

Bury Integrated Safeguarding Partnership
Safeguarding Arrangements for adults and children

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Foreword

Bury is a proud borough, rich in heritage with mills which powered the industrial revolution to the famous markets and black pudding. More recently Bury has been recognised as a place where entrepreneurs set up home. The town is proud of its past and wants to ensure the people in Bury have the best services they can now and in the future. The new partnership arrangements for safeguarding adults at risk and children will bring together the three main safeguarding partners of the Local Authority, Clinical Commissioning Group and Greater Manchester Police as well as other partners to work together and ensure those in need have services that help and enable them to lead a safe and happy life.

The partnership across adult and children's health and social care services are developing new joined up commissioning arrangements which will contribute to safeguarding work. These commissioning arrangements will sit under the "One Commissioning Organisation" and be supported on an operational level by the "Local Care Organisation"

Protecting and keeping people safe is a great responsibility and one that can only be done by working together effectively and holding each other to account in an open and honest manner.

This document will be reviewed on an annual basis, or if there are major legislative or policy changes that require it to be reviewed.

		
Geoff Little Bury Council and Accountable Officer Bury CCG		Superintendent Paul Walker District Commander Greater Manchester Police

There can be no greater priority for public services than the protection, safeguarding and improvement of outcomes for children and adults at risk. The duty placed upon the three key agencies, Police, Local Authority and Clinical Commissioning Groups, as a golden opportunity to review all safeguarding arrangements across Greater Manchester. This must be with the aim of improving effectiveness, efficiency and consistency.

These plans are simply the start of the process and the Partnership looks forward to develop the plans and arrangements over the coming months in a constructive and ambitious approach. The professionalism and dedication evident in partners in each of the 10 local authority areas, will be crucial in making Greater Manchester a safer place to live and an area in which the life outcomes are continually improving.

Introduction

A co-ordinated approach is needed to help and protect children and adults at risk through collaborative working across organisations and agencies. This is crucial so that practitioners are able to recognise, respond and fulfil their safeguarding responsibilities.

In Bury, we are creating new all age safeguarding arrangements which will be known as the Bury Integrated Safeguarding Partnership (BISP). This independent Partnership will set out how the organisations involved in safeguarding adults and children will work in a collaborative way to put adults at risk and children central to the work that is carried out.

This document provides clarity regarding:

- The safeguarding partners
- Local values and principles
- The legal framework and the underpinning policies and procedures
- Safeguarding roles and responsibilities
- Responsibilities around information sharing and information governance
- Funding responsibilities
- Dispute resolution and escalation processes
- Partnership arrangements including relationships with wider partnerships and boards

Safeguarding Partners

The three statutory Safeguarding Partners as set out in the Care Act 2014 and Working Together 2018 are the Local Authority, the Clinical Commissioning Group and the Chief Officer for the police. They have a shared and equal duty to make arrangements to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children and adults at risk in the local area. Bury's Integrated Safeguarding Partnership has brought together the partners working with adults at risk and children. The arrangements must be underpinned by equitable and proportionate funding.

The lead representatives and those they have delegated their authority to, are able to:

- Speak with authority for the safeguarding partner they represent
- Take decisions on behalf of their organisation or agency and commit them on policy, resourcing and practice matters
- Hold their own organisation or agency to account on how effectively they participate and implement the local arrangements

Safeguarding partners will agree on ways to co-ordinate their safeguarding services, act as a strategic leadership group in supporting and engaging others and implement local and national learning including from serious child safeguarding incidents and Safeguarding Adult Reviews. To fulfil this role, the safeguarding partners must set out how they will work together with any relevant agencies.

The three safeguarding partners will also decide how the new arrangements will operate including deciding who the relevant partners will be and the role that they will fulfil on the Partnership.

In these arrangements the Local Authority will be represented by Karen Dolton, Executive Director for Children, Young People and Culture and Julie Gonda, Director of Adult Services. The Clinical Commissioning Group will be represented by Cathy Fines, Clinical Director. Greater Manchester Police will be represented by Superintendent Paul Walker.

Relevant Partners

The safeguarding partners are those that the government has agreed will be responsible for safeguarding within a local area, however it is important that the other expertise across a range of agencies and the independent relationships that agencies have with each other are maintained and the skills are brought together to help and protect those vulnerable children and adults at risk.

The list of relevant partners will change over time and it will be the responsibility of the safeguarding partners to determine how regularly their list will be reviewed.

The Local Authority, CCG and Police will be represented on the Strategic Group and both Business Groups. They will also be involved, where appropriate, in the sub groups.

Both the Care Act 2014 and Working Together 2018 require the three safeguarding partners to name other agencies to become relevant partners. Once designated as a relevant partner/agency they are under a statutory duty to co-operate with the published arrangements.

- Schools and colleges are a vital partner and the Partnership will build on the established relationships. There will be senior representation from Education and Learning Bury Council on the Business Groups. All Bury schools and educational establishments, regardless of size or type, are named as Relevant Agencies by the Integrated Partnership. In addition a new schools, colleges and adult learning sub group will be created and build on the work of the previous sub group.
- CAFCASS is a key partner and they will be required to attend the Children's Business Group.
- Public Health will be required to attend the Strategic and both Business Groups.
- Community health, mental health and secondary care services, delivered by Pennine Care and Pennine Acute will be required to attend both Business Groups
- The National Probation Service and CRC will be required to attend the Adult Business Group.
- Six Town Housing will be required to attend the Adult Business Group.
- Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service will be required to attend the Adult Business Group.
- The Voluntary Community and Faith Alliance will be required to attend the Strategic and both Business Groups. Early Break will be required to attend the Children's Business Group and One Recovery to the Adults Business Group.
- The Community Safety Partnership will join both Business Groups as required.
- Bury Youth Offending Team will be required to attend the Children's Business Group.
- Bury Healthy Young Minds will be required to attend the Children's Business Group.

The list of relevant agencies is intentionally focussed at a strategic, agency-based level – it is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all bodies and individuals which come into contact with children, young people and adults at risk.

Organisations, agencies and practitioners should be aware of, and comply with, these arrangements set out by the partnership. Organisations and agencies who are not named in the relevant agency regulations, whilst not under a statutory duty, should cooperate and collaborate with the safeguarding partners particularly as they may have duties under section 10 and/or section 11 of the Children Act 2004 and sections 42-45 of the Care Act

The National Context

In 2016 Alan Wood recommended the abolition of Local Safeguarding Children Boards and their replacement by a stronger statutory partnership of the key statutory agencies, namely Police, Clinical Commissioning Groups and Local Authorities – who would in turn determine local safeguarding arrangements.

The recommendations were outlined in The Children and Social Work Act 2017 and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 guidance, which required local areas to publish new multi-agency safeguarding children arrangements led by the named three statutory agencies.

The Care Act 2014 places a statutory duty on Local Authorities to have established Safeguarding Adult Board which include the Local Authority, Police and Clinical Commissioning Group.

The Local Context

These arrangements cover Bury Local Authority footprint and the children and adults at risk who live within the boundaries. It also covers those children that the authority has responsibility for those who live elsewhere.

The statutory responsibility for keeping children and adults at risk safe remains with the safeguarding partners, however there is an acknowledgement that all citizens, practitioners and organisations should be enabled to influence the development of policy and practice.

In GM there will be an opportunity to undertake further work to understand how some of the work done by the partners locally might be delivered at cluster or GM level to ensure that all local areas share and benefit from good practice.

The Section 11 requirements of The Children Act 2004 remain in place and the Safeguarding Partners will use these to understand the wider issue of safeguarding in Bury to ensure children are safeguarded.

The Bury safeguarding partners are developing The Engine Room, this is a new initiative to strengthen communities and improve outcomes for people in Bury through a central hub.

About Bury

Life expectancy is affected by many factors such as: socioeconomic status, employment, income, education and economic wellbeing; the quality of the health system and the ability of people to access it; health behaviours such as tobacco and excessive alcohol consumption, poor nutrition and lack of exercise; social factors; genetic factors; and environmental factors such as overcrowded housing.'

Population

189,628 (Dec 2018)

19% (or 43,113) 0-17 year olds;

81% (or 146,515) 18+ years

Child data:

1496 Open referrals

Child in Need Plans 391

Child Protection Plans 192

Children in Care 339

Life expectancy:

Men 78.5 years

Women 81.2 years

This is lower than the national average

Lifestyle:

Almost 2 out of 3 (64.3%) adults are overweight

As are over 1 in 3 10-11 year olds

****GRAPHICS TO BE ADDED****

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Vision, Value and Principles of Bury Integrated Safeguarding Partnership

This sets out in a broad context what we want to achieve as a partnership.

The Vision

- The Bury Integrated Safeguarding Partnership is committed to the aim of building safe, healthy, resilient communities by proactively protecting and supporting our most vulnerable residents.

The Values

- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Bury Integrated Safeguarding Partnership will support every resident via flexible and responsive services when they are needed.
- People living in Bury will be safe, healthy and will be able access services when needed. In order to achieve this the Partnership will actively listen, positively respond to concerns of abuse and be open to challenge and change.
- Every resident of Bury will be free from abuse, neglect and crime, enabling them to enjoy a happy, safe, healthy lifestyle in which they can achieve their full potential.
- Child and adult safeguarding services will be informed and developed by listening to and working with children, young people and adults.

The Principles

- **Empowerment:** People are supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent
"I am asked what I want to happen and my views inform what happens"
- **Prevention:** It is better to take action before harm occurs
"I receive clear and simple information about what abuse is, how to recognise the signs and what I can do to seek help"
- **Proportionality:** The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented
"I am sure people are working in my best interests, as I see them and will only get involved as much as needed"
- **Protection:** Support and representation for those in greatest need
"I am helped to stop and report abuse. I get help to take part in the safeguarding process to the extent that I can and to which I am able"
- **Partnership:** Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse
"I know that staff treat any personal and sensitive information in confidence, only sharing what is helpful and necessary. I am confident that professionals will work together to get the best result for me"
- **Accountability:** Accountability and transparency in delivering
"I understand the role of everyone involved in my life"

How We Will Achieve These - Evaluate | Assure | Learn

Our new partnership and sub group structure will ensure the work that is undertaken safeguards the most vulnerable people in Bury, both children and adults. Each agency is inspected by different regulators and will evaluate and self-assesses their own work to inform how well they are doing. The Partnership will build on this rather than duplicate and will hold to account and challenge the impact each agency is making to improve the lives of people within Bury.

Within Bury there is a well-established audit programme which has been led by the Quality Assurance and Performance sub group. The all age Quality Assurance and Performance sub group will revise the Quality Assurance Framework and terms of reference along with the suite of indicators so that practice can be evaluated and the impact measured. The sub group will capture the key performance indicators from partners and other strategic forums such as the Health and Well-Being Board in order to identify and respond to the emerging themes within Bury.

The Partnership will also learn from local, regional and national reviews of practice relating to children and adults. The new all age Case Review Group will ensure that reviews are conducted according to the national guidance and that shared learning takes place. In addition, there will be opportunities to align to the work of the Manchester Standards Board where regional learning can be shared.

Based on the priorities set for 2019/20 the Partnership will develop a performance dashboard which includes key performance indicators in order to review and consider safeguarding performance and horizon scan for areas of risk and assurance.

Thresholds

Children

The thresholds of need in relation to children are being updated at the time of writing. As safeguarding is everyone's business it is important that everyone understands safeguarding as a concept and that roles and responsibilities are clear.

Children will move between these levels of vulnerability according to their particular circumstances and so it is essential that changes in need are identified and service response is flexible. The model is intended to ensure children and families are not excluded from help in an arbitrary manner. The aim is the early identification of children who require additional help and the provision of services to prevent children moving towards higher levels of need and to reduce the level of need wherever possible. The boundaries between the levels are not hard and fast and children may present with needs at different levels. Inter-disciplinary discussion and coordination will ensure appropriate services are arranged. The guidance sets out how this will be done.

Children may enter any band at any age or stage of development and may move between bands as their circumstances and needs change.

- Level 1 represents children with no identified additional needs. Their needs are met through universal services (such as health visiting or general practitioner).
- Level 2 represents children with additional needs that can be met by targeted support by a single agency or practitioner (such as speech language therapy).
- Level 3 (Team Around the Family, TAF) represents children with additional needs that can be met by targeted support by a multi-agency support package.
- Level 4 (Child in Need, CIN) represents children with significant needs that persist and have not been met by targeted support.

- Level 5 (Safeguarding/Looked after Children) represents children with complex and enduring needs at the highest level of vulnerability that will be met by multi-agency support from specialist services led by Social Care.

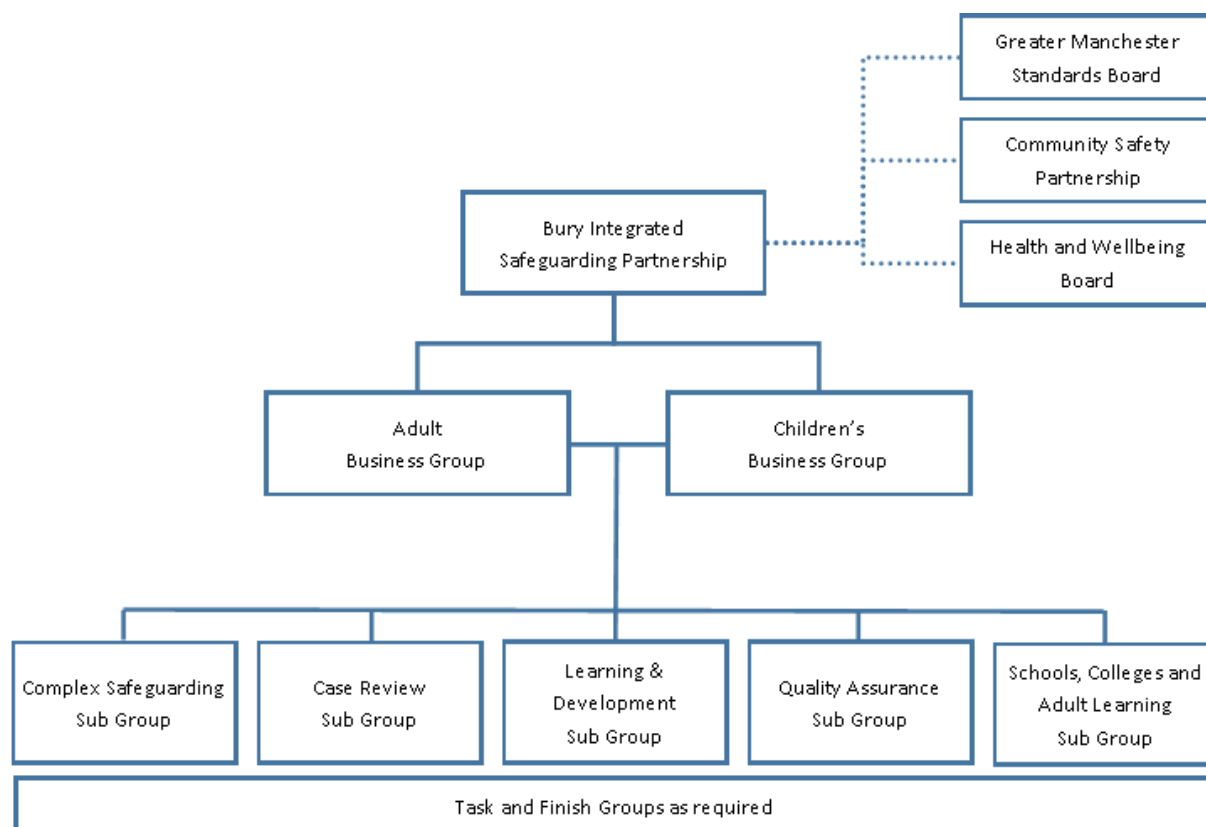
Adults

An enquiry is the action taken or instigated by the local authority in response to a concern that abuse or neglect may be taking place. An enquiry could range from a conversation with the adult, or if they lack capacity or have substantial difficulty in understanding the enquiry, their representative or advocate prior to initiating a formal enquiry under section 42, right through to a more formal multi-agency plan or course of action. Whatever the course of subsequent action, the professional concerned should record the concern, the adult's views, wishes, and any immediate action taken and the reasons for those actions.

	Data Definitions
Safeguarding Concern	A sign of suspected abuse or neglect that is reported to the council or identified by the council.
Safeguarding Enquiries	The action taken or instigated by the local authority in response to a concern that abuse or neglect may be taking place. An enquiry could range from a conversation with the adult to a more formal multi-agency plan or course of action.
Section 42 Safeguarding Enquiries	<p>The enquiries where an adult meets ALL of the Section 42 criteria. The criteria are:</p> <p>(a) The adult has needs for care AND support (whether or not the authority is meeting any of those needs) and;</p> <p>(b) The adult is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect and;</p> <p>(c) As a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.</p>

Structure

The Bury Integrated Safeguarding Partnership has a holistic focus and therefore the structure has a joint adults and children's strategic Partnership with separate business groups. The sub groups and any task and finish groups will also be joint. Where needed there may be single role task and finish groups and these will ensure that issue relating to child and adult safeguarding have been considered.



The subgroups will have a high level sponsor allocated from the strategic group to provide a direct link between the relevant sub-group and the strategic group to ensure the strategic objectives are advanced and that sub-groups work is valued.

Each of the sub groups will have a revised work plan informed by the priorities set out by the Strategic Group and which will align some aspects to the work of the Manchester Standards Board (for children). There will be various opportunities as the Greater Manchester Combined Authority supports each Local Authority to achieve the best standards.

There are local bodies such as the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Community Safety Partnership, the SEND Board, the Complex Safeguarding Board (GM level) and the Starting Well Board where much work is being undertaken and the aim is to collaborate and avoid duplication where possible.

There are [local protocols](#) which will be updated as the Partnership progresses.

Accountability for safeguarding will remain with the statutory partners, where possible the Partnership will aggregate up safeguarding themes to be developed at a Greater Manchester or GMP cluster level.

The Strategic Partnership

The role of the Strategic Partnership is to:

To act as a strategic leadership group that engages and coordinates services to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk in Bury

- To identify and respond to new safeguarding issues and emerging threats
- To promote and embed learning from local and national learning including from serious child safeguarding incidents and quality assurance activity
- Conduct any safeguarding adults review in accordance with Section 44 of the Act
- To develop a strategic plan which will be maintained by the Adults Business Group
- To oversee the work of the Business Groups
- Write an annual report

The Business Groups

- The main responsibilities of the Business Group is to:
- Develop and drive the implementation of the Business Plan on behalf of the Partnership
- Ensure that the work of the Integrated Partnership is clearly understood and actions implemented
- Ensure a cross-agency responsibility and accountability for safeguarding children & young people and adults and risk is understood and challenged when required
- Maintain the strategic plan aligned to the priorities

The Sub Groups

All sub groups will support the work of Partnership which is:

- To co-ordinate what is done by agencies for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults at risk in Bury;
- To ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.

Complex Safeguarding Sub Group

The sub group should develop an integrated response to complex safeguarding for both children and adults at risk.

Complex Safeguarding is used to describe criminal activity (often organised), or behaviour associated to criminality, involving vulnerable children and young people, where there is exploitation and/or a clear or implied safeguarding concern. The sub group as delegated by The Bury Integrated Safeguarding Partnership will support the Greater Manchester 2021 vision that Greater Manchester will be a national centre of excellence for complex safeguarding.

Complex safeguarding for adults has a different definition, this sub group will also cover adults at risk as there may be issues of neglect, exploitation and other vulnerabilities that require an integrated response.

The sub group will ensure that an all age approach is adopted and where possible the Voice of the Child/Customer/Patient is considered in the work that is undertaken.

Quality Assurance and Performance Sub Group

The sub group should quality assure the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements across Bury with the aim of promoting continual improvement.

To provide the performance information which will assist in setting strategic priorities; provide an opportunity for professional challenge and identify opportunities for multi-agency/single agency audit. A new suite of indicators will be compiled that is meaningful from an all age perspective.

The Quality Assurance Sub Group will specifically monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of what is done by the Integrated Safeguarding Partnership partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults and advise them on ways to improve. In achieving this, the Sub Group will:

- Make constant reference to the aims set out in the Integrated Safeguarding Partnership Business Plan
- Use and promote the principles and methods set out in the Quality Assurance Framework.

The sub group will ensure that an all age approach is adopted and where possible the Voice of the Child/Customer/Patient is considered in the work that is undertaken.

Case Review Sub Group

For adults: there is a legal duty to undertake a Safeguarding Adult Review of cases where an adult at risk has died or suffered serious harm, the criteria for such reviews is set out in the Care Act 2014.

For children: where a child has suffered abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected and the child has died or been seriously harmed consideration should be given to whether a Child Safeguarding Practice Review is appropriate as set out in Working Together 2018, this includes the need to conduct a Rapid Review.

The sub group will ensure that an all age approach is adopted and where possible the Voice of the Child/Customer/Patient is considered in the work that is undertaken.

Learning and Development Sub Group

The Learning and Development Sub Group will ensure that single agency and multi-agency training on safeguarding and promoting welfare is provided in order to meet the local need.

The sub Group will:

- Have sight on and contribute to developments on the multi-agency policies and procedures
- Ensure the workforce of Bury is effective in safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk of or experiencing abuse and neglect
- Ensure provision of high quality multi-agency safeguarding learning and development
- Enable and promote safeguarding learning & development across partners and providers
- Ensure staff are competent to respond to safeguarding concerns (at a level consistent with their role) via the provision of high quality cross sector training
- Ensure the implementation of the Multi-Agency Training Strategy is fit for purpose in light of current need

The sub group will ensure that an all age approach and the Voice of the Child/Customer/Patient is considered in the work that is undertaken.

Schools, Colleges and Adult Learning Sub Group

The Schools, Colleges and Adult Learning Sub Group will develop strategies and actions to meet schools, colleges and adult education statutory duties of safeguarding and promoting the safety and welfare of children and vulnerable adults.

The sub-group will ensure that where possible the voice of the child or adult is considered in the work that is undertaken.

The Rapid Review Process

The Bury Integrated Safeguarding Partnership will establish a local Rapid Review Group which is required under Working Together 2018, this will consider whether notifiable incidents meet the criteria for a local or national child safeguarding practice review. The Rapid Review Group will be composed of members of the Case Review Group.

The aim of this rapid review is to enable safeguarding partners to:

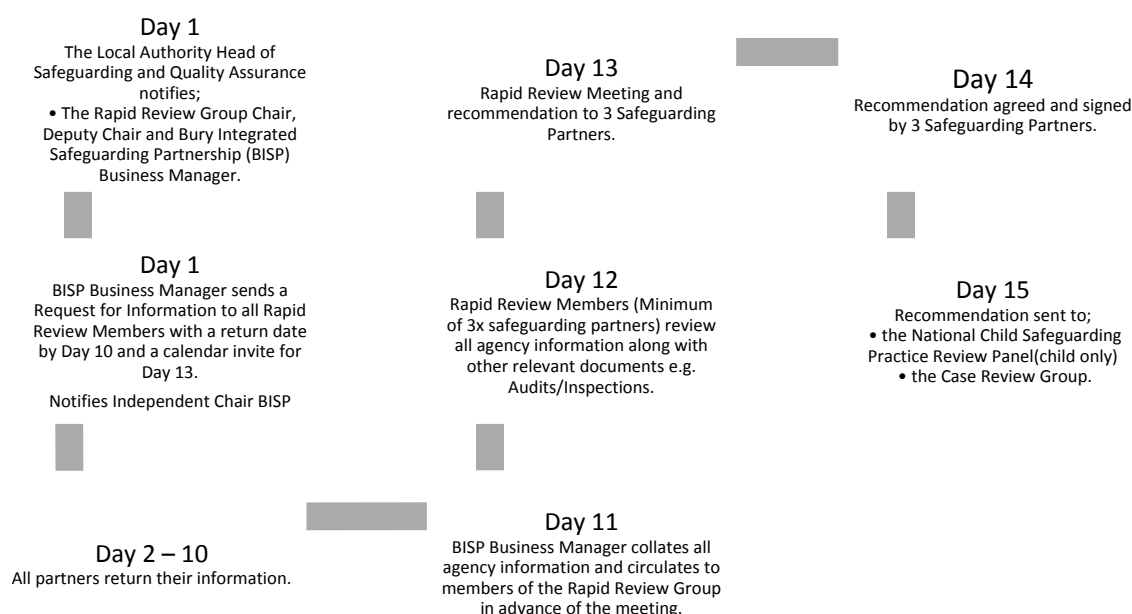
- Gather the facts about the case, as far as they can be readily established at the time
- Discuss whether there is any immediate action needed to ensure children's safety and share any learning appropriately
- Consider the potential for identifying improvements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- Decide what steps the Partnership should take next, including whether or not to undertake a child safeguarding practice review

A Rapid Review Process Flowchart below shows how cases should be referred to the Rapid Review Group and how that group will respond within 15 days of becoming aware of the incident. All recommendations will be shared with the Panel, Department for Education and OFSTED.

The Rapid review process will be subject to change as processes are streamlined and mirrored across all Greater Manchester boroughs. In addition the process for Safeguarding Adult Reviews will be revised in the future to ensure both processes will be combined.

The Local Authority Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance agrees with safeguarding partners that the criteria for a notifiable incident is met & notifies the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel within 5 days of becoming aware of the incident.

The SAR process will change and align, as this is good practice.



Safeguarding Practice Reviews/Safeguarding Adult Reviews

The safeguarding partners will:

- Have regard to any guidance the National Panel(children) publishes or national guidance
- Make arrangements to identify and review safeguarding cases and commission and oversee the review of those cases, where they consider it appropriate for a review to be undertaken
- Promptly undertake a rapid review of the case, in line with any guidance published by the National Panel or national guidance and as soon as the rapid review is complete, they should send a copy to the National Panel (children only)
- Have clear processes for how they will work with other investigations and work collaboratively with those responsible for carrying out those reviews
- Agree with the reviewer(s) of practice reviews, the method by which the review should be conducted
- Seek to ensure that practitioners are fully involved in practice reviews, and that families, including surviving children/adults are invited to contribute to review
- Ensure the final report of includes a summary of recommended improvements and an analysis of any systemic or underlying reasons why actions were taken or not in respect of matters covered in the report
- Consider carefully how best to manage the impact of the publication child/adult, family members, practitioners and other closely affected by the case
- (Child only) Should inform the National Panel and the Secretary of State of the reasons for a delay of a local child safeguarding practice review, set out any justification for any decision not to publish either the full report of information relating to improvements and have regard to any comments from the National Panel and Secretary of State in respect of the publication
- (Child only) Send a copy of the full report of the local child safeguarding practice reviews to the National Panel and Secretary of State and OFSTED

- Take account of the findings from their own local reviews and from all national reviews, highlight findings from reviews with relevant parties and regularly audit progress on the implementation of recommended improvements

Roles and Responsibilities

Relationships

The new arrangements aim to build positive relationships with other areas in Greater Manchester so that relevant information can be shared in a timely and proportionate manner and ensure constructive positive challenge to improve safeguarding offer in Bury.

It is also the aim that a resolution process is in place to resolve any disagreements between agencies quickly in order that the best outcome for children and adults is achieved.

Information and Communication

The safeguarding partners will:

- Be aware of their own responsibilities under the relevant information law and have regard to guidance provided by the Information Commissioner's Office when issuing and responding to requests for information
- Communicate regularly with their relevant agencies and others they expect to work for them
- Ensure that the child/adult voice is considered through all policy, practice and activity.

Individual agencies and roles

The safeguarding partners will:

- Consider how they will secure the clinical expertise of designated health professionals for safeguarding children and adults at risk within their arrangements
- Make arrangements to allow all schools, colleges and other educational providers in the local area to be fully engaged, involved and included in the safeguarding arrangements, this will be through a schools, colleges and adult learning subgroup

Assessment and services

The safeguarding partners will:

- Agree with their relevant agencies the levels for the different types of assessment and services to be commissioned and delivered
- Publish a threshold document, which sets out the local criteria for action in a way that is transparent, accessible and easily understood

Data and intelligence

The safeguarding partners will:

- Use data and intelligence to assess the effectiveness of help being provided to children, families and adults at risk
- Use the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment to help understand the prevalence and contexts of need, including specific needs relating to disabled children and those relating to abuse and neglect, which in turn should help shape services

Training

The safeguarding partners will:

- Consider what training is needed locally and how they will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of any training they commission

Scrutiny and Assurance

The safeguarding partners will:

- Monitor the effectiveness of the arrangements for child protection conferences
- Ensure scrutiny is objective, acts as a critical friend and promotes reflection to drive continuous improvement
- Publish a report at least once in every 12 month period to set out what they have done as a result of the arrangements, including child safeguarding practice reviews and safeguarding adult reviews, and how effective these arrangements have been in practice
- Agree arrangements for independent scrutiny of the report they must publish at least once per year
- Make sure the report is widely available and the published safeguarding arrangements should set out where the reports will be published
- Report any updates to the published arrangements in their yearly report and the proposed timescale for implementation

Funding

The safeguarding partners will:

- Agree the level of funding secured from each partner, which should be equitable and proportionate, and any contributions from each relevant agency, to support the local arrangements
- Make payments towards expenditure incurred in conjunction with local multi-agency arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults at risk

Independent Scrutiny

The Partnership is retaining the role of the Independent Chair. The Independent Chair will provide the safeguarding partners and the Greater Manchester Standards Board with assurance that the new arrangements are working effectively.

The safeguarding partners are keen to ensure that scrutiny comes in a variety of ways. They will use existing forums and events to engage and understand the issues that children and adults at risk face when using services and work to ensure that the right services are responsive to individual need.

Independent scrutiny is part of a wider system which includes the independent inspectorates' single assessment of the individual safeguarding partners and the Joint Targeted Area Inspections.

The Quality Assurance and Performance Sub Group will develop a new suite of all age indicators that will form the baseline of how the Partnership scrutinises the work and measures impact. This will also include information and data from LGA Peer Reviews, Audit Days, Case Reviews, Learning Reviews. In addition the Partnership will work with the cluster of local authorities aligned with Greater Manchester Police to develop further scrutiny arrangements.

In addition to the above the Partnership will hold an annual assurance workshop that brings partners together to showcase the work they are doing that makes a difference to safeguard children and adults at risk and also any preventative work that is being undertaken.

The Independent Chair will be appointed by the Integrated Partnership Business Manager as necessary to provide a point of escalation where other avenues have been exhausted. It is expected that partners will work together to resolve any professional challenges and disputes locally and guidance is provided by Greater Manchester Safeguarding Partnership '[Resolving Professional Disagreements/Escalation Policy](#)' and supporting local Professional Challenge and Escalation Procedures and Standards.

The Partnership expects that organisations will adhere to their own whistle-blowing policies as appropriate. For more information see the [GM whistleblowing guidance](#).

Funding

Partnership working is the key to ensuring safeguarding children and adults at risk is right. Organisations and agencies should decide clearly how the arrangements will be funded for this current year and have combined the budgets from the adults and children's safeguarding boards.

Safeguarding partners have agreed their funding contributions for 2019/20 only and this will be reviewed for the following year. This funding will contribute to the running of the Partnership and functions and will directly fund posts as deemed appropriate.

In addition, individual safeguarding partners will contribute to the development and delivery of the training programme, communications, marketing, events and adult and child safeguarding reviews.

Funding arrangements will be subject to an annual review and there will be further consideration and discussion regarding future funding rounds.

If any safeguarding partners do not fulfil their funding responsibilities as identified in the arrangements the dispute resolution process will be initiated.

Income

Agency	Contribution
Local Authority	£84,101.50
Clinical Commissioning Group	£43,098.50
Greater Manchester Police	£23,700.00
Schools Direct Grant	£40,000.00
Others	£3,527.20
Income from training	£7,500.00
Total	£201,927.20

Proposed Expenditure

Staffing	£172,000.00
Independent chair fees	£15,000.00
Other expenditure	£11,000.00
Buildings/legal/comms	£13,000.00
Total	£211,000.00

There has been to date a reserve and this has been used to appoint independent reviewers for Serious Case Reviews. The first Partnership Group will need to consider the budget and finance for these going forward.

There will be some variation in these figures over the next 12 months as the Child Death Overview Panel functions move from the safeguarding board. The budget in future years will be aligned to the priorities as outlined in the business plan.

Annual Report

Transparency for the people we work with and for practitioners is crucial. The Bury Integrated Safeguarding Partnership will publish an annual report covering how we work holistically in dealing with safeguarding (this is a statutory requirement under the Care Act 2014).

The report will include what the Partnership has done as a result of the arrangements and cover:

- Evidence of the work undertaken by the safeguarding partners and relevant agencies, including training, and an analysis of the difference it has made for children and adults at risk. This will include those care leavers who have moved on to receive care and support from adult services
- Progress on agreed priorities
- A record of decisions and actions taken by the partners in the report's period (or planned to be taken) to implement the recommendations of any local and national practice reviews, including any resulting improvements
- Ways in which the partners have sought and utilised feedback from children and their families and adults at risk to inform their work and influence service provision

During the next 12 months the new partnership will continue the work in implementing The Graded Care Profile 2 and Signs of Safety to further embed the 'all age' model in our practice.

Voice of Child and Adult

Engaging in various ways is key to understanding whether the work the Partnership is doing is making an impact and making a difference to their daily lived experience.

The Partnership will engage through the various existing forums and work at developing new ways to engage with all, especially those who are harder to reach.

Partners are committed to engaging at an individual, service and strategic level. We will work with established groups and forums where children and young people can have their say, share their views and experiences, challenge and support local decision makers and shape and influence strategic planning, commissioning and service provision at an individual, service and strategic level. These include:

- Corporate Parenting Board
- Youth Cabinet and The Circles of Influence annual event
- Junior and Senior Children in Care Council (and regional meetings)
- Consultations through Six Towns Housing Roadshows
- Views of adults through "Making Safeguarding Personal" consultation fed to Board
- Focus Groups for adults and children
- Children's Rights and Advocacy
- Care Leaver Forum
- Young People's Benchmarking Forum (GM)
- Children and Young people engagement in interview panels

Emerging issues, themes, impacts and outcomes of engagement will be fed into the sub groups and work plans may be changed to work with these issues.

Information Sharing and Governance

Practitioners should have the ability and willingness to share appropriate information if it is reasonable and proportionate to helping and protecting those we work closely with. Sharing information with other organisations and practitioners should not be a barrier to good practice, the arrangements should cover the processes and principles for sharing information with other organisations and partners and includes third party providers to which have delegated functions.

Locally, safeguarding partner organisations will have their own information sharing protocols, this document will serve as the protocol under the new arrangements and should be read with the Greater Manchester Safeguarding Partnership agreed guidelines which includes the Caldicott Principles.

The [Greater Manchester guidelines](#) outlines the Seven Golden Rules for information sharing:

- Remember that the Data Protection Act is not a barrier to sharing information but provides a framework to ensure that personal information about living persons is shared appropriately;
- Be open and honest with the person (and/or their family where appropriate) from the outset about why, what, how and with whom information will, or could be shared, and seek their agreement, unless it is unsafe or inappropriate to do so;
- Seek advice if you are in any doubt, without disclosing the identity of the person where possible;
- Share with consent where appropriate and, where possible, respect the wishes of those who do not consent to share confidential information. You may still share information without consent if, in your judgment, that lack of consent can be overridden in the public interest. You will need to base your judgment on the facts of the case;
- Consider safety and well-being: Base your information sharing decisions on considerations of the safety and well-being of the person and others who may be affected by their actions;
- Necessary, proportionate, relevant, accurate, timely and secure: Ensure that the information you share is necessary for the purpose for which you are sharing it, is shared only with those people who need to have it, is accurate and up-to-date, is shared in a timely fashion, and is shared securely;
- Keep a record of your decision and the reasons for it - whether it is to share information or not. If you decide to share, then record what you have shared, with whom and for what purpose.
- The 'Seven Golden Rules' will help support your decision making so you can be more confident that information is being shared legally and professionally.

Information Storage

As the Integrated Partnership is hosted by Bury Local Authority, they will act as data controllers for information associated with the new arrangements, on behalf of safeguarding partners.

This will include the list below which is not exhaustive:

- Underpinning partnerships and groups (agenda, minutes, papers)
- Business functions (training, communications, performance)
- Funding
- Safeguarding practice reviews and local learning reviews child death reviews (where appropriate)

Any paper historical information related to old serious case reviews/safeguarding practice reviews or child death reviews will be archived and stored by Bury Council on behalf of the safeguarding partners. If needed these will be scanned and archived electronically over time.

Freedom of Information

The Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000 gives a right of access to the information public authorities' hold. The Bury Integrated Safeguarding Partnership arrangements are considered to be a public authority for the purposes of Freedom of Information.

The safeguarding partners acknowledge that they remain subject to the requirements of FOI arrangements and have a statutory duty to respond individually to the requests they receive.

Each partner will assist and co-operate with the others (at their own expense) to comply with information disclosure requests relating to the Integrated Partnership.

Bury Council will lead on any FOI requests relating to the Integrated Partnership arrangements and any requests will be processed by the [Bury Council Information Governance Team](#).

All safeguarding partners should direct any FOI requests made regarding the Integrated Partnership on to Bury Council without delay and within 24 hours.

Subject Access Requests will be processed in accordance with legal and statutory obligations. If a request relates to more than one safeguarding partner a joint response will be issued by Bury Council after liaising with the relevant partners.

Legal Framework

The legislation relevant to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is set out below and should be read in conjunction with Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.

- Children Act 2004
- The Care Act 2014
- Education Acts including Education Act 2002, Education and Skills Act 2008 and Education Act 1996
- Children Act 1989
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Provision of services for children in need, their families and others
- Co-operation between authorities
- Emergency protection powers of Exclusion requirement
- Police protection powers
- Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012
- Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011
- Childcare Act 2006
- Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- Housing Act 1996
- The Children and Social Work Act 2017
- The Child Safeguarding Practice Review and Relevant Agency Regulations 2018

There are local policies, procedures and key documents inherited from the Local Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards that are relevant, these will be reviewed within a specified timeframe. These will be available on the website as they are reviewed and agreed.