



National Children's  
Bureau

# Safeguarding Early Adopter Programme January Newsletter

## Update from the NCB

The 17 Early Adopter projects are incredibly busy developing their approaches to implementing the new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements set out in Working Together 2018 (WT18). In this newsletter we will seek to share the emerging learning, tools and resources from the early adopter programme to support and inform the thinking of those in other areas currently working towards implementation of the new arrangements.

## What do we mean by new?

The arrangements set out in WT18 create the framework to look at multi-agency safeguarding through a different lens. Many of the early adopters have embraced this and really challenged themselves and each other to move out of their comfort zones and commence their learning journey towards the new world of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

## Getting started

The overwhelming view of the early adopters is that this is not an exercise of 'musical chairs'. Despite the challenging timescales, the opportunity to reflect and understand next steps in strengthening local partnerships and ensuring that key local priorities for vulnerable children are part of a shared vision for practice has been a crucial starting point. Even in areas where LSCB practice had been rated good or outstanding in the past it has been important to consider that the approach to delivering multi-agency safeguarding will need to look and feel genuinely different in order to capture the spirit of the new arrangements.

This does not mean that existing good practice should not be considered as a way of implementing the new arrangements but there must be a process of scrutiny by which areas ascertain that those approaches are the **best way** to deliver the outcomes set out in the new framework.

The Early Adopters have been working hard to share the learning from their journeys so far. Each project has had a different experience with a different set of challenges and successes. We are sharing some links below to support you all in your next steps towards implementation.



## Learning Examples from the Early Adopters

It is important to note that all learning from the Early Adopter projects is co-developed with their local partners and builds on hard work with key stakeholders across the range of relevant agencies. The blogs and learning examples featured in this newsletter are designed to support those responsible for developing approaches to implementing the new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements to work with their local partners to explore new ways of working in implementing the reforms set out in Working Together 2018.

### [Developing new approaches to Child Death Review Arrangements](#)

This learning example is based on the work that has taken place across a number of the Early Adopter projects. It shares examples of new approaches that are being tested and the background to how they have been developed.

### [Bexley share their tools and resources in relation to Independent Scrutiny and their Learning Hub model](#)

- Example Independent Scrutiny Role Brief which Bexley used for recruitment
- Learning Hub Model Diagram and Delivery Plan Template that they use for the learning Hub Activities
- University of Bedfordshire Interim Evaluation Report

### [Birmingham - Rapid Review Pilot](#)

- Rapid Review Guidance
- Template Letters
- Rapid Review Template

### [Hertfordshire - Developing approaches to Independent Scrutiny](#)

Developing an approach to independent scrutiny that is more robust and meets the new statutory requirements, but that also retains the successful elements of multi-agency working that had been built up in Hertfordshire over many years. The new approach has to be workable in practice and ensure accountable oversight and feedback on performance and outcomes; and ultimately it has to lead to practice improvement.

### [Wiltshire - Aims, progress and key learning of the Safeguarding Vulnerable People Partnership](#)

Wiltshire have developed the Safeguarding Vulnerable People Partnership. The new partnership will allow them to take a more holistic approach to cover and address work which sits across children and adult services and community safety.

### [Devon - The South West - Developing a system wide approach to learning from cases](#)

An overview of an activity that took place using appreciative questioning with multi-agency partners to identify how an appreciative inquiry approach can be an appropriate method for a multi-agency practitioner led audit process.

## Other News from the projects:

Read more hear about North Lincolnshire's 'Out of This World' Conference launching their new arrangements: <http://www.northlincscomars.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/News-Update-Nov-2018-Conference-Edition.pdf>.

As well as finding out more about their plans in their local newsletter: <http://www.northlincscomars.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/News-Update-Nov-2018-Edition-1.pdf>

### Blog - [How can you grow a strong partnership culture?](#)

Carole Brooks, Programme Lead, Salford



[Calderdale - The voice of children and young people](#)

[FaxFest evaluation report](#)

Email us: [info@ncb.org.uk](mailto:info@ncb.org.uk)

LONDON: WeWork London Fields, 115 Mare Street, E8 4RU

BELFAST: The NICVA Building, 61 Duncairn Gardens, BT15 2GB

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