



Please note the consultation documents can be accessed on the Department for Education website here:

[https://consult.education.gov.uk/child-protection-safeguarding-and-family-law/working-together-to-safeguard-children-revisions-t/supporting\\_documents/Working%20Together%20to%20Safeguard%20Children.pdf](https://consult.education.gov.uk/child-protection-safeguarding-and-family-law/working-together-to-safeguard-children-revisions-t/supporting_documents/Working%20Together%20to%20Safeguard%20Children.pdf)

[https://consult.education.gov.uk/child-protection-safeguarding-and-family-law/working-together-to-safeguard-children-revisions-t/supporting\\_documents/Transitional.pdf](https://consult.education.gov.uk/child-protection-safeguarding-and-family-law/working-together-to-safeguard-children-revisions-t/supporting_documents/Transitional.pdf)

[https://consult.education.gov.uk/child-protection-safeguarding-and-family-law/working-together-to-safeguard-children-revisions-t/supporting\\_documents/Child\\_death\\_review\\_stat\\_guidance.pdf](https://consult.education.gov.uk/child-protection-safeguarding-and-family-law/working-together-to-safeguard-children-revisions-t/supporting_documents/Child_death_review_stat_guidance.pdf)

<b>Background:-</b>
The Children and Social Work Act was passed in April 2017 prior to the dissolution of parliament. This makes several changes to the safeguarding arrangements in a local area and leads to the removal of Local Safeguarding Children Boards.
<b>Content:-</b>
<b>Timetable for Implementation of the Local Safeguarding Partnership (SGP)</b> The Social Work Act will only start once the regulation and guidance is in place  The guidance is now at consultation stage with a closing date of 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2017.  Indicative timetable (subject to change): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consultation feedback will be assessed in Spring 2018 with regulations having to be agreed by late March 18.</li><li>• Once regulations are agreed the revised Working Together to safeguard Children will be published. This will:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Safeguarding partners (Local Authority, Police and Health) will have up to 12 months to agree the new arrangements for a Safeguarding Partnership (SGP) to replace Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCB). They must publish the new arrangements and notify the Secretary of State of these (local arrangements must outline all aspects of their work e.g. in relation to how Local Reviews will be undertaken, how they would ensure effective</li></ul></li></ul>

safeguarding arrangements, effective delivery of these, how they will meet the requirements of independent scrutiny etc.)

- Then they will have 3 months to implement these. **After this LSCBs cease to exist.**

### **Safeguarding Partnerships (SGP)**

- The SGP will decide on which other agencies will be part of the partnership
- Independent scrutiny is to be decided by each local SGP. The scrutiny would not have to be through one person (i.e. this removes the requirement for an Independent Chair)
- Funding will have to be agreed by the SGP.
- Once the new Act is in place then the final enforcement powers would be with the Secretary of State but it is expected that local areas should be able to manage their own negotiations between agencies etc.

### **National/Local Reviews to replace Serious Case Reviews (SCRs)**

- A national panel will be formed to undertake reviews of a national interest. The panel will be independent of the government although the DfE can give them guidance.
- Local SGPs will be required to undertake Local Reviews that will be published
- The national panel cannot tell the local SGP to undertake a review. However, the Act states the local SGP should work 'with regard' to the advice of the national panel.
- Under the new arrangements if the SGP does not feel there is any new learning (from a case) then they do not have to undertake a local review

### **Child Death Reviews**

- Continued requirement for a local area to review the deaths of all children aged 17 and under
- Responsibility will move from the DfE to the DOH
- Child Death Reviews will remain as part of Working Together 2018 but NHS England will provide additional guidance