



Tameside  
**Safeguarding  
Children Partnership**

**New Multi-Agency Safeguarding  
Arrangements**

**13<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

# Preparation & Ownership

Date	Activity	What difference did it make
Oct & Nov 2017	Board Members review effectiveness of existing arrangements	Board members knew its strengths and weaknesses & importantly where it wanted to get to
Jan 2018	Initial briefing to Board Members on future safeguarding arrangements	Board Members fully engaged from the outset resulting in strong support and commitment
Mar 2018	Launch of the Voice of the Child Strategy	Children and young people develop and take ownership of the strategy
Apr 2018	1 <sup>st</sup> Partnership Consultation Event to consult on outline proposals	Turning the curve – A sense of real change
Jun 2018	2 <sup>nd</sup> Partnership Consultation Event to consult on detailed proposals	Wider Partnership feel a part of something new and are excited

# Aims of the Early Adopter Bid

- to strengthen the collective voice and influence of children and young people and to secure the Voice of the Child at the heart of the future local safeguarding arrangements
- to develop an Integrated Neighbourhood Model that enables local communities and services to identify emerging issues and deliver placed based solutions.
- To engage and support schools and other universal services to strengthen the Early Help Offer

# Delivery Sept – Dec 2018

- Wider launch of the ‘Voice of a Child’ strategy and promotion of the 15 statements of expectations
- 1<sup>st</sup> round of termly Neighbourhood Learning Circles in each of the 4 localities to identify place based issues
- Phase 1 of the Team around the School Model
- Children’s Independent Advocate recruited and supporting schools
- Published arrangements in December 2018



**VOICE**

**OF A CHILD  
STRATEGY**

## STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS FROM CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

1. If you say you are going to do something, DO IT. If it can't happen then check back in with me and explain why.
2. I won't always agree with you, my views should be respected even if adults disagree with them.
3. Don't make excuses, tell us honestly rather than being vague and unclear.
4. Respect confidentiality, ask before sharing. We know there are times what we say has to be passed on, we ask that we are told that is going to happen and to whom the information is being passed.
5. Young people's wishes should be taken seriously. Why ask us what we think or want, if it has no influence on what happens. This builds false hope. Don't ask our opinion if you have already made your decision, what would it change? I want to see, how what I have said, and influences the way forward.
6. We are young not stupid, don't patronize us. Our words should have the same weight as an adult.
7. Difference doesn't mean BAD or WRONG, embrace my differences.
8. Professionals should be knowledgeable and passionate about the topic.
9. Young people want to know that the adult is qualified and relatable. We need to be able to build a valued relationship.
10. Make commitments and appointments and stick to them. To cancel a meeting can lead to us thinking you don't value us.
11. Is the young person comfortable? If not do something about it! Think about the way to build a positive relationship.
12. All adults should take on board young people's concerns and ideas. Help us find the solution rather than impose your own on us.
13. Honesty is a good way to build trust.
14. We are all unique, our problem is unique, and the solution should be unique! One size DOES NOT fit all.
15. We need to be an equal partner in any relationship, we are as important as any adult.



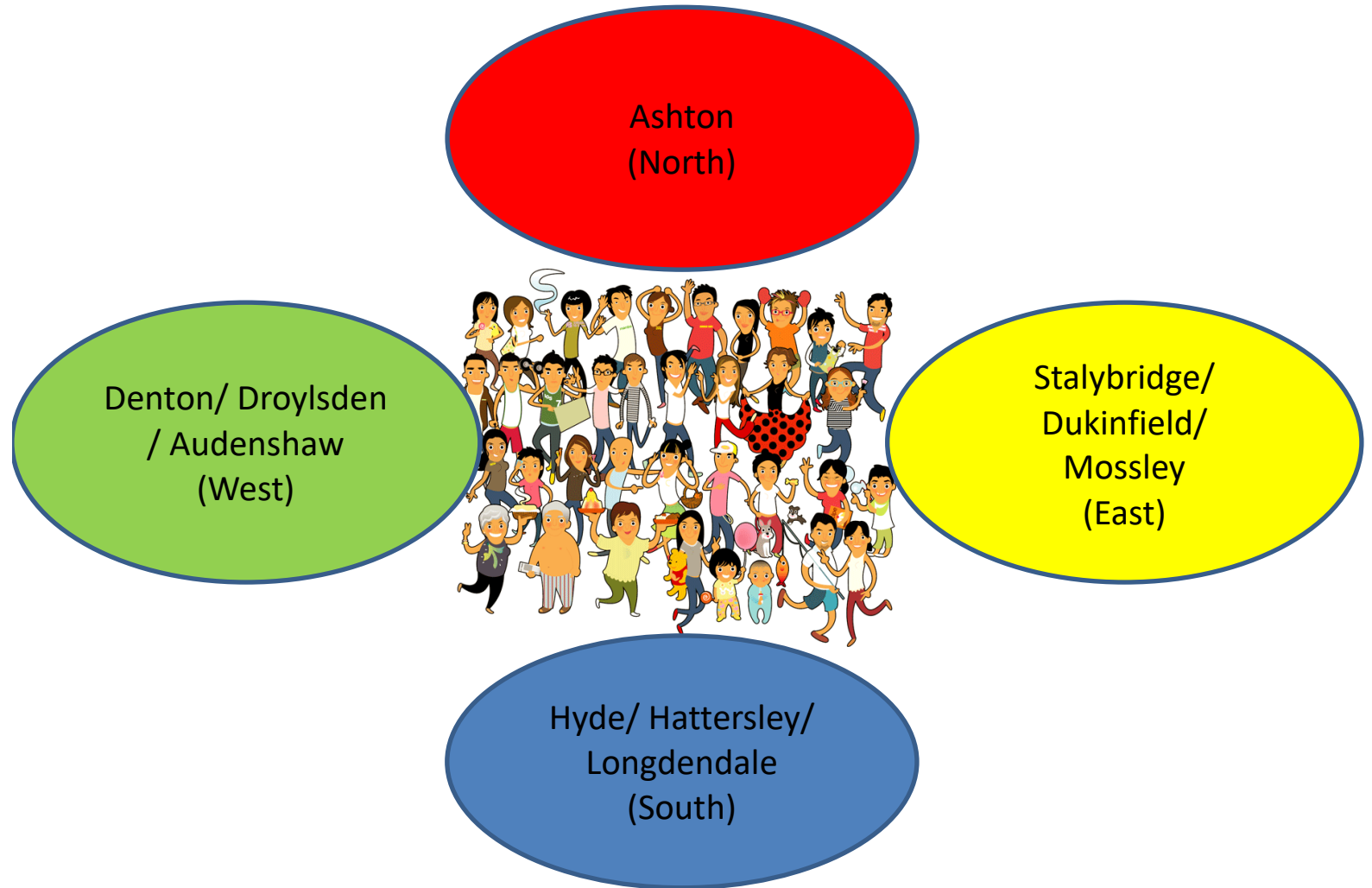
# VOICE

# Early Successes

We're already being true to the vision of the 'Voice of the Child' strategy. Children and young people have been;

- given an equal voice in decision making via recruitment
- empowered and commissioned to deliver their own training and
- trained to scrutinize our safeguarding arrangements and service delivery.

# Neighbourhood Learning Circles





# What are the issues in our communities?

- Every Neighbourhood presented issues regarding the perceived lack of mental health provision for young people, anti-social behaviour, Healthy relationships and domestic abuse and drug and alcohol misuse. Or those that did have mental health services felt the issues in accessing these services were the waiting list and timescale of getting an appointment.
- Both SDM and HHL discussed issues with gangs and online bullying
- All neighbourhoods felt there was lack of housing support, youth activities (although it was commented on in DDA that there are Football and Scouts clubs)
- Neighbourhoods discussed the lack of school nurses in particular SDM
- SDM and DDA both felt CSE was an issue in the community and the neighbourhood co-ordinator steered them towards the online resources available from CEOP
- HHL felt they were isolated from other services especially due to lack of transport
- HHL stated they are also finding it difficult working across border and the difference in agencies and referral processes

Source: Neighbourhood Coordinator

# Team Around the School

Each School have a named Social Worker, Early Help Worker, Health professional and Early Help Advisor

School identifies children and families that they need some additional help and advice with

7 Schools in pilot

12 TAS meetings / 46 families / 81 children/young people.

# Next Steps

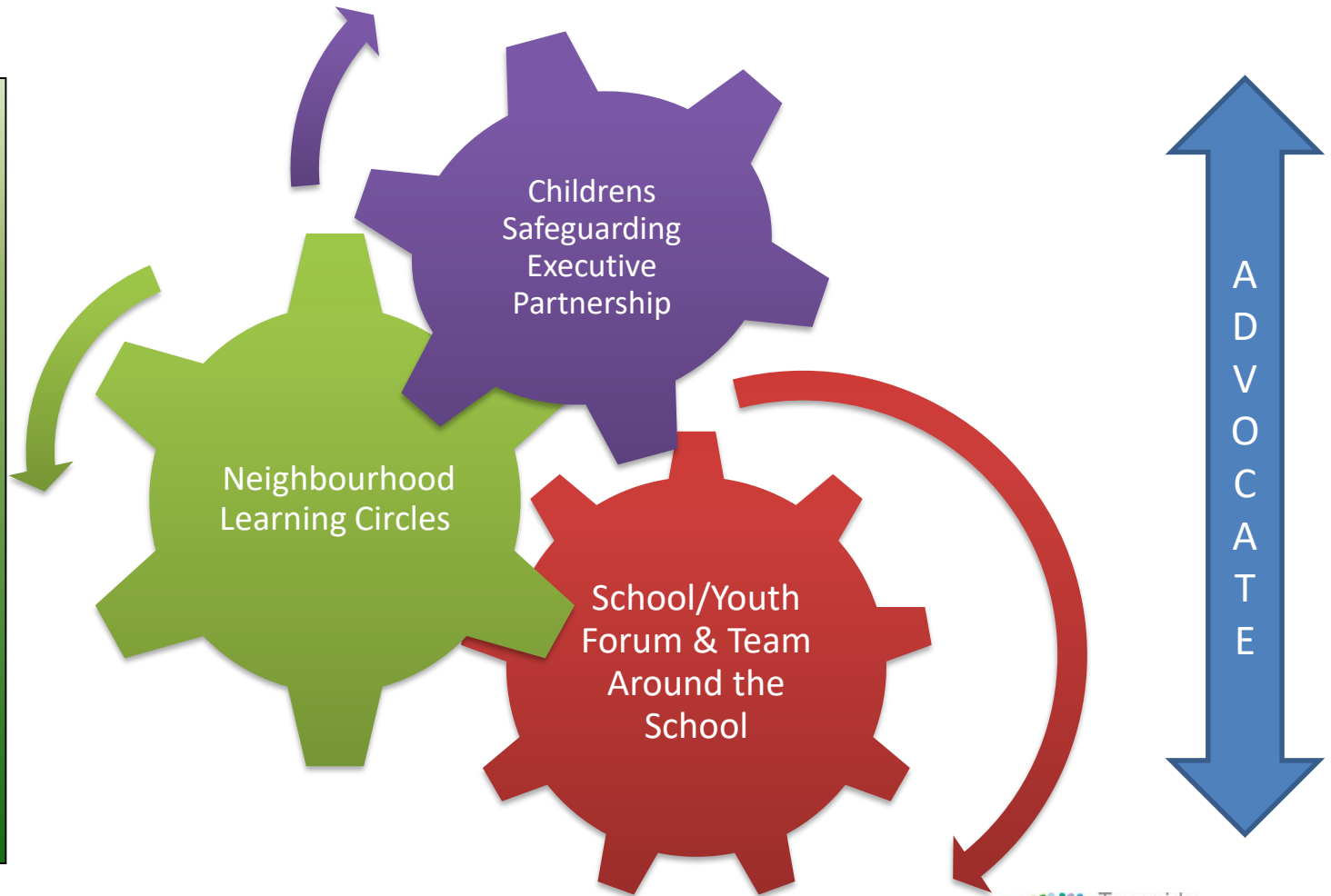
- Connect the Voice of the Child from the Advocate to each level of partnership arrangement
- Development of a Youth Challenge Panel to scrutinise partners safeguarding arrangements and practice to drive improvement
- Understand and respond to our safeguarding priorities with strong strategic ownership, coordination and assurance
- Neighbourhood Learning Circles respond to the place based issues
- Phase 2 of the Team Around the School approach

# Joining the dots

Children's Safeguarding Executive Partnership task Neighbourhood Learning Circles with areas requiring improvement.

2 way communication supported by the Children's Independent Advocate

Neighbourhood themes raised up from the School/Youth Forums 3x per year and via TAS to the relevant Neighbourhood Learning Circle.



# Provisional Partnership Priorities (tba)

1. Complex Safeguarding closely aligned to a multi-agency operational response initiated via the MASH arrangements.
2. Early Help underpinning all other priority issues especially Neglect which in turn increases vulnerability to complex safeguarding.
3. Domestic Abuse and the protection of children via the MASH Triage, Operation Encompass and ChiDVA support.
4. School Exclusions leads to increased vulnerability, particularly in relation to complex safeguarding, and poor outcomes for children and young people.

# Provisional Partnership Priorities (tba)

5. Engaging children and young people in our safeguarding arrangements and service design and improvement. Opportunities for young people to provide independent scrutiny, peer to peer support/mentoring.
6. MASH & Integrated Working (link to points 1,3 and 8)
7. Mental Health offer needs to be consistently promoted by all partners agencies which requires enhanced workforce development
8. Communication via practitioner involvement and feedback, information sharing agreements between agencies and making the most of the opportunity for joint working within the MASH and Integrated Neighbourhood Working arrangements.

# Make your Mark Ballot

## **1. Put an end to Knife crime**

Too many young people's lives are lost to knife crime; the Government need to do more to help end the knife crime epidemic.

## **2. Mental Health**

Mental health services should be improved with young people's help; and should be available in schools.

<http://www.ukyouthparliament.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018-v2-Make-Your-Mark-Results-with-Infographics.pdf>

We'll work with our Youth Council to better understand these issues in Tameside and work with them to develop solutions

# Questions

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