Warrington Safeguarding Children Board and Children and Young People’s Partnership Protocol
1. **Introduction**

1.1 This document sets out the expectations of the relationship and working arrangements between Warrington Children and Young People’s Partnership and Warrington Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB). It covers their respective roles and functions, membership of the two boards, arrangements for challenge, oversight and scrutiny and performance management.

1.2 The Vice Chair of the Partnership and the Chair of the WSCB have formally agreed to the arrangements set out in this document.

2. **The Warrington Safeguarding Children Board**

2.1 The WSCB is a statutory partnership with responsibility for agreeing how relevant local organisations will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The WSCB’s role is to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of local arrangements to safeguard all children.

2.2 The WSCB’s key responsibilities are to:

- Develop policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Warrington, including policies and procedures in relation to:
  a. the action to be taken where there are concerns about a child’s safety or welfare, including thresholds for intervention;
  b. training of persons who work with children or in services affecting the safety and welfare of children;
  c. recruitment and supervision of persons who work with children;
  d. investigation of allegations concerning persons who work with children;
  e. safety and welfare of children who are privately fostered;
  f. cooperation with neighbouring children’s services authorities and their Board partners;
- communicating to persons and bodies in Warrington the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, raising their awareness of how this can best be done and encouraging them to do so;
- monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by Warrington Borough Council and its partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and advising them on ways to improve;
- participating in the planning of services for children in Warrington; and
- undertaking reviews of serious cases and advising the authority and the Board partners on lessons to be learned.
3. **Warrington Children and Young People’s Partnership**

3.1 The Children and Young People’s Partnership (CYPP) brings together the organisations responsible for services for children, young people and families including the council, health providers, schools, the police and the voluntary and community sector. The partnership is defined in legislation and continues to deliver a Children and Young People’s Plan.

3.2 The Children and Young People’s Partnership is committed to the values and principles of partnership working in children and young people’s services including preparing and publishing a jointly owned Children and Young People’s Plan.

3.4 **Themes in the Children and Young People’s Plan 2014-17:**

The four broad themes pertaining to Health and Wellbeing are:

- Reducing inequalities in outcomes for children and young people from the most deprived areas and vulnerable groups
- Emotional health and wellbeing
- Tackling Risky Behaviours
- Healthy weight and promoting breastfeeding

The four broad themes pertaining to Ambition and Achievement are:

- To increase the number of children arriving at school, school ready.
- To narrow the attainment gap between all children and the most vulnerable.
- To increase the percentage of children and young people attending good and outstanding schools.
- To increase the number of children and young people, particularly vulnerable young people, achieving positive destinations

3.5 The Partnership consists of executive level representatives from each of the organisations in the partnership.

4. **The Relationship between the WSCB and the Children and Young People’s Partnership**

4.1 The roles and responsibilities of the two respective bodies are different but complementary. Both are responsible for promoting co-operation between partners to improve the well-being of children in Warrington. However the WSCB is not an operational body or one which directly commissions or delivers services to children, young people and their families. The Children and Young People’s Partnership is constituted of organisations and agencies that are responsible for service delivery.

4.2 The WSCB is a statutory body in its own right. It has a clear focus on safeguarding and promoting welfare of children and young people in
Warrington, although it does contribute to the overall goal of improving the well-being of all children.

4.3. The WSCB, in order to fulfill its statutory function must maintain an independent role and voice, able to scrutinise the work of partners and challenge their practice. It is therefore not subordinate to or subsumed within Children and Young People’s Partnership structures.

4.4 In order to have a fully independent voice the WSCB is chaired by an Independent Chair. In order to enable the WSCB undertake its challenge functions effectively, the Chair of the Children and Young People’s Partnership must be a different person. Currently the Chair of the Children and Young People’s Partnership is being reviewed.

4.5 In accordance with regulations and guidance, the Chair of the Children and Young People’s Partnership sits on the WSCB as a ‘participating observer’.

4.6 The independent Chair of WSCB attends the Partnership meetings and presents reports and assists and advises on the development of effective plans and service delivery arrangements for safeguarding Warrington children and young people.

4.6 The WSCB’s role is:
- to ensure the effectiveness of the arrangements made by the Children and Young People’s Partnership and individual agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children;
- to challenge and scrutinise the work of the Children and Young People’s Partnership
- The WSCB will be formally consulted as part of the development and review of the CYPP. It is within the scope of the WSCB to measure the extent to which safeguarding work has optimised the life chances of children receiving services. to offer support, guidance and advice to the Children and Young People’s Partnership to enable them to discharge their safeguarding responsibilities effectively including S11 responsibilities
- to report on the work of the Children and Young People’s Partnership including how well the partnership safeguards children and young people in Warrington in the WSCB Annual Report.

4.7 The Children and Young People’s Partnership will work with the WSCB:
- to deliver on the recommendations and challenges made by the WSCB
- to use the JSNA and other data to analyse local needs, support developments to meet local needs and ensure safeguarding underpins all that the partnership does.
• to focus on health, ambition and achievement having a role to consider the effectiveness of the C&YPP including safeguarding arrangements.

4.8. The Partnership will consider the WSCB Annual Report and the WSCB will consider key annual reports from the Partnership.

5. The Relationship between the Chair of the WSCB and the Executive Director of Families and Well-Being (DCS)

5.1 The DCS has a legal responsibility, set out in the Children act 2004, for the effective working of the WSCB as a whole. The Executive Director (the DCS in Warrington) will always be a member of both the WSCB and Children and Young People’s Partnership.

5.2 The Independent Chair is accountable, via the Chief Executive and Executive Director, for the effectiveness of the work of the WSCB.

5.3. The Executive Director will be held to account for the effective working of the WSCB by the Warrington Borough Council Chief Executive and challenged, where appropriate, by the Lead Member.

5.4. The Chief Executive will want to satisfy himself that the Executive Director is ensuring the working relationship between the Children and Young People’s Partnership and WSCB is working well.

WSCB Executive will review the governance document to ensure it remains fit for purpose.

Signatures

Audrey Williamson
Independent Chair Warrington Safeguarding Children Board
April 2014

Eleni Ioannides
Vice Chair Warrington Children and Young People’s Partnership
April 2014