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Background:

Working Together 2018 was published on 4th July 2018, replacing the 2015 document.

Changes include:

Updating the following sections:

- Introduction
- Chapter 1 on Assessing need and providing help
- Chapter 2 on Organisational responsibilities

Significant revision of the following sections:

- Chapter 3 on Multi-agency safeguarding arrangements
- Chapter 4 on Improving child protection and safeguarding practice
- Chapters 5 on Child death reviews

Multi Agency

Safeguarding Arrangements

02

Under the new legislation, three safeguarding partners (local authorities, chief officers of police, and clinical commissioning groups) must make arrangements to work together with relevant agencies (as they consider appropriate) to safeguard and protect the welfare of children in the area.

Relevant agencies are those organisations whose involvement the safeguarding partners consider is required to safeguard and promote the welfare of local children.

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What to do?

The full Statutory Guidance for Working Together 2018 can be found [here](#).

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Organisational Responsibilities:

The guidance includes a new section on “people in positions of trust” highlighting that “organisations and agencies working with children and families should have clear policies for dealing with allegations against people who work with children”.

[For Northumberland’s Designated Officer see here](#)



Working Together 2018

Child Death Reviews:

The guidance replaces the requirement for LSCBs to ensure that child death reviews are undertaken by a child death overview panel (CDOP) with the requirement for “child death review partners” (consisting of local authorities and any clinical commissioning groups for the local area) to make arrangements to review child deaths.

Information on the rapid review process and criteria, and guidance safeguarding partners must consider is also included



04

Local and national child safeguarding practice reviews

The guidance sets out the process for new national and local reviews.

The responsibility for how the system learns the lessons from serious child safeguarding incidents lies at a national level with the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel (the Panel) and at local level with the safeguarding partners.

Assessing need and providing help:

The guidance highlights specifically that practitioners should be alert to the potential need for early help for children in particular circumstances.

The guidance also includes:

- 1) a new section on referral highlighting that anyone with a concern about a child’s welfare should make a referral to local authority children’s social care
- 2) a myth busting guide to information sharing
- 3) a new section on assessment of disabled children and their carers; young carers; children in secure youth establishments;
- 4) a new section on contextual safeguarding.

To access further seven minute guides, please use

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