

Strategic Partnership Roles

Health and Wellbeing Board

The Health and Wellbeing Board is a committee of Medway Council established under section 194 Health and Social Care Act 2012. It brings together decision makers from local government, the NHS and representatives of the people of Medway via Healthwatch, to improve health and wellbeing across the area.

The Health and Wellbeing Board has a statutory duty to encourage those who arrange for the provision of any health or social care services in the area to work in an integrated manner for the purpose of advancing local people's health and wellbeing. Its main functions are set out in Chapter 3 Part 2 of the Council's Constitution, and include assessing the needs of the local population through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and producing a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) to inform the commissioning of health, care and public health.

Medway Safeguarding Children Board (MSCB)

The MSCB is a statutory body established pursuant to section 13 Children Act 2004. It can hold any member partner to account for its safeguarding activities. Its members comprise senior representatives from Medway Council, Medway health bodies, Kent Police, Medway schools, community and voluntary sector, Kent Probation, HMYOI Cookham Wood, Medway Secure Training Centre.

The key objectives of the MSCB as required by Section 14 of the Children Act 2004 and set out in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015' are:

- To co-ordinate local work to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of children;
- To ensure the effectiveness of that work.

The functions that the MSCB must undertake to fulfil these objectives are set out in the Local Safeguarding Boards Regulations 2006 and can be summarised as follows:

- developing policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area;
- communicating the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, raising awareness of how this can best be done, and encouraging this;
- monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by the Council and its Board partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, and advising them on ways to improve
- participating in the planning of services for children in the area;
- undertaking reviews of serious cases and advising the Council and its Board partners on lessons to be learned

- collecting and analysing information about the deaths of children normally resident in the area and putting in place procedures for ensuring that there is a co-ordinated response by the Council, its Board partners and others to an unexpected child death.

A key objective in undertaking these roles is to enable children to have optimum life chances and enter adulthood successfully. A 'good' safeguarding board is cited as one that:

- Coordinates the activity of statutory partners and monitors the effectiveness of local arrangements;
- Coordinates multi-agency training in the protection and care of children which is effective and evaluated regularly to measure impact; and
- Provides robust and rigorous evaluation and analysis of local performance to identify areas for improvement and influences the planning and delivery of high-quality services.

The Board has statutory powers under section 14B of the Children Act 2004 to require information to be provided to it to enable or assist it to perform its duties.

Medway Corporate Parenting Board

The purpose of the Corporate Parenting Board is:

- to ensure that Medway Council and its partner agencies effectively discharge their duties towards looked after young people and care leavers
- to ensure young people are supported, through a variety of methods, to communicate their needs, wishes and feelings about the care they receive to Elected Members, and,
- to be proactive in securing better outcomes for looked after children through appropriate challenge, engagement and discussion with officers, partner agencies and other Elected Members.

Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board

The Safeguarding Adult Board (SAB) is a statutory partnership, sanctioned by the Care Act 2014, with responsibility for:

- a) Developing and publishing a strategic plan setting out how the Board members will meet their safeguarding responsibilities
- b) Publish an annual report detailing how effective their work has been
- c) Commission Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) where statutory criteria for such reviews are met.

The objective of an SAB is to help and protect adults in its area where they have needs for care and support and are experiencing, or are at risk of, abuse or neglect, and are unable to protect themselves because of their needs.

The way in which an SAB must seek to achieve its objective is by co-ordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of what each of its members does.

SABs have wide statutory powers and can do 'anything that appears to it to be necessary or desirable for the purpose of achieving its objectives'.

Medway Community Safety Partnership

The Community Safety Partnership works to cut crime, help neighbourhoods fight disorder and reduce reoffending, as set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

This partnership leads on activities related to Criminal Justice, Organised Crime Groups, Anti-Social Behaviour and Prevent. The key accountability and responsibility for domestic violence also rests with this partnership.