutes from the previous Executive meeting, held on 29/01/2025, were reviewed and confirmed as accurate by attendees. Actions from the previous meeting were discussed and confirmed as completed and circulated.		
3.	WSCP Business Plan Update: NM provided an update on the WSCP's Business Plan, highlighting progress made since the previous year. Key updates included: - The establishment of a fully staffed team. - The activation of all subgroups. - The development of new safeguarding practice review guidance. - The formally signed off Quality Assurance framework. - The introduction of a new process for Significant Incident Notifications to ensure timely referrals. NM outlined progress on strategic priorities, including work on neglect, exploitation, disability inequality and visibility. Achievements included: - The development of a neglect toolkit. - A multi-agency training programme and resources. - The introduction of a practitioner spotlight at partnership meetings. - The development of a comprehensive multi-agency dataset. - A reduction in safeguarding referrals, attributed to improved criteria and confidence in the process. Two actions were highlighted for agreement: - The continued delivery of the Business Plan.		

	- The realignment of Quality Assurance activity. Adjustments to the QA schedule were made earlier this year to align with the timing of the Ofsted inspection of Children's Services. <u>Feedback</u> AFS commended the six outcomes outlined in the business plan, noting their alignment with national learning points from case reviews. He raised a query about the escalation policy, emphasising the importance of encouraging informal discussions to resolve low-level issues before formal escalation. NM reassured attendees that the policy prioritises informal discussions and highlighted the progress made in encouraging agencies to escalate issues when necessary. SG supported this approach and inquired about measuring the impact of the escalation policy. RS confirmed that feedback mechanisms are in place and that the policy's impact will be reviewed through audits and surveys. MF suggested conducting a high-level review at six months to identify any necessary adjustments. The Lead Safeguarding Partners formally endorsed the continued delivery of the Business Plan and noted the positive progress made.		
4.	Quality Assurance (QA) Activity and WSCP Data Set Overview: JK presented the QA framework and dataset, emphasising a data-informed approach to monitoring and evaluation. The dataset was developed collaboratively with partners, focusing on key performance indicators across various areas. The dataset aims to provide a comprehensive yet focused view of safeguarding performance, enabling targeted interventions and training.		

	JK gave the example of data from Family Connect on school referrals informing training and support needs in specific areas of the county, especially as data is broken down into district-level insights, where possible. RS highlighted ongoing efforts to embed the dataset and make it more accessible through a business intelligence dashboard – thus reducing manual processes and improvising data visualisation. DB commended the progress made in developing the dataset and noted the positive engagement from partners in sharing information. JK suggested the dataset’s impact and insights be a standing item for discussion at future Executive meetings, which was supported by attendees. Additionally, it was agreed that quarterly updates on QA activities would be shared to ensure partner awareness and oversight. <u>Feedback:</u> MF emphasised the importance of deriving insights from the data to identify trends and areas of concern. SG supported the development of a business intelligence dashboard, noting its potential to provide granular detail and improve efficiency. DB highlighted the positive cultural shift among partners in sharing information and contributing to the dataset. The dataset was formally endorsed by the Lead Safeguarding Partners (LSPs), alongside shared commitment to its use and insights. The Lead Safeguarding Partners also formally endorsed the realignment of the Quality Assurance activity.	Ensure that QA work and the dataset’s insights are included as standing items on the forward plan for future Executive meetings	RS
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5.	Overview of Reviews Published and Actions from Reviews: It was noted that nine reviews are currently being overseen by the WSCP, involving ten children. Themes and learnings from Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews were discussed, including: - Professional curiosity, challenge and over-optimism (noted in thirteen reviews) - Escalations (noted in eleven reviews) - Child sexual abuse (noted in ten reviews) - Stop-start approach (noted in ten reviews) - Information sharing (noted in nine reviews) - Thresholds for intervention - Consent - Use of genograms and chronologies Neglect was identified as a significant factor in five current reviews and has been a feature in five completed reviews since 2021. It was noted that neglect is often secondary to other risk factors, such as parental mental health, domestic abuse, substance misuse, and financial difficulties. Neglect was noted to be a prevalent issue nationally. Progress on actions and recommendations from reviews are addressed: As of May 2025, there were 30 multi-agency actions, with 13 in progress and 17 outstanding. These have reduced from an initial total of 59. There were 53 single-agency actions, with 32 in progress and 21 outstanding. It was agreed that RS can shape a communication on behalf of the LSPs requesting updates from agencies on outstanding single and multi-agency actions. Efforts are ongoing to ensure actions are proportionate, relevant and achievable, with a focus on embedding learning into practice. The importance of documenting and evidencing progress was emphasised.	Draft an email on behalf of the LSPs requesting updates from agencies re outstanding actions. NM to provide input to ensure alignment with partnership goals.	RS and NM
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	<u>Feedback:</u> AFS expressed frustration at the recurring theme of information sharing in reviews and emphasised the need for practical solutions, including technological advancements. He offered the LSP's support in addressing any blockers to information sharing. MF supported this approach and suggested maintaining a log of information-sharing challenges to identify patterns and address systemic issues. JC highlighted the complexities of information sharing, including consent and practitioner hesitancy, and welcomed support in overcoming these barriers. Lead Safeguarding Partners noted the update and endorsed a proposal to issue a communication on behalf of the LSPs requesting updates on outstanding actions and ensure this is prioritised within each organisation.		
6.	NHS England Reforms: JC provided updates on the NHS England reforms and their implications for Integrated Care Boards (ICBs). It was noted that Coventry and Warwickshire ICB is undergoing a transition to cluster with Hereford and Worcestershire ICB. Simon Trickett has been appointed as the acting Chief Executive across both ICBs, and Krishni Waring has been announced as the Chair. A consultation process for senior managers and executives is underway. The recently released Safeguarding Blueprint focuses on maintaining statutory responsibilities, including designated professionals and named GPs. However, some functions, such as training and project management, may be delegated to providers.	Write to Simon Trickett to request his attendance as ICB representative at the Executive meetings	MF

	Concerns were raised about the lack of reference to adult safeguarding in the Blueprint, and the potential impact of these changes on safeguarding teams. There is a need for further discussions with providers regarding the delegation of responsibilities and associated resource delegation. It was also highlighted that the reforms are causing uncertainty among staff. The timeline for the formal merger of the ICBs is expected to extend until 2027, with the current focus being on maintaining business as usual during the transition. The importance of ensuring continuity and clarity in safeguarding arrangements was emphasised. <u>Feedback:</u> NM noted that any delegation of responsibilities to providers would require formal agreements, including funding arrangements, and questioned how this would result in savings. He emphasised the importance of maintaining high-level engagement from the ICB in the partnership. MF agreed and confirmed her intention to write to Simon Trickett to request his attendance at future meetings. The group endorsed MF's intention to invite Simon Trickett to future meetings to ensure continued ICB engagement.		
7.	Documentation Sign Off: RS drew attendees' attention to a range of documentation that had been signed off by the Delegated Safeguarding Partners (DSPs) and the Partnership Group throughout the year. To ensure transparency and accountability, all Lead Safeguarding Partners (LSPs) are requested to complete a formal review and endorsement of the listed documents within a two-week timeframe. This process reinforces the importance of maintaining a	Review and endorse documents within 2 weeks	All LSPs

	clear and efficient approach to documentation governance.		
8.	AOB: The upcoming Accountability meeting scheduled for 12/11/2025 was discussed. It was agreed that a draft framework for the meeting would be prepared and shared in advance with the LSPs and DSPs for their review and input. This framework is to outline the proposed agenda and objectives for the session, ensuring clarity of the focus areas and expected outcomes.	Draft and share framework for Accountability meeting and share with LSPs.	RS
9.	Close and Actions: All LSPs: - To review and confirm endorsement of the provided documents with two weeks. - To support the multi-agency, push on accelerating information sharing and addressing consent-related challenges. WSCP Business Team: - Continue delivery of the Business Plan. - Realign Quality Assurance activity following earlier changes to the schedule to align with Ofsted inspection.		