



Warwickshire
Safeguarding
Adults Board

Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (WSCP) and Warwickshire Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB)

Safeguarding Review Group (SRG)

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

To ensure that Safeguarding Adult Reviews and Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews in Warwickshire ('Safeguarding Reviews') are carried out appropriately and effectively so that issues and lessons are identified, disseminated and acted upon.

The Safeguarding Reviews Group (SRG) is responsible for:

- Undertaking Rapid Reviews within timescales defined within Working Together 2026 when a serious incident (child) becomes known to the safeguarding partners.
- Conducting Rapid Reviews in respect of SAR referrals (adults) following the initial screening decision of the Independent Chair & Scrutineer.
- Recommending the commissioning of Safeguarding Adults Reviews and Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (following the Rapid Review process).
- Agreeing the methodology and terms of reference for Safeguarding Reviews, establishing the membership of case Review Panels and maintaining oversight of the process, ensuring compliance with statutory guidance relating to safeguarding reviews
- Receiving draft overview reports and discussing proposed amendments and agreeing action plans with Lead Reviewers prior to submission of final review reports to Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Delegated Safeguarding Partners (DSPs) Group/Warwickshire Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB)
- Advising on publication and distribution of review reports
- Monitoring the implementation of actions arising out of safeguarding reviews.

2. Independent Scrutiny for Warwickshire Safeguarding Adult Board and Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

Warwickshire Safeguarding Adult Board

- The Independent Chair, in relation to the reviews related to Adults, will maintain oversight of the work of the Safeguarding Review Group, offer constructive challenge ensuring that the board's responsibilities regarding SARs are met, that reviews are conducted effectively, and that lessons learned are implemented to improve safeguarding services and partnership working based on the lessons learned.
- The Independent Chair will hold to account all member agencies involved in SARs for their contributions and responsibilities, promoting effective collaborative working.

Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

- The Independent Scrutineer will hold the Safeguarding Review Group to account in relation to reviews related to children by providing challenge and support and identifying areas for improvement by reviewing findings, monitoring progress on recommendations, and ensuring that practice improvements are implemented effectively across agencies to ensure that safeguarding practices are thoroughly scrutinised, promoting transparency and continuous improvement across multi-agency collaboration.
- The Independent Scrutineer will also be a member of the Assurance and Review Group, who will evaluate the work of the Safeguarding Review Group in relation to WSCP.

3. Function of the group

The SRG will take account of National Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and other published Safeguarding Reviews (adults and children) and advise the Safeguarding Partners of local implications from these.

Role of Review Panel Members

- To oversee and contribute to the safeguarding review process on behalf of your organisation and have decision making authority.
- To coordinate your organisation's responses to the safeguarding reviews
- To provide clarification on any pertinent points to assist in making any outstanding decisions and address any barriers to engagement/information sharing.
- To identify named practitioners to engage in practitioner events and ensure they are fully briefed on your organisation's submission as part of the safeguarding review.

4. Chairing and Quoracy

Chairing responsibilities are as follows:

- Chair- Derek Benson, Independent Scrutineer, Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Partnership
- Vice Chair – Elaine Coleridge Smith, Independent Chair & Scrutineer, Warwickshire Safeguarding Adult Board

To be quorate there should be a senior representative from each of the statutory safeguarding partners (Warwickshire County Council Children's Social Care and Adults Social Care & Support, NHS, and the Police).

5. Frequency of meetings

The Safeguarding Reviews Subgroup will meet bi-monthly, with additional meetings arranged as necessary to meet the identified delivery requirements. Meetings will be governed by a set agenda which allows for equal consideration of adults and children's safeguarding referrals and reviews. All meetings will be supported by the Warwickshire Safeguarding Business Team.

This meeting will be minuted by the Business Units and circulated within two weeks of the meetings. The minutes of this meeting will not be published but will be used to evidence task-oriented activity and effective delivery of agreed actions agreed by the group.

6. Membership

The membership of the Safeguarding Reviews Group includes representation from the following organisations:

Representatives for Adults:

Warwickshire County Council:

- Head of Adults Practice and Safeguarding and Principal Social Worker - Adults, Adult Social Care & Support
- Senior Solicitor / Team Manager for Adult Social Care - Legal

Representatives for Children's:

Warwickshire County Council:

- Service Manager for Quality & Impact – Children & Families Service
- Team Manager for Quality & Impact – Children & Families Service
- Representative for Education Service – Children & Families Service
- Senior Solicitor & Team Manager for Children & Young People – Legal

Health Services:

- Designated Doctor for Safeguarding in Warwickshire – Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust (Countywide)

Representatives for both Children & Adults:

- Designated Nurse for Safeguarding – Coventry & Warwickshire Integrated Care Board / Hereford & Worcestershire Integrated Care Board
- Head of Safeguarding – Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust
- Associate Director of Safeguarding – South Warwickshire University NHS Foundation Trust & George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust
- Lead Professional for Safeguarding – University Hospital Coventry & Warwickshire
- Lead Professional for Safeguarding – Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service
- Manager for the Statutory & Major Crime Review Unit – Warwickshire Police
- *Other partners will be invited to attend as appropriate.

Representatives will need to be people with a strategic role in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children/adults within their organisation.

They should be able to:

- Speak for their organisation with authority;
- Commit their organisation on policy and practice matters;
- Hold their organisation to account.

In the event that their representative is unable to attend meetings, members are required to nominate a suitable alternative representative who has the authority to commit their organisation to decisions.

7. Reporting structure

The Safeguarding Practice Review will report to WSAB for Adults Safeguarding Reviews and to the Delegated Safeguarding Partners (DSPs) for WSCP on the progress of work against the strategic priority and escalate any issues arising from the Group's work which require immediate attention.

8. Terms of Reference Review

The Terms of Reference for the group will be subject to a minimum of an annual review.

Date agreed:	September 2026
Date for Review:	September 2027