

# Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Children Partnership

## Strategic Plan 2022 - 2024



### Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Children Partnership.

#### Who we are?

The Safeguarding Children Partnership (SCP) is a multi-agency partnership which has statutory functions under the Children Act 1989, the Children Act 2004, the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and statutory guidance Working Together 2018.

The main focus of the SCP is to ensure that in the Rochdale Borough, safeguarding arrangements work effectively so that all children and young people are protected from abuse.

**Our Principles-** The principles of the RBSCP reflect our 'business as usual safeguarding activities'. With our partners we commit to ensuring:

- Children are safeguarded and their welfare promoted
- Partner organisations and agencies collaborate, share and co-own the vision for how to achieve improved outcomes for vulnerable children;
- Partners provide safeguarding assurance, challenge appropriately and hold one another to account effectively.
- Information is shared effectively within and across organisations to ensure more accurate and timely decision making and action for children and families;
- There is focus on children and families— their voice is heard, and their lived experience seen and understood.

#### How will we work?

All work and actions undertaken will reflect and promote the ethos in Rochdale of relational working and trauma informed practice. Our responses will be strength based and keep the wellbeing and rights of children and young people at the centre of all that we do.

Our work will be continuously coordinated and evaluated to fulfil RBSCP statutory responsibilities.

#### The structure of the RBSCP.

The Executive Safeguarding Partners of the Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Board (RBSCP) have responsibility to coordinate safeguarding services, to act as the strategic leadership group in supporting and engaging others in the work of safeguarding children, promoting their welfare, obtaining assurance and implementing local and national learning.

The RBSCP Business Unit on behalf of the RBSCP Executive, our other partner agencies and through the work of our sub-groups produces a Safeguarding Children Strategic Business Plan which identifies the priorities of the RBSCP.

The RBSCP works closely with the Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Adults Board, the Rochdale Children and Young Peoples Partnership and Rochdale Safer Communities Partnership to ensure all priorities are aligned.

#### How our priority areas were developed

In developing the RBSCP priorities for 2022 to 2024 it was important to build on work undertaken over the last 2 years some of which has been impacted by the Covid-19 response. The priority areas were identified through a multi-agency process where all RBSCP partners provided information regarding safeguarding priorities within their own organisations and contributed to a wider discussion and agreement regarding priority areas for the RBSCP. The priorities have also been informed by local child safeguarding practice reviews, multi-agency audits, and local and national serious safeguarding issues.

**If you concerned that a child has or is suffering harm, neglect or abuse please call 0300 303 0440. If you feel a child is in immediate danger please contact the police on 999**

1.0 Reducing the Impact of Neglect	1.1 Finalising development work regarding neglect strategy and neglect tool(s)	Quality Assurance neglect working group	Numbers of CP plans for neglect decrease Numbers of early help processes re neglect increase Numbers of SIN/RR referrals related to neglect decrease	Dec-22
	1.2 Implementation of above	RBSCP	The RBSCP have assurance that the Partner agencies and representative are fully informed in their responsibility to responding to child neglect	Dec-23
	1.3 Training and awareness developed/ delivered on updated approach to child neglect	The Learning Development and Excellence in Practice Sub-group	All professionals are aware of, know where to go to find information on Neglect and are fully informed on how to utilise the resources available and embed in their work practice.	Mar-24
	1.4 Improve awareness and understanding of neglect within communities (children & young people, families voluntary services, community services for example) to share preventative messaging so that early identification can be achieved	The Communication and Engagement Sub-group	The views and experiences of Children/Young People and Families are embedded throughout all RBSCP multi-agency work via a variety of Children/Young People Voice groups	ongoing
	1.5 Obtain feedback from multi agency practitioners regarding the updated strategy and tool(s) /impact on practice	The Quality Assurance Sub-group	Data is shared and helps inform prevention and early intervention work	Dec-23
2.0 Effective identification and responses to intra-familial child sexual abuse	2.1 Develop and implement CSA (intra-familial) multi-agency introductory training including train the Trainer opportunities	RBSCP	The RBSCP have assurance that the Partner agencies and representative are more informed in their responsibility to responding to CSA (intra-familial)	May-23
	2.2 The RBSCP will share learning from Thematic Review and CSA Review with the wider partnership	The Practice Review and Learning Development/Excellence in Practice Sub-groups	confidence regarding responses to CSA following the outcome of LSCPR thematic Review on Intra-familial abuse	Oct-23
	2.3 Significantly increase the training take up of the RBSCP multi-agency CSA courses and train the trainer opportunities. All partners to ensure that adequate numbers of their staff have attended the training. Continued assurance from Partners that the CSA training is a priority	The Learning Development and Excellence in Practice Sub-group	Children and young people suffering from CSA will be identified and responded to effectively, receiving the right support from well trained and well informed professionals	May-23
	2.4 Continue to see opportunities to engage schools and the community through awareness raising campaign and consultation. Continue to develop opportunities of engagement with schools and families through resources, campaign, consultation and escalation.	The Education and Communication and Engagement Sub-groups	Professionals who spend the most time wit children are empowered regarding their knowledge of responding well to CSA concerns.	Mar-24
	2.5 To provide assurance to Partners and to the Children and Young Peoples Partnership.	The Independent Chair/Executive Partners	Partners and CYPP will be assured priorities remain aligned and appropriate action is being taken	ongoing

3.0 Responding well to support children impacted by domestic abuse	3.1 To work cohesively with the Rochdale Safer Communities Partnership and RBSCP Partners to ensure that the legislation is embedded in working practice	The Independent Chair/Executive Partners	Partners and RSCP will be assured priorities remain aligned and appropriate action is being taken	ongoing
	3.2 To continue to deliver and offer training on the Impact of Domestic Abuse on Children	The Learning Development and Excellence in Practice Sub-group	Practitioners recognise that all children are deemed victims in their own right.	Mar-24
	3.3 Obtain feedback via questionnaires/surveys from multi agency practitioners and young people regarding the impact of Domestic Abuse on Children	The Communication and Engagement Sub-group	The Voice of the Child is captured in all aspects of work undertaken by the RBSCP	Mar-24
	3.4 Undertake Multi-agency audits to measure impact and assurance the legislation is embedded in practice	The Quality Assurance Sub-group	Children are being identified as victims in their own right impacted by domestic abuse. Data is reflective of understanding and knowledge.	Mar-24
4.0 Continuing collective response to safeguard adolescents.	4.1 Undertake an audit in relation to improvements in support of adolescents at high risk of CSE/CSA.	The Quality Assurance Sub-group	Strengths on areas of developments will be identified enabling responses to adult safeguarding to continue improvements.	Mar-24
	4.2 Learning opportunities to improve awareness regarding the vulnerabilities of adolescents and develop learning events.	The Learning Development and Excellence in Practice Sub-group	Communication will be stronger between the Partners and we will have a shared understanding of how we can work together to keep adolescents safe across the Borough.	Mar-24
	4.3 Evaluate the impact of changes in missing procedures	The Quality Assurance Sub-group	We will have qualitative data on the effectiveness of missing procedures.	Feb-24
	4.4 Upskilling the children's workforce around safety planning for vulnerable adolescents who may be at risk from violence, exploitation and/or mental health issues.	The Learning Development and Excellence in Practice Sub-group	Partnership enabled to respond consistently to the complex needs of adolescents.	Mar-24
5.0 Improving a joint approach to safeguarding between Children and Adults Services	5.1 The RBSCP and RBSAB considers how the children's and adults' workforce seek opportunities to work collaboratively both strategically and operationally in safeguarding work where families are approached.	The Independent Chair/Executive Partners	Professionals working with children are supported strategically to consider other family members who may need support. The interface between the children's and adult's workforce is stronger, collaborative and better integrated with mutual respect and understanding of each other's remits	Ongoing
	5.2 RBSCP and RBSAB continue to promote trauma informed practices across the whole board and partnership.	The Independent Chair/Executive Partners	Trauma informed practice is embedded and consistently used by Professionals	Ongoing