

## **GM Safeguarding Children and Young People Alliance - Terms of Reference (agreed at WLT Feb 24)**

### **Purpose of the GM Safeguarding Alliance**

The purpose of the GM Safeguarding Alliance is to provide collective leadership and deliver mutual assurance of strategic and operational safeguarding partnership arrangements for children and young people in Greater Manchester.

The Safeguarding Alliance will provide a dedicated forum where the three lead statutory safeguarding partners can:-

- Set direction and model collaborative working.
- Bring, explore and problem solve GM strategic and system wide issues.
- Agree the financial resources required including individual agency contributions for safeguarding partnerships.
- Provide mutual challenge and accountability.
- Receive high level performance and quality assurance information and key system learning
- Receive updates from the Complex Safeguarding Executive.

The Safeguarding Alliance also provides the mechanism for local authorities, Greater Manchester Police, NHS GM and local safeguarding partnerships to be able to flag issues relating to children's safeguarding that would benefit from discussion between safeguarding partners on a city-regional level.

### **Membership**

The members of the Safeguarding Alliance will be the lead safeguarding partners (as set out in Working Together 2023):-

- The Chief Executives of GM Local Authorities
- The Chief Executive of NHS GM
- Chief Officer of Greater Manchester Police

The Directors of Children's Services from each Local Authority will also be invited to attend.

An element of independent scrutiny will be a part of the Alliance meetings where it adds value. This might include bringing in external expertise or knowledge.

A full list of the membership is provided in the appendix.

### **Delegation**

The expectation is that the lead safeguarding partners will prioritise attendance at the Safeguarding Alliance meetings. For the meeting to go ahead will require a minimum of 6 Chief Executive's to be in attendance and senior officer representation from both GMP and Health. Deputies can be nominated but only in exceptional circumstances. GM WLT will be notified of attendance from each meeting.

Any decisions made by the Alliance will be recorded in a report and shared with Directors of Children's Services, Local Safeguarding Partnerships and the GM Children's Board.

### **Frequency of meetings**

There will be dedicated Safeguarding Alliance meetings held 2-3 times per year. It is proposed that the events should be of sufficient duration to enable detailed discussion and agree appropriate next steps (e.g. minimum of 2 hours).

### **Focus of dedicated Safeguarding Alliance meetings**

The focus of each Alliance meeting will be determined by GM Wider Leadership Team with input from the Directors of Children's Services Group and Local Safeguarding Partnerships and Independent scrutineers. Relevant officers will be notified of events sufficiently in advance to inform the discussion items.

### **Format for the Alliance meetings**

Where appropriate a high level multi-agency performance report will be produced in advance of the meeting that might include for example:-

- A small number of performance measures that statutory partners will provide collated into a score card to highlight the big issues for children's services.
- A breakdown of serious child safeguarding cases (number), Rapid Reviews in timeframe and whether a Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) was completed.
- Overview of specific challenges that will allow oversight of activity and the opportunity to identify common themes between areas and/or significant issues within a service that impact more widely.

### **Focus of the Alliance meetings**

The GM Wider Leadership team will be responsible for agreeing the issues to be discussed at alliance meetings. Directors of children's services and local safeguarding children partnership's will be consulted annually on issues they would like the Alliance to consider. GM level groups focused on issues related to children's safeguarding (e.g. Complex Safeguarding Executive) will also be able to identify themes for consideration at the Alliance.

### **Support for Alliance meetings**

GMCA will provide project management support and be responsible for organising the events, supporting with collation of any relevant data, evidence and intelligence where required for the sessions.

It will be the responsibility of localities to provide any evidence, data and information to support the events.

### **Accountability**

The GM Safeguarding Alliance will produce an annual statement for inclusion in the annual reports published by local safeguarding children partnerships.

A report on the outcome of each safeguarding alliance meeting will be shared with the GM Childrens Board.

## **Principles of operation**

- Strong joined up leadership is critical with equal commitment from the 3 safeguarding partners at the highest level.
- The Alliance will strive to develop a shared culture which is collaborative, professional curious and is able to critically challenge.
- The Safeguarding Alliance is not a substitute for and does not take responsibility away from local safeguarding children partnerships but instead is about adding value and sharing common challenges.
- To help determine the value of the Alliance after each meeting officers will be asked to consider the extent to which children and young people are safer, as a result of discussions and actions agreed by an individual organisation(s) or collectively.
- Any recommendations from the meetings to be captured and shared back with WLT and other relevant forums.
- Progress against any actions/recommendations emerging from the events to be routinely reported to local safeguarding partnerships and other relevant governance.
- The focus of the Safeguarding Alliance will initially be on children and young people but the process to look at potential future consideration of adult safeguarding during 2024.

## GM Safeguarding Children and Young People Alliance -Membership

<b>Safeguarding Partnership</b>	<b>Chief Executive</b>	<b>Director of Children's Services</b>
Bury	Lynne Ridsdale	Jeanette Richards
Bolton	Sue Johnson	Bernie Brown
Manchester	Joanne Roney	Paul Marshall
Oldham	Harry Catherall	Gerard Jones
Rochdale	Steve Rumbelow	Sharon Hubber
Salford	Tom Stannard	Melissa Caslake
Stockport	Caroline Simpson	Chris McLoughlin
Tameside	Sandra Stewart	Allison Parkinson
Trafford	Sara Todd	Jill McGregor
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan	Colette Dutton
<b>GM Integrated Care Board</b>		
Chief Executive	Mark Fisher	
Deputy Chief Executive/Chief Nurse	Mandy Philbin	
Deputy Chief Nurse	Gill Gibson	
Director of Safeguarding	Andrea Patel	
<b>Greater Manchester Police</b>		
Chief Constable	Stephen Watson	
Assistant Chief Constable	Sarah Jackson	
Detective Chief Superintendent and Head of Public Protection	Neil Jones	

**Also in attendance**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Kate Green	Deputy Mayor
Eamonn Boylan	Chief Executive, GMCA
Andrew Lightfoot	Deputy Chief Executive, GMCA
Jacob Botham	CYP Programme Lead, GMCA
David Ottiwell	Principal, Research (PSR) GMCA
Amanda Carbery	Project Management support, GMCA
Nominated representative	Deputy Mayor's Office