**Medway Safeguarding Children Partnership**

The overarching purpose of the Medway Safeguarding Children Partnership (MSCP) is to support and enable safeguarding partners and relevant agencies to work together in a system where children are safeguarded, and their welfare is promoted.

[Working Together to Safeguard Children](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65cb4349a7ded0000c79e4e1/Working_together_to_safeguard_children_2023_-_statutory_guidance.pdf) (2023) sets out the safeguarding duties placed on the three local safeguarding statutory partners; local police force, integrated care boards (ICBs) and the local authority. It also provides a framework for safeguarding partners to make arrangements to work together, and with other partners and the MSCP structure supports this local framework.

**Accountable Officer Group.**

The accountable officer group is made up of the Heads of the three statutory safeguarding partners in Medway:

* Chief Constable of Kent Police
* Chief Executive of Kent and Medway NHS (Integrated Care Board)
* Chief Executive of Medway Council

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023) refers to these as Lead Safeguarding Partners (LSPs) with responsibility for their own organisations statutory and legislative duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children as well as assuring themselves that the Medway multi-agency safeguarding arrangements are effective and keep children safe.

**Executive Group**

The executive group is made up of senior leaders from the three statutory safeguarding partners whom the accountable officer group have delegated to have oversight of the quality and compliance of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements. Referred to as Delegated Safeguarding Partners (DSPs) in Working Together to Safeguarding Children (2023), part of the function of the executive group is the delivery and monitoring of shared priorities and procedures to protect and safeguard children in Medway. From the three statutory safeguarding partners the executive group is made up of:

* Assistant Chief Constable, Kent Police
* Chief Nursing Officer, Kent, and Medway NHS (Integrated Care Board)
* Corporate Director of People – Children and Adult Services, Medway Council

The MSCP recognises the critical role that education partners play in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and the executive also includes senior leader representatives from primary and secondary schools and post 16 education.

**Sub-Groups**

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023) requires the DSPs to have processes in place to provide assurance that multi-agency practice is reviewed and operating well. The MSCP sub-groups lead on the statutory requirements and the shared priorities, reporting to and seeking feedback from the executive group on their work and impact. Sub-groups are chaired by and made up of representatives from across the children’s workforce in Medway. Two of the statutory safeguarding partners work across Medway and Kent along with several other agencies and Kent and Medway Safeguarding Partnerships have several joint sub-groups to ensure continuity and consistency.

The MSPC structure chart is below.



MASH Strategic Board

Early Help Partnership Board

Policy & Procedures

Joint Exploitation Group (JEG)

Health Safeguarding Group

Child Death Overview Panel

Secure Estate

Safeguarding Assurance Group

Performance Management & Quality Assurance

Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

Multi Agency Audits

Learning Lessons

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

Community Safety Partnership

Health and Wellbeing Board

Adult Safeguarding Board

Medway Safeguarding Children Partnership Executive

Frequency: Every 2 months

Medway Safeguarding Children Partnership Accountable Officer Group

Frequency: Twice a year

**Joint Sub Groups with Kent**

**Medway Specific Sub Groups**