

Learning and Improvement Framework

September 2024



Contents

Introduction	3
Roles and responsibilities	3
Overview	4
Learning from data and the scrutiny programme	5
Learning from experiences	10
Improving services	12
Front-line intelligence	15
Independent scrutiny	15
External learning	17
Monitoring and review of this framework	18

Introduction

Working together to keep children safe is the primary aim of the Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership (IOWSCP) and it is essential that both professionals and organisations learn lessons and share good practice.

IOWSCP is resolute in its commitment to fostering a culture of reflective practice, learning and continuous improvement that enables the Safeguarding Partners (Isle of Wight Council, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary) and partner agencies to:

- Identify and share concerns regarding the safeguarding and welfare of children
- Highlight commonly recurring themes that require further investigation
- Share learning, including from effective practice, across the safeguarding system

This framework underpins our work and describes our overarching approach to learning and improvement.

Roles and responsibilities

Partner agencies and all local organisations who work with children and their families are expected to endorse and embed the principles outlined in this framework in their organisational policies. In addition, partner agencies and local organisations are responsible for:

- Providing staff and other resources to deliver the framework.
- Contributing to reviews of practice (including multi agency auditing).
- Ensuring the voice and lived experience of children and families are central.
- Providing data and analysis to enable trends and emerging safeguarding issues to be identified and acted on.
- Ensuring learning from reviews of practice are disseminated widely across their services (e.g. via internal training, policies/procedures, implementing actions plans).
- Ensuring that lessons from reviews of practice are embedded throughout their services, as evidenced via auditing and staff surveys.

Overview

This framework seeks to promote a culture of learning and continuous improvement. The building blocks to this framework are:

Learning from data and the scrutiny programme

- a) Overseeing a robust multi-agency dataset
- b) Scrutiny programme including multi agency auditing

Learning from experience

- a) Conducting Rapid Reviews, Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews, and Local Learning Events
- b) Identification of learning

Improving services

- a) Embedding learning in practice
- b) Evaluation of learning

Front-Line intelligence

- a) Front-line visits
- b) Training feedback
- c) Staff surveys

Independent Scrutiny

- a) Scrutiny of the work of IOWSCP Performance and Quality Assurance group
- b) Scrutiny of the work of the Learning and Inquiry Group
- c) Scrutiny of the effectiveness of the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements, including ensuring the voice of children and families are considered

External learning

- a) National Research and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews
- b) Strategic Partnership Feedback
- c) Inspection Feedback
- d) Themed Reports

Learning from data and scrutiny programme

A) Overseeing a robust multi-agency dataset

The IOWSCP oversees an agreed multi-agency dataset that monitors multi-agency safeguarding arrangements and enables the Partnership to support and challenge each other for their performance. Our Performance and Quality Assurance Group collects data quarterly, and reviews agency data and commentaries on a bi-annual basis. The set of indicators are refreshed annually, ensuring that the Partnership remains responsive to emerging safeguarding issues and can evidence the impact of its work.

The multi-agency dataset is aligned to the IOWSCP strategic priorities under the following headings:

Section 1: We have clear and effective thresholds, assessments, planning and decision making

Section 2: The Local Authority fulfils its corporate parenting role

Section 3: Within education settings we know how vulnerable children's needs are responded to

Section 4: We are safeguarding and supporting children at risk or experiencing exploitation

Section 5: We are safeguarding children's health and wellbeing

Section 6: We are safeguarding children at risk of, or in, the criminal justice system and children who are victims of crime

Section 7: We are safeguarding children from the impact of adult offending behaviours

Section 8: We are safeguarding children from the impact of adult substance misuse, mental ill health, domestic abuse or housing issues

One of our key priorities is to ensure that the dataset and reporting to the IOWSCP Executive and sub-groups meets the following principles:

Scope and relevance - of the data

Integrity - of the data and information

Trends - explaining any upward or downward trends in data

Targets - whether these measures are subject to national or local targets

Comparisons - any relevant comparisons/benchmarking to other areas or organisations

Confidence - whether good performance can be sustained

Actions - what single and multi-agency action has been taken or is needed to improve provision for children

The IOWSCP's dataset analysis report is taken to the Performance and Quality Assurance Group, the Executive and Partnership Board. This includes analysis undertaken by the Partnership Team against key themes linked to our safeguarding priorities and further scrutiny and analysis by members of the Performance and Quality Assurance Group. This enables IOWSCP members to understand how their services are performing and highlights any emerging safeguarding issues that require strategic intervention or any areas of note.

B) Scrutiny Programme

The IOWSCP undertakes an annual scrutiny programme, including multi-agency audits, focussing on the quality of front-line practice. This work is commissioned by the Performance and Quality Assurance Group and co-ordinated by the Partnership Team. This activity is informed through feedback from single agency audits/reports, by recommendations from Rapid Reviews, Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews/ local learning events and Inspections and are linked the IOWSCP strategic priorities.

Learning from the scrutiny programme is disseminated to front-line professionals via a range of mechanisms including IOWSCP learning workshops, practitioner briefings and presentations. In undertaking audits, the IOWSCP is committed to the following principles:

- We will avoid excessive or unnecessary checks. Targeted quality assurance is more effective
- We will prioritise audits that provide opportunities to focus on front-line practice and encourage professional multi-agency challenge
- We will adopt a thematic approach aligned to strategic priorities and emerging issues
- We will be clear within the Terms of Reference about the standard of practice that is required
- We will involve front-line workers in audits
- We will seek to hear the voice and influence of children and families and understand their lived experience
- We will identify and share both effective practice and opportunities for improvement, and ensure that recommendations are responded to, monitored and progressed in a timely way to deliver improvements to services

Audit reports are presented to the Performance and Quality Assurance Group (PQA), the independent scrutineer and Executive and Partnership Board to ensure operational and strategic oversight of front-line practice. Progress against recommendations is overseen by the Performance and Quality Assurance Group who maintain an Audit Recommendation Action Tracker.

Type	Description	Who	Reporting
Multi-agency case file audits	<p>Multi-agency case audits complement single-agency auditing.</p> <p>IOWSCP has an annual programme of multi-agency audits linked with the Business Plan priorities.</p> <p>The primary focus is to establish the effectiveness of frontline practice, what has worked well and where improvements, both single-agency and multi-agency, are needed.</p> <p>Recommendations are agreed and monitored by the PQA Group.</p> <p>Frontline professionals and managers are involved, and the 'voice of the child' and their lived experience is a key theme in the audit process. For all audits, consideration is given to how the 'voice of the child' will be included, either through analysis of agency reports, or via direct participation, where this is deemed appropriate.</p>	PQA Group with front line staff	Executive and Partnership Board via PQA Group
Single agency audits	<p>Single agency case audits occur in most organisations as part of the assurance of their duties under section 11 of the Children Act 2004.</p> <p>The outcomes of single-agency audits are requested by the PQA Group where this is necessary to evidence the impact on practice of IOWSCP initiatives and other programmes of work.</p>	PQA Group member agencies	PQA Group
Themed scrutiny events	Responsive scrutiny events set-up to explore emerging safeguarding themes and risks	IOWSCP Partnership Team/ Independent Scrutineer and Peer Scrutineers	Executive and Partnership Board via PQA Group
Section 11 audits	<p>Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 requires a range of organisations and individuals to ensure their functions, and any services that they contract out to others, are discharged having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.</p> <p>As part of its statutory duty to ensure the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements, the IOWSCP undertakes annual monitoring of compliance with safeguarding standards. This is undertaken through self-assessment and panel evaluation of an agreed Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth & Southampton (HIPS) audit tool.</p> <p>The purpose of the audit is to support Board partners in achieving compliance with safeguarding standards through:</p>	All Partner and Relevant Agencies not schools or settings) Via PQA	Executive and Partnership Board via PQA Group

Type	Description	Who	Reporting
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable agencies to scrutinise and reflect on their safeguarding governance, processes, and practice, and to identify how arrangements could be strengthened. • Enable agencies to highlight areas of good practice where positive outcomes for children can be evidenced. • Provide a feedback mechanism to the safeguarding children partnerships on progress against areas for improvement, including any barriers to partnership working. <p>The Partnership operates a two-year cycle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-assessment (year 1) • Monitoring and tracking of action plans (year 2) <p>In each year, the process is complemented by a survey of front-line staff to provide further intelligence.</p> <p>In year 1, members of the partnership team will review agency submissions and feedback is provided from the independent scrutineer. A report of the findings will be presented at the Performance and Quality Assurance group, Executive and Partnership Board.</p> <p>In year 2, agencies are asked revisit and reflect on their action plan priorities and feedback from their self-assessment (year 1) and provide an update on their progress.</p> <p>An overview of the Section 11 themes and responses is presented to the PQA Group, independent scrutineer, Executive and Partnership Board, and key themes are included in the Partnerships' Annual Report and used as evidence in regulatory reviews/inspections.</p>		
Scrutiny Visits	<p>Scrutiny visits are led by the IOWSCP Partnership Team with support from members of the Performance and Quality Assurance group.</p> <p>Their purpose is to establish whether safeguarding governance and processes in partner agencies enable front-line professionals to recognise and respond to abuse, including the application of agreed safeguarding procedures.</p> <p>The visits offer Partnership Board members and quality assurance leads the opportunity to visit settings other than their own, and to engage directly with safeguarding leads and front-line staff on a range of issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership (governance, strategic line of sight, safeguarding supervision, appraisal processes, safeguarding culture). • Dissemination of IOWSCP and internal safeguarding policies, procedures, and resources. 	PQA Group members with agencies	Executive and Partnership Board via PQA Group

Type	Description	Who	Reporting
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding training and professional development. • Engagement with multi-agency forums (e.g. early help hubs, child protection conferences). • Knowledge and use of referral thresholds including agreed escalation processes. • Safeguarding in the context of commissioned services. <p>Each visit is tailored to the agency or setting being visited.</p>		
Section 175/157 audits	<p>Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 and the Education Regulations 2010, made under Section 157 of the Education Act 2002, requires school governing bodies, local education authorities and further education institutions to carry out an annual review of their safeguarding practice and to provide information to the Local Authority and Local Safeguarding Children Partnership about how the duties set out in the guidance have been discharged. DfE guidance “Keeping Children Safe in Education” reinforces the requirement to have regard to this guidance.</p> <p>IOWSCP undertakes annual monitoring of the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements in schools and post-16 settings. On the Isle of Wight, this is supported by the Safeguarding Children’s Partnership in collaboration with Isle of Wight Council’s Education Inclusion & Access Service. The findings are analysed with suggested improvements made to support schools.</p> <p>Verification visits are undertaken to provide assurance of self-assessment information provided during the audit and to gather evidence of good practice to share with other education settings.</p> <p>A separate audit tool is used for Language schools which is tailored to their work with children, and this is also completed annually. Language schools are given feedback on any areas requiring further development and a dialogue is maintained with them.</p>	<p>Maintained, Academy, Free and Independent Schools, Post-16, (named as Relevant Agencies by IOWSCP) via Education Subgroup</p> <p>Language Schools</p>	Executive and Partnership Board via Education Group

Learning from experience

A) Conducting Rapid Reviews Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and Local Learning Events

Serious child safeguarding cases are those in which:

- Abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected; and
- The child has died or been seriously harmed.

Safeguarding partners must consider the criteria and guidance set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children and the accompanying guidance from the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel, when determining whether to carry out a local child safeguarding practice review.

For further detail, please refer to the [Learning and Inquiry Group procedure and guidance](#) document.

Type	Description	Who	Reporting
Rapid Review	Multi agency rapid review for referrals where a Serious Incident Notification has been made to the national child safeguarding practice review panel	IOWSCP team, safeguarding partners and relevant agencies	IOWSCP LIG, independent scrutineer, IOW safeguarding partners, Executive members
Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews	Multi-agency statutory reviews for cases where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected; and • The child has died or been seriously harmed. 	Reviewers who are Independent of the case	IOWSCP Executive via the Learning Inquiry Group
Local Learning Events	Reviews where the criteria for a serious incident notification and therefore a rapid review have not been met. These will occur where it is considered that there is further work required to identify and clarify multi-agency learning, particularly new learning for the multi-agency safeguarding system and/or raises issues of importance for the local area.	Learning and Inquiry Group and relevant agencies	IOWSCP Executive via the Learning Inquiry Group
Individual agency or management review	Reviews of safeguarding incidents where the concerns relate to practice in a single agency rather than the way that agencies worked together to safeguard children.	Partner agencies	IOWSCP via the Learning Inquiry Group for cases referred for consideration of a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review or case for discussion

Principles for conducting Rapid Reviews

- There should be a culture of continuous learning and improvement across the organisations that work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, identifying opportunities to draw on what works and promote good practice.
- The approach taken to reviews should be proportionate according to the scale and level of complexity of the issues being examined.
- The impact of rapid reviews and other reviews on improving services to children and families and on reducing the incidence of deaths or serious harm to children, must also be described in the LSCP yearly report and will inform inspections.
- Improvement must be sustained through regular monitoring and follow up so that the findings from these reviews make a real impact on improving outcomes for children

Principles for conducting Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

The following principles should be applied by the IOWSCP and their partner organisations to all reviews:

- There should be a culture of continuous learning and improvement across the organisations that work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, identifying opportunities to draw on what works and promote good practice.
- The approach taken to reviews should be proportionate according to the scale and level of complexity of the issues being examined.
- Reviews of serious cases should be led by individuals who are independent of the practice under review.
- Professionals should be involved fully in reviews and invited to contribute their perspectives without fear of being blamed for actions they took in good faith.
- Families, including surviving children, should be invited to contribute to reviews. They should understand how they are going to be involved, and their expectations should be managed appropriately and sensitively. This is important for ensuring that the child is at the centre of the process.
- Final reports of Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews must be published including the LSCP's response to the review findings, to achieve transparency. The impact of Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and other reviews on improving services to children and families and on reducing the incidence of deaths or serious harm to children, must also be described in the LSCP yearly report and will inform inspections.
- Improvement must be sustained through regular monitoring and follow up so that the findings from these reviews make a real impact on improving outcomes for children

Principles for conducting Local Learning Events

- There should be a culture of continuous learning and improvement across the organisations that work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, identifying opportunities to draw on what works and promote good practice.
- The approach taken to local learning events should be proportionate according to the scale and level of complexity of the issues being examined.
- The impact of local learning events and other reviews on improving services to children and families and on reducing the incidence of deaths or serious harm to children, should be described in the LSCP yearly report and will inform inspections.
- Improvement must be sustained through regular monitoring and follow up so that the findings from these reviews make a real impact on improving outcomes for children

Protocols for conducting reviews

Guidance for rapid reviews, undertaking Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and local learning events has been developed by the IOWSCP and ensures that all partner agencies understand their role in contributing to reviews. The guidance provides information on review criteria, governance processes and engagement with professionals and family members.

B) Identification of learning

Identification of key learning is achieved through the function of the Learning Inquiry Group (LIG), a sub-group of the IOWSCP. LIG members have a responsibility for monitoring recommendations made following completion of a Rapid Review, a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review or a local learning event and ensuring that the learning is cascaded to front-line professionals and informs service improvement and development. This is undertaken via a range of mechanisms including briefings, workshops and multi-agency learning events. Learning from reviews is also considered as part of the Workforce Development group annual learning needs analysis and helps to inform the planned programme of learning and development opportunities for the year ahead.

Improving Services

A) Embedding learning in practice

To improve safeguarding practice, learning identified from reviews of practice must be embedded into current practice.

How	What	Who	Reporting
Dissemination of learning	IOWSCP's fully funded multi-agency workforce development programme, including workshops, practitioner briefings, eLearning etc. Delivered face-to-face or virtually (e.g. webinars, eLearning)	Partnership Team, Safeguarding Partners, Relevant Agencies	IOWSCP via Workforce Development Group
	HIPS/IOW online toolkits and other resources (e.g. Practitioner Guides)		IOWSCP via subgroup chairs and Partnership Team
	Publication of Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review reports		IOWSCP via the LIG
	Single agency training	Safeguarding Partners, Relevant Agencies	IOWSCP via the Workforce Development Group
	Single agency training, briefings, and other communication strategies		IOWSCP via the LIG and PQA Group

How	What	Who	Reporting
Actions to improve practice	Single and/or multi-agency actions plans developed to respond to learning identified through Rapid Reviews Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews or Local Learning Events	Partnership Team, Safeguarding Partners, Relevant Agencies	IOWSCP via the LIG and PQA Group.
	Single and/or multi-agency actions plans developed to respond to learning identified through multi agency case audits		IOWSCP via PQA Group
	Single and/or multi-agency actions plans developed to respond to learning identified through the Section 11 self-assessment process		
	Actions arising from reporting to IOWSCP and PQA Group		
	Reviews of, and updates to, IOWSCP and HIPS multi-agency procedures to incorporate learning into practice		HIPS Executive via HIPS Procedures Group

B) Evaluation of Learning

To improve safeguarding practice, learning identified from reviews of practice must be embedded into current practice.

The aim of the activity outlined in this framework is to make a positive impact on frontline practice and improve outcomes for children on the Isle of Wight.

As part of its quality assurance activity, the IOWSCP evaluates the impact of its work. This provides assurance that front-line professional's benefit from IOWSCP resources and that partner agencies, through their IOWSCP Board members and subgroup representatives, promote a culture of continuous improvement.

Evaluation includes:

How	Who	Reporting
Single and multi-agency audits of front-line practice informed by recommendations from Rapid Reviews, Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews or Local Learning Events	Partnership Team, Safeguarding Partners and Relevant Agencies	Executive, Board and LIG via PQA Group
Reporting on action plans arising from audits and reviews		Executive, Board via the LIG
Formal evaluations of IOWSCP initiatives such as the development of online toolkits and other resources/ programmes of work (e.g. ICON, Neglect Strategy and Toolkit)		Partnership Team, Safeguarding Partners, Relevant Agencies
Evaluation of the IOWSCP learning and development programme including post-course feedback and follow-up surveys/interviews to ensure learning has been embedded		Executive and Board via Workforce Development Group

How	Who	Reporting
<p>IOWSCP Yearly Report</p> <p>Provides the opportunity for the independent scrutineer, safeguarding partners and relevant agencies to provide narrative against the following criteria as outlined in Working Together to Safeguard Children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what partnerships have done as a result of the arrangements, including on child safeguarding practice reviews • how effective these arrangements have been in practice • the contribution of each safeguarding partner to the functioning and structure of the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements • any themes emanating from aggregated methods of scrutiny, for example, reviews and scrutineer activity and multi-agency audits • evidence of the impact of the work of the safeguarding partners and relevant agencies, including training, on outcomes for children and families • an analysis of any areas where there has been little or no evidence of progress on agreed priorities • an analysis of learning from serious incidents • a record of key decisions and actions taken by the safeguarding partners in the yearly cycle, including in relation to implementing the recommendations from any local and national child safeguarding practice reviews and the impact this has had • ways in which the safeguarding partners have sought and utilised feedback from children and families to inform their work and influence service provision • the breakdown of costs in delivering the arrangements for that period, including the financial contributions of individual partners, any changes to funding and an assessment of the impact and value for money of this funding • evidence of how safeguarding partners are ensuring the adequate representation and input of education at both the operational and strategic levels of the arrangements • an overview of how data is being used to encourage learning within the arrangements and evidence of how information sharing has improved practice and outcomes • a review of the impact and learning from independent scrutiny arrangements to ensure the leadership is strong and the arrangements are leading to the desired and necessary impact • any updates to the published arrangement with the proposed timescale for implementation • evidence that national reforms have been implemented, taking into account key decisions and actions taken by safeguarding partners in response to reforms, and any issues or concerns encountered within the yearly cycle 	<p>Partnership Team, Safeguarding Partners, Relevant Agencies</p>	<p>Executive and Board via Partnership Team</p>

Front-Line intelligence

A) Front-line visits

Colleagues from the safeguarding partners and relevant agencies undertake visits as part of the Partnership's quality assurance programme, enabling front-line staff from agencies to discuss safeguarding issues and barriers to partnership working.

Practitioner Forums - The IOWSCP Team attends briefings such as Early Years Manager briefings, Voluntary Sector, Designated Safeguarding Leads and Head Teacher Forums to provide front-line staff with updates on IOWSCP initiatives, resources and safeguarding themes. These forums also provide opportunities for front-line professionals to share their perspectives on what is working well, areas of challenge and emerging issues.

B) Training Feedback

IOWSCP commissions and delivers fully funded multi-agency training to complement single agency training. Feedback from delegates is captured through formal evaluation (e.g. surveys, focus groups) and reported to the Workforce Development Group. The impact of training on practice is also monitored and reported on to the Workforce Development group. This feedback is used to inform the annual Learning Needs Analysis, which enables the training programme to be responsive to feedback from front-line professionals.

C) Staff surveys

IOWSCP undertakes a range of staff surveys to support the delivery of the strategic objectives and to inform future work of the Partnership. Themes for the surveys are informed by IOWSCP priorities, learning from audits and recommendations from Rapid Reviews, both local and national Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and local learning events. Findings are reported to relevant IOWSCP subgroups and where appropriate, recommendations for further work are made.

Independent Scrutiny

A) Scrutiny of the work of IOWSCP Performance and Quality Assurance group

The independent scrutineer will have oversight of the work plans/outputs of the IOWSCP Performance and Quality Assurance (PQA) subgroup. This will include providing commentary/queries/challenge to the group on the multi-agency dataset, multi-agency auditing and draft reports. The independent scrutineer will attend and be a participant observer in one IOWSCP PQA meeting per year.

B) Scrutiny of the work of the Learning and Inquiry Group

The independent scrutineer will be sighted on rapid reviews and referrals to the Learning and Inquiry Group. They will receive the Learning and Inquiry Group referral relating to any Serious Incident Notification. They will receive the combined scoping documents and where possible will be invited to attend the rapid review discussion, as a participant observer, offering advice and challenge to the process. The independent scrutineer will receive the Rapid Review report for their oversight and view, alongside the safeguarding partner representatives of the Learning and Inquiry Group. The independent scrutineer is not defined as a decision maker in this context. The content and any actions/recommendations arising from a Rapid Review are decided by the safeguarding partners.

The independent scrutineer is noted as having a clear mediation function in a range of areas relating to the work of the partnership, this includes the work of the Learning and Inquiry Group and the resolution of professional disagreement. IOWSCP delegated safeguarding partners recognise that the role of the independent scrutineer cannot be a decision making one.

The independent scrutineer will have oversight of the reports arising from the Learning and Inquiry Group. This will include providing commentary and challenge to draft reports.

The Independent Scrutineer will attend and be a participant observer in one Learning and Inquiry group meeting per year.

C) Scrutiny of the effectiveness of the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements

The independent scrutineer will provide support and challenge to all the workstreams of the partnership, ensuring a focus on the voice of children and their lived experience. This forms part of the work of all sub-groups and task and finish groups, through a central focus on the voice of the child and their lived experience often through practitioners who know the child well. The independent scrutineer will support the safeguarding partners in strengthening practice in this area.

The independent scrutineer will also provide support and challenge regarding the voice of frontline practitioners. This is part of workstreams which often include practitioners directly or practitioner surveys and The independent scrutineer will attend both IOWSCP Executive and the Partnership Board. Consideration to be given to attendance at the Executive agenda setting meetings. The role is participant observer, focus on ensuring high support, high challenge and equitable contribution, responsibility and accountability.

The independent scrutineer may request via the safeguarding partners, assurance from IOWSCP partners on safeguarding issues relevant to the work of the IOWSCP and IOWSCP strategic priorities or other matters the scrutineer wishes to bring to the attention of the safeguarding partners. In addition, the safeguarding partners can request the independent scrutineer provide oversight of a particular safeguarding theme or area from a multi-agency perspective such as the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub or the multi-agency contribution to child protection processes including conferencing. The scrutineer will meet with the delegated safeguarding partners quarterly and the lead safeguarding partners annually with the partnership chair (and delegated safeguarding partners as agreed).

Through attending the IOWSCP Executive, the independent scrutineer has oversight of the published safeguarding arrangements and the yearly report. The scrutineer's commentary and assessment of the work of the partnership will be directly included in the yearly report 2024/25.

A) National Research and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews/listening events

IOWSCP uses learning from national research and published national Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews to assist in improving local safeguarding arrangements. Key learning is shared with the Learning Inquiry Group to identify further opportunities for improving practice and to support the Partnership with disseminating examples of best practice.

B) Strategic Partnership feedback

IOWSCP works closely with several other strategic partnerships, including the Children's Trust, Safeguarding Adults Board, Health and Wellbeing Board, Corporate Parenting Board, through defined protocols that enable challenge, scrutiny and feedback to be given to the IOWSCP on its priorities and performance.

Feedback from IOWSCP Board members is obtained via the Independent Scrutineer. These discussions help to strengthen the existing partnership arrangements and to identify further learning opportunities.

C) Inspection feedback

The safeguarding system receives scrutiny and challenge from national inspectorates including the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted), the Care Quality Commission (CQC), Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMRCFRS), Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) and others. These inspections generate single and multi-agency action plans and are an important source of learning for the Partnership.

D) Themed reports

During each year, relevant reports will be produced for IOWSCP in respect of a range of safeguarding themes. The following list is not exhaustive and IOWSCP may request additional reporting on specific areas of service delivery.

- Multi-Agency Contributions to Child Protection Conferences (CPCs)
- Engagement with Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)
- Engagement with Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC)
- Management of Allegations against Professionals and Volunteers working with children (LADO)
- Notifications of Private Fostering (LADO)
- Early Help
- Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs)
- Private Fostering
- Children Missing Education
- CAFCASS
- Domestic Abuse including MARAC
- Disabled children including Beaulieu House
- Participation of Young People
- Young Carers

Monitoring and review of this framework

This framework will be monitored by the Partnership Team and reviewed every three years to align with the IOWSCP Business Plan, or sooner in response to delivery of this framework, governmental guidance, and national agendas.

Approved by: IOWSCP Executive Group

Date: 26 September 2024

Next review due: September 2027