



birmingham safeguarding children board

Membership Agreement



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BIRMINGHAM SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

Membership Agreement

Purpose

The agencies and organisations represented on the Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) share a statutory commitment under the Children Act 2004 to Co-operate and work together to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of children.

It is each member's responsibility and duty to contribute to steering the strategic direction of the BSCB and to ensure implementation of both Working Together Guidance and Standard 5 of the National Service Framework.

The BSCB is responsible for co-ordinating local agencies' arrangements and has a collective responsibility for ensuring that all agencies working with children in Birmingham undertake their safeguarding duties and responsibilities:

To focus agency activity on delivering improved outcomes for children in the priorities outlined in the Children & Young People's Plan.

To ensure the delivery of safeguarding arrangements through the implementation of the BSCB Business Plan

Expectations of Members

All members will share the responsibility of ensuring that the business plan is delivered. Each individual sub-group will be responsible and accountable for agreeing their Terms of Reference and delivering the Business Plan within their remit.

To ensure their agency is represented with 100% attendance of which no more than 20% should be by one alternative named representative.

To be responsible for the agency budget contribution to safeguarding children and ensure that the allocated agency resources, financial and human, are utilised to meet the BSCB's objectives and any shortfalls are brought to the attention of the Board and agency

To be the named safeguarding champion for their agency for all matters relating to the BSCB. Act as a channel of communication between their own agency and the Board.

To take a lead role for safeguarding children within the representing agency/professional grouping and lead on work as required by the Board

To contribute to and examine regular updates, data and analysis on individual agency and joint agency safeguarding children performance indicators

To ensure as part of the Serious Case Review process that management reviews are completed fully within the set timescales.

Terms and Conditions

It is expected that BSCB representatives will be senior management representatives of their organisation, for example second tier or third tier in larger organisations, who are able to commit their agencies to joint working and in some cases the allocation and/or reshaping of resources to support the work of the Board. Dedicated time commitment by each member for Board meetings and activities is also required.

It is expected that named representatives will normally serve a minimum of three years on the BSCB. This should be a consideration by agencies in their nomination of representatives. It is recognised that, in many cases, the nomination will be that of a specifically designated agency post. However, it is strongly requested that where any change may be anticipated in an agency consideration is given to continuity of the Board representative.

No fees will be paid by the BSCB for agency time or for representative's expenses, except where the member is representing the Board on conferences, etc by request.

Agencies will be expected to respect shared information as confidential and all members will be expected to sign a confidentiality clause.