



**HEREFORDSHIRE PROTOCOL BETWEEN HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD, COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP, CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTNERSHIP, LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD AND ADULT SAFEGUARDING BOARD**

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This protocol defines how the Herefordshire Children and Young People's Partnership (CYPP), Herefordshire Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) and the Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership Board (CSP) work together with the Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB) and the Herefordshire Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB) in the pursuit of safeguarding and promoting the health and wellbeing of children, young people and adults at risk.
- 1.2 The specific functions of each Board are set out in their respective Terms of Reference. This protocol sets out the principles underpinning how the five Boards work across their defined remits, how communication and engagement will be secured across the Boards and the practical means by which effective co-ordination and coherence between the Boards will be secured.
- 1.3 The role of the HSCB and HSAB in relation to the CYPP, HWBB and the CSP is one of equal partners underpinned by this protocol. However, the Safeguarding Boards have a distinct function to influence and assure as well as to challenge and hold partners to account for their work to safeguard children, young people and adults at risk, as set out in statute. This is promoted by the protocol.

**2. Principles**

- 2.1 This protocol seeks to clarify the discrete responsibilities of each Board. Its focus is on ensuring that the following simple principles underpin how the five Boards should operate:
- Safeguarding is the business of all Boards;
  - The Boards should know each other's business;
  - A culture of scrutiny and challenge should exist across all the Boards;
  - The Boards should work together to avoid duplication, and ensure consistency, clarity and best use of resources;

- Each Board should focus on improving outcomes for children, young people and adults, contributing from its own specific perspective.

### **3. Board Functions**

#### **3.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board**

3.2 Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBBs) were established by the Health and Social Care Act 2012. They are a forum where key leaders from the health and wellbeing system work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population and reduce health inequalities.

3.3 Board members collaborate to understand their local community's needs, agree priorities and encourage commissioners to work in a more joined up way. This includes overseeing the completion of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), which identifies the needs of the local population, and of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, which guides and informs the commissioning of local services by the partners on the Board. As a result, residents and services are better able to understand how they can promote and protect their own wellbeing and patients and the public should experience more joined-up services from the NHS, local councils and the wide range of community, voluntary sector and private providers.

3.3 The HWBB agrees its top priorities on an annual basis and these can be found at **XXX**.

#### **3.4 The Children and Young people's Partnership**

3.5 Herefordshire Children and Young People's Partnership (CYPP) oversees the delivery of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy priority in relation to children and young people. The Partnership is a combination of commissioners and providers who are responsible for developing and promoting a child and family-centred outcome-led vision. The vision, priorities, activity and intended impact of the Partnership are set out in the Children and Young People's Plan.

3.6 The Plan is intended to promote strong joint planning and effective commissioning of services. It therefore identifies the priorities for children and young people, clearly informed by their views and those of their parents/carers and a comprehensive needs analysis, informed by the JSNA.

3.7 The Children and Young people's Plan for 2015 – 18 can be found at **XXX**.

### **3.8 The Community Safety Partnership Board**

3.9 Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) are statutory bodies under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and made up of representatives from the police, local authorities, fire and rescue authorities, probation service and health. The CSP ensures agencies work together to protect their local communities from crime and to help people feel safer. They work out how to deal with local issues like crime, domestic abuse, antisocial behaviour, substance misuse and offending behaviour. The CSP annually assesses local crime priorities and consults partners and the local community about how to deal with them. The annual community safety needs assessment can be found at [XXX](#).

3.10 The above three boards have a much wider focus than safeguarding; however these boards must ensure that there is appropriate commissioning and provision of services which have an impact on reducing safeguarding risks or on addressing the impact of safeguarding concerns on individuals and communities.

### **3.11 Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Board**

3.12 As set out in the Children Act 2004, the Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB) is the statutory body for agreeing how organisations co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and for ensuring the effectiveness of what they do. The HSCB is chaired by an Independent Chairperson and has a key role to scrutinise and challenge safeguarding performance.

3.13 The HSCB does not commission or deliver direct frontline services though it does provide training. While the LSCB does not have the power to direct other organisations it does have a role in making clear where improvement is needed. Each Board partner retains its own existing line of accountability for safeguarding.

### **3.14 The Herefordshire Safeguarding Adult Board**

3.15 Herefordshire Safeguarding Adult Board (HSAB) is a statutory partnership board as per the requirements of the Care Act 2014. The overarching purpose of the HSAB is to help and safeguard adults with care and support needs. The HSAB must lead adult safeguarding arrangements across the County and oversee and coordinate the effectiveness of the safeguarding work of its member and partner agencies. The HSAB is chaired by an Independent Chairperson and has a key role to scrutinise and challenge safeguarding performance. Whilst not a commissioning body, it should concern itself with a range

of issues which can contribute to the wellbeing of its community and the prevention of abuse and neglect, such as:

- The safety of people who use services in local health settings, including mental health;
- The safety of adults with care and support needs living in social housing;
- Effective interventions with adults who self-neglect, for whatever reason;
- The quality of local care and support services;
- Making connections between adult safeguarding and domestic abuse.

#### **4. Communications and Engagement**

4.1 Everyone has a responsibility for safeguarding, whether commissioner, statutory provider, third party provider, voluntary or community group or advocate.

4.2 All key strategic plans, whether they are formulated by individual agencies or by partnerships, should include safeguarding as a cross-cutting theme to ensure that existing strategies, commissioning plans and service delivery, as well as emerging plans for service change and improvement, include effective safeguarding arrangements that ensure that people in Herefordshire are safe and their wellbeing is protected.

4.3 **The three main strategic plans are:**

- The Health and Wellbeing Strategy;
- The Children and Young People's Plan
- The Community Safety Plan.

4.4 The above plans inform and influence local commissioning and service delivery. The two Safeguarding Boards also produce strategic plans and/or an annual business plan; these are informed by local needs analysis as well as the Boards own scrutiny and assurance work. These plans relate to the delivery of the Board's statutory functions including improving the quality of safeguarding arrangements through embedding local and national learning.

- 4.5 In drawing up, delivering and evaluating these strategies and plans, there should be effective interchange between the HWBB, CYPP and the CSP, and with the two Safeguarding Boards.
- 4.6 To ensure this happens, there should be formal interfaces with the Safeguarding Boards at key points including:
- The development of needs analyses that drive the formulation of the annual priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the Children and Young People's Plan the Community Safety Plan and the two Safeguarding Boards' Business Plans. These need to be reciprocal in nature ensuring that the Safeguarding Boards' needs analyses are fed into the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and strategic assessment for the CSP and that the outcomes of the JSNA and CSP strategic assessment are fed back into Safeguarding Boards' planning;
  - The development and finalisation of the plans to ensure the priorities are appropriately aligned and the activities and resources available are marshalled.
  - Annually reporting evaluations of performance on plans to provide the opportunity for reciprocal scrutiny, challenge and support and to enable all Boards to feed improvement and development needs into the planning process for future years' strategies and plans.
- 4.7 By having an effective formal working relationship between the five boards, the benefits should be:
- An integrated approach to the JSNA and CSP strategic analysis, ensuring comprehensive safeguarding data is included in both;
  - Aligning the work of the HSCB and HSAB business plans with the HWB Strategy, Children and Young People's Plan and CSP Plan and related priority setting to achieve improved progress with improvement activity and service change;
  - Ensuring safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, reflected in the public health agenda and related determinants of health strategies; together with community safety priorities and the short, medium and long term objectives of the CSP;
  - An ability to evaluate the impact of the HWB Strategy, Children and Young People's Plan and CSP Plan on safeguarding

outcomes, and of safeguarding on wider determinants of health and community safety outcomes;

- A coordinated approach to communication, learning and improvement, performance management, change and commissioning;
- Cross Board scrutiny and challenge and “holding to account”: the HWBB, CYPP and CSP for embedding safeguarding, and the Safeguarding Boards for overall performance and contribution to the improved outcomes set out in the HWB Strategy, Children and Young People’s Plan and CSP Plan.

## **5. Practical Arrangements to Secure Co-ordination**

5.1 The following arrangements detail the effective co-ordination and coherence in the work of the five Boards.

5.3 Each quarter, the chairs and statutory officers of the 5 Boards will meet to ensure the coordination of leadership, the coherence of respective plans and to consider the strategic risks facing children, young people, families, adults at risk and communities.

## **6 Relationships between the Safeguarding Boards**

6.1 There should be equally effective co-ordination and coherence between the two safeguarding boards. Effective cross-working, scrutiny and challenge between the Safeguarding Boards and the sub-groups will be achieved by:

- Sharing annual plans during the formulation stages to enable co-ordination and coherence where there are overlaps in business.
- Ensuring that there is cross-Board representation to secure on-going communication.
- Working jointly on safeguarding initiatives that impact on both children and adults.

## **7 Implementation and Review**

7.1 The Business Unit and HSCB and HSAB Chairpersons will have a lead role in ensuring that the protocol is implemented in practice. They will be supported by Director of Children’s Services and the Director of

Adults Wellbeing who sit on the CSP, CYPP and HWBB as well as the relevant Safeguarding Board.

7.2 The protocol will be agreed at full Board meetings of:

HWBB on

CSP on

CYPP on

HSAB on

HSCB on

7.3 This protocol will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains up to date with changing policy and guidance.

<b>Signed</b>	<b>Designation</b>
	Chair of Health and Wellbeing Board
	Chair of Children and Young People's Partnership
	Chair of Community Safety partnership
	Independent Chair of Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Board
	Independent Chair of Herefordshire Safeguarding Adult Board