

MULTI AGENCY SAFEGUARDING HUB (MASH) BOARD ARRANGEMENTS

Statement of Purpose and Terms of Reference

MASH BOARD TERMS OF REFERENCE

Aim

The Devon Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub provides a multi agency co located service to share information between agreed partners in a secure environment to reduce risks of significant harm to children and young people and to agree the levels and types of support to be provided following the immediate assessment of aggregated information about a child/family situation.

The MASH Board is the partnership responsible for overseeing the development of the Devon MASH in the context of

- (a) Nationally: the drive to improve outcomes for safeguarding children, vulnerable adults, the Munro Review of Child Protection and learning lessons from Serious Case Reviews 2009-2010 Ofsted.
- (b) Locally: the desire to improve the operational practice and strategic delivery of collective multi-agency responses (including commissioning) to effective partnership working in safeguarding.
- (c) Embedment of the agreed Golden Rules for multi agency working.

Functions

The functions of the Board are:

- To oversee the strategic development of the MASH and to ensure that information sharing policies and information governance arrangements are secure for the operational requirements of the MASH to be successful.
- To commission work on the development of key priorities/objectives for evaluation against cost effectiveness and improved outcomes for children and young people.
- To develop and agree an interim Memorandum of Understanding which sets out partner commitments and expectations pending the development of a full 'Business Case' for future development and extension of the MASH which may include the far South West peninsula Safeguarding Children Boards and arrangements for safeguarding vulnerable adults.
- To develop and ensure an effective communication strategy for all stakeholders.
- To ensure a coordinated whole 'system' approach to improving safeguarding and harm reduction by the use of intelligence systems, triggering early more effective interventions and measuring the impact in improving outcomes for children.
- To provide strategic coherence in support, challenge and direction to the MASH Operational Steering Group.

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Accountability

The MASH Board is accountable to

- Devon County Council
- Devon and Cornwall Constabulary
- NHS Devon
- Devon & Cornwall Probation Trust

Membership

The MASH Board membership will consist of: (or designated deputy)

Devon County Council:

- Executive Director CYPS (Chair)
- Education Safeguarding Officer
- Director of Adult & Community Services

Anne Whiteley
Jane Lake
Jennie Stephens

Devon Education Forum

Helen Nicholls

Devon & Cornwall Constabulary:

- Det. Superintendent (lead for MASH)
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John Clements

Health:

- Chief Executive, Devon Partnership Trust
- Chief Executive, RD&E Foundation Trust
- Chief Executive, Northern Devon Healthcare Trust
- Joint Director of Public Health – NHS Devon and DCC
- GP

Iain Tulley
Angela Pedder

Jacqueline Kelly

Dr Virginia Pearson
to be agreed

Devon & Cornwall Probation Trust:

- Chief Executive

Rob Menary

DSCB:

- Independent Chair

Alan Wooderson

South Western Ambulance Service NHS Trust:

- Safeguarding Manager

Mary Smeaton

Other attendees:

- Chair of MASH Operational Steering Group
- Project Manager DCC
- Representative from Devon Adult Safeguarding Board

Karen Cleave
Nicola Channon

Meeting Frequency:

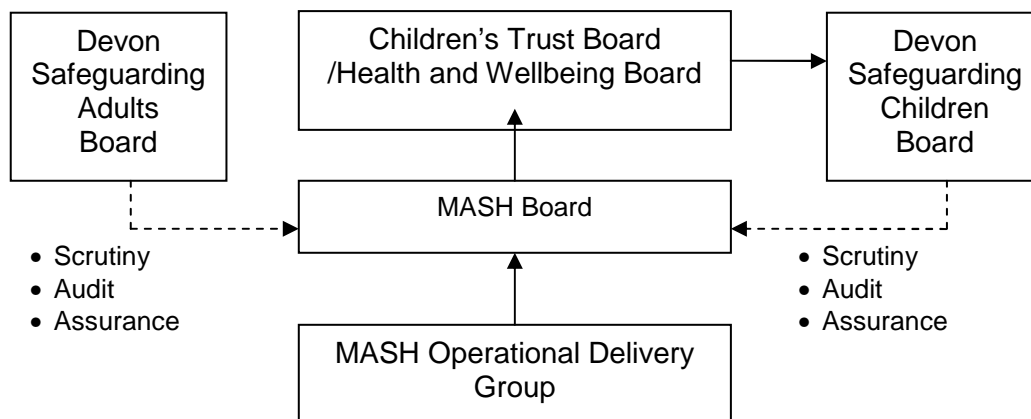
- The Board will meet three times a year, and be supported by the DSCB office.

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Review:

- These Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually from the date of adoption or updated by Board agreement as required in the interim.

Governance Structure:



Reporting Arrangements:

The reporting arrangements are to:

- Devon Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB)
- Devon Adult Safeguarding Board
- Individual Boards of partner organisations as appropriate.

Minutes of the Board Meetings will be maintained on the DSCB Website.

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APPENDIX 1

Principles underpinning work of MASH Board

1. The Board will give careful attention to safeguarding: challenging itself and constituent partners and asking three critical questions:
 - Are Devon's children/vulnerable adults safer as a result of the MASH ?
 - How do we know they are safer?
 - What was the child's/vulnerable adults reported experience ?

2. The Board is expected to take a collective responsibility for three inter-linked strands:
 - Use of resource and evidence bases for outcome-based and best value strategic commissioning.
 - Use of a benchmark using performance information from previous arrangements and an agreed set of measures to evaluate improvement as a result of MASH .
 - Promoting cultural change across the whole system (partnership) at both strategic and operational/practice levels to promote understanding of the impact of adults' behaviours on children and the importance of being able to respond in ways which practitioners managers and leaders think beyond organisational responsibilities and towards a collective responsibility to protect children.

3. **Commissioning best practice**

The Board will have regard to

 - 3.1 **assessments of need** and other evidence bases and analytic data that is available to support prioritisation and value for money. It will be particularly important to understand the implications of Joint Strategic Needs Assessments and similar agency specific data;
 - 3.2 the involvement of service users and carers;
 - 3.3 **call to account** or raise with 'appropriate organisation' the performance of any agreements or commissioned activity, which fails to positively engage and support the objectives of safeguarding;
 - 3.4 Seek to **align** and **pool resources** across the partnership to give best value and to generate efficiencies;
 - 3.5 promote **wide engagement of partners and stakeholders** by ensuring effective communication;
 - 3.6 where risks are taken a full risk assessment will be carried out and that the Board will be fully informed of the risks.