

ESCB Induction Pack

For anyone interested in finding out more about the Essex Safeguarding Children Board



Share learning from local child safeguarding practice reviews

Safeguard and promote welfare of children



ESCB Vision

The Essex Safeguarding Children Board's vision is that multi-agency child safeguarding arrangements in Essex are of the highest quality, with the child at their heart; and that practice continually improves and evolves across all agencies to reflect changing needs and circumstances.

[Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023](#) sets out requirements for all [Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements \(MASAs\)](#). In Essex, these arrangements are referred to as the Essex Safeguarding Children Board (ESCB).

At the heart of the arrangements is a commitment from all agencies to work together to keep children safe and to continuously improve and learn how to best do this.



ESCB Values

Safeguarding Partners in Essex are committed to delivering their vision according to a set of agreed values and principles, and these govern the work of the whole partnership:

- The child is at the heart of everything we do
- Sharing information between partners, and operating with trust and openness
- Continuous learning and the flexibility to evolve the partnership
- Ensuring everyone has a voice, including children and families
- Partners taking ownership and responsibility
- Strong communication and engagement within partners, with clear roles and responsibilities
- Excellent integration between adult and children's safeguarding
- Ensuring a balance of respect for individual organisations and appropriate challenge
- Ensuring alignment, connection and learning across the partners - a golden thread from the Executive, through the sub-committees and stay safe groups to the frontline
- Ensuring involvement and focus on frontline practitioners
- Keeping a preventative mind-set and adopting a Whole Family Approach
- Joint priority setting across partner agencies

Safeguarding Partners

Under the arrangements, there are five agencies in Essex who are jointly responsible by law for keeping children safe. These are called the Statutory Safeguarding Partners and they are the key decision makers who are responsible for the direction of travel along with relevant agencies, who are identified by the Lead Safeguarding Partners. These relevant agencies must act in accordance with local safeguarding arrangements.

- Essex Police
- Essex County Council
- Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care Board
- Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board
- Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care Board



Safeguarding Partners

Responsibilities

The Safeguarding Partners have joint and equal duties and responsibilities to ensure:

- That agencies work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children across Essex.
- They include and develop the role of wider local organisations and agencies in the process.
- They have a clear line of sight in relation to the key and critical safeguarding issues across Essex.



Safeguarding Partners



The Lead Safeguarding Partners (LSP) are the Chief Executives of each of the five Statutory Safeguarding Partner agencies.

Each LSP nominates a Delegated Safeguarding Partner (DSP) from their organisation. Details of these can be found in the [MASA Plan 2024-2025](#).

In line with the recommendations in Working Together 2023, Essex Safeguarding Partners have invited the Director of Education from the local authority to attend the Delegated Safeguarding Partners meetings. Education is already represented at all other levels of the partnership.

ESCB Executive

The ESCB Executive is made up of senior colleagues from the Safeguarding Partners (the decision makers) along with relevant agencies.

The role of Chair of Essex Safeguarding Children Board Executive meetings will rotate on an annual basis between the Delegated Safeguarding Partners.

ESCB Executive is made up of:

- Safeguarding Partners
- Education
- Essex Council for Voluntary Youth Services (ECVYS)
- District, City & Borough Councils
- Office of Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner
- The Probation Service
- 0-19 service (HCRG)
- CAMHS (NELFT)

ESCB Executive

Roles and Responsibilities

The Safeguarding Partners and relevant agencies will fulfil their statutory duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children from Essex who live or are placed outside of our local authority area.

Members of the Executive must:

- Speak for their organisation with authority.
- Hold their organisation to account.
- Ensure appropriate representation on the ESCB work streams as appropriate to their organisations.
- Ensure that there is a clear communication pathway between the ESCB and their organisation and be able to effectively share information within their organisation.

Sub-Committees

The work of the ESCB is delivered through Sub-Committees and Stay Safe Groups that are strongly focussed on improving practice and ensuring an emphasis on learning.

Sub-Committees

- Performance, Audit & Quality Assurance Sub-Committee
- Child Safeguarding Practice Review Sub-Committee
- Southend, Essex and Thurrock Learning and Development Sub-Committee (Children, Adults & Domestic Abuse)
- Harm in Our Community Sub-Committee
- Neglect Sub-Committee
- Essex Learning and Development Sub-Committee

Other groups

- SET Procedures Working Group
- Task and Finish Groups

Stay Safe Groups



The four Stay Safe Groups (North, Mid, South and West) co-ordinate and lead the local safeguarding agenda focusing on improving local outcomes and highlighting emerging issues and risks so that they can be appropriately addressed at operational level.



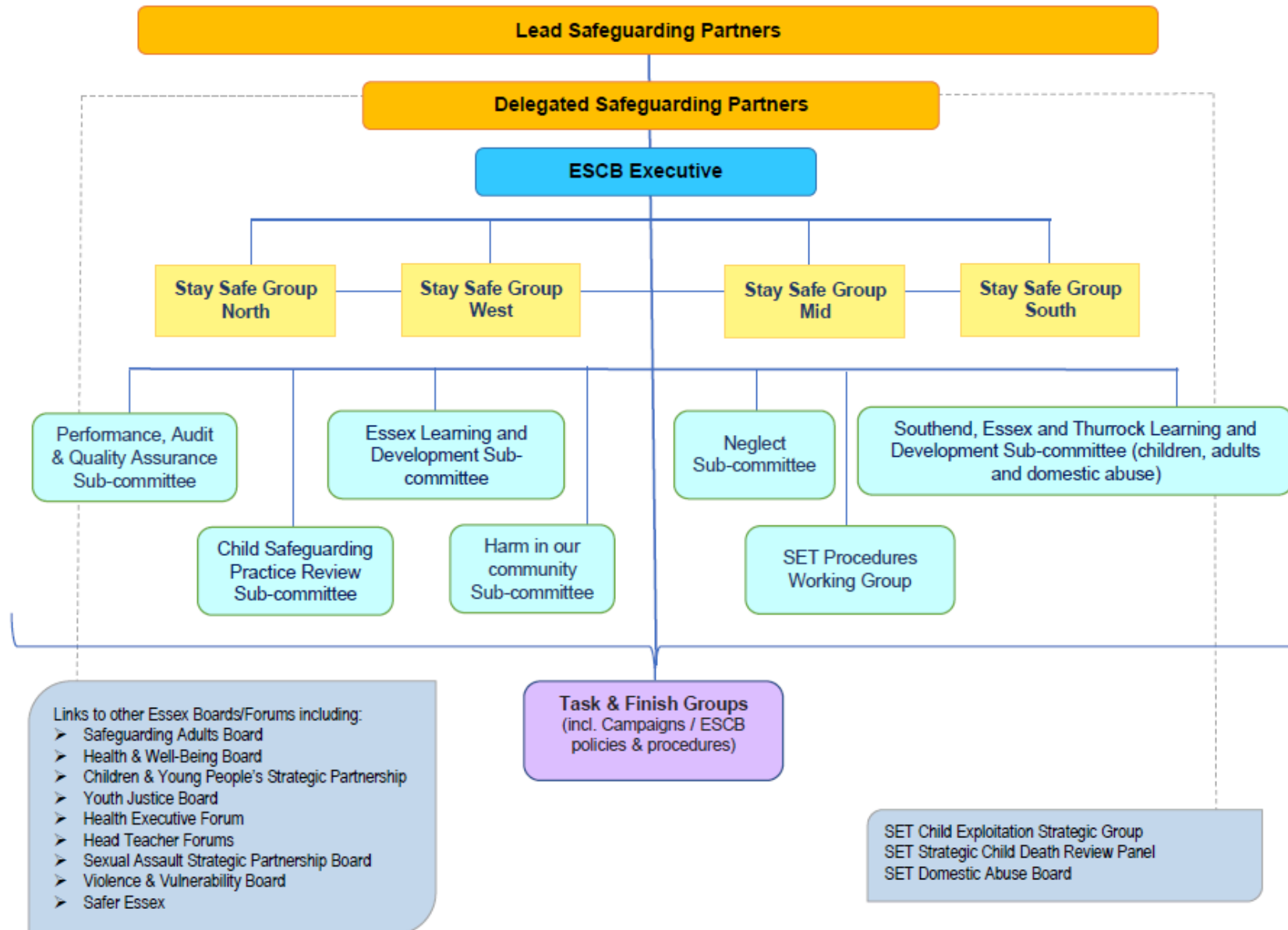
They also act as learning hubs to ensure effective sharing of learning and practice and a multi-agency approach to safeguarding children.



The Chairs and Vice Chairs of each group meet with the Independent Scrutineer and Sub-Committee Chairs to share and support the flow of information across all groups.

Essex Safeguarding Children Board (ESCB)

Structure



SET Procedures

The Southend, Essex and Thurrock (SET) Child Protection Procedures are underpinned by Working Together to Safeguard Children, which sets out what should happen in any local area when a child or young person is believed to be in need of support.

The current SET procedures along with other local guidance can be access on the [policies and procedures webpage](#).

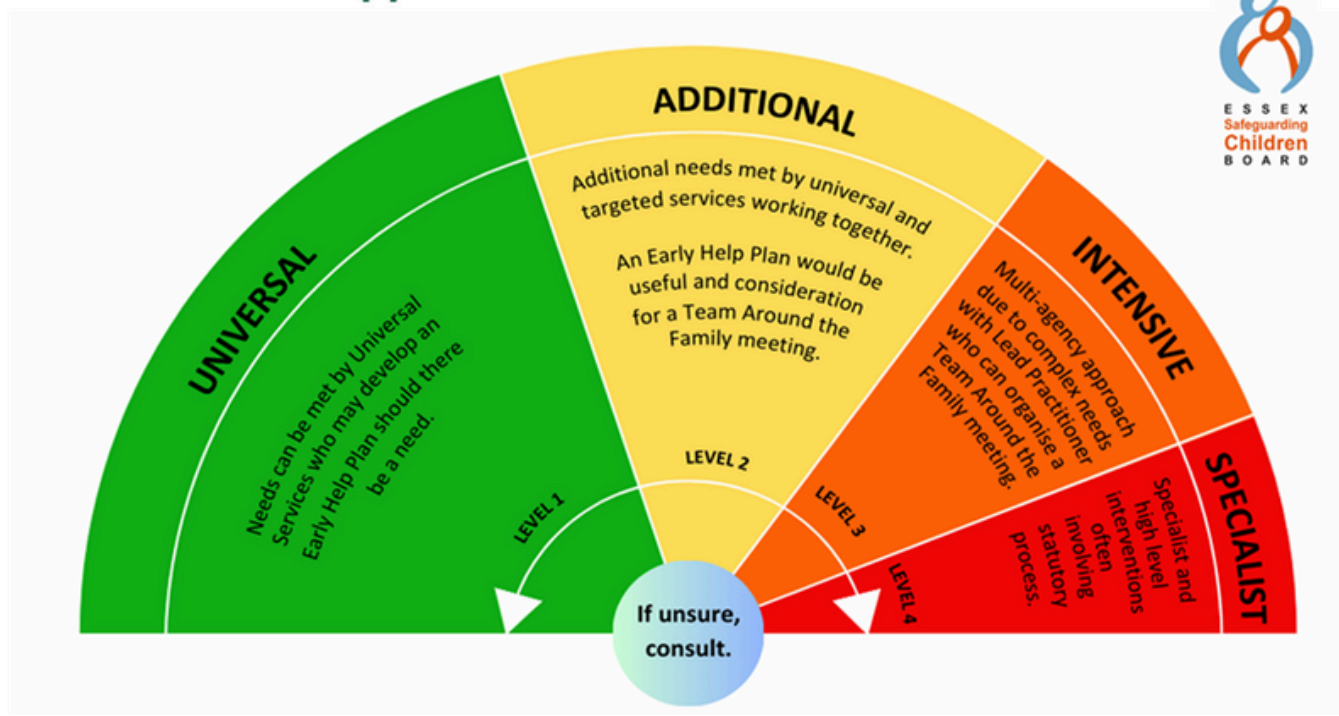


Effective Support in Essex

The Essex Safeguarding Children Board is responsible for our local threshold document, [Effective Support for Children and Families in Essex](#), the latest version was published in October 2024.

This forms an integral part of Essex's approach to supporting children, ensuring the right support is provided by the right agency, at the right time, based on the child's level of need. The approach also promotes earlier support for families to address issues before they escalate.

The Effective Support Windscreen



Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPRs)

The purpose of a CSPR is to help the safeguarding system identify how it can work together better to safeguard children in Essex. Guidance on undertaking a review is set out in [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023](#).

- A Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) is a review about learning and NOT about fault or blame.
- There is a multi-agency review team and a Lead Reviewer who writes the report.
- Learning points and good practice are shared with agencies, through author briefings, discussions and stay safe groups.
- Agencies are responsible for implementing changes in order to improve practice in their organisations.

[Find out more about reviews in Essex.](#)

ESCB Business Support Team

The work of the Essex Safeguarding Children Board is coordinated by the ESCB Support Team.

- Karen Hammett, ESCB Business Manager
- Liz Kirby, ESCB Practice Development Manager
- Jodie Attreed, Project Officer (Board)
- Ruth Salter, Project Officer (CSPRs)
- Geraldine Rolls, Project Officer (CSPRs)
- Anna Russell, Training Administrator
- Stephanie Rosser, Senior Communications Officer

[Find out more about what we do](#)

How to contact us

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