



Portsmouth Safeguarding Children Partnership is the organisation responsible for agreeing how services and agencies work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in the city and ensuring that they do so effectively.

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 introduced a duty on three statutory partners to make arrangements with other partners (as locally determined), to work together in the local area to protect and safeguard children and young people. The Government's statutory guidance, "Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018" explains that the three safeguarding partners in relation to a local authority area are defined as:

- the local authority
- the integrated commissioning board (ICB)
- the police

The partnership is responsible for identifying and responding to the needs of children in Portsmouth; commissioning and publishing local child safeguarding practice reviews; and providing scrutiny to ensure the effectiveness of the safeguarding arrangements.

The PSCP arrangements will also include organisations (referred to as 'relevant agencies') whose work brings them into contact with children and families in Portsmouth. The full list of these relevant agencies for the PSCP can be found in the [PSCP Partnership Arrangements](#).

The purpose of the partnership is to support and enable local agencies to work together in a system where:

- Excellent practice is the norm
- Partner agencies hold one another to account effectively
- There is early identification of "new" safeguarding issues
- Learning is promoted and embedded
- Information is shared effectively

Together, the 3 Safeguarding Partners and the relevant agencies will be responsible for agreeing on and implementing safeguarding strategies that improve multi-agency working and, in turn, improve the provision of safeguarding and child protection agreements in the local area. The local approach also enables joint identification of, and response to, existing and emerging needs, and to agreeing priorities to improve outcomes for children.

A programme of multi-agency training focussed on local need is provided, which is informed by the PSCP's learning from multi agency audits, case reviews and performance information.

The PSCP will be working closely with our neighbouring Local Authority areas (Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight) on key strategies and our online policies and procedures. We will have a joint Independent Chair, and will collaborate to review child deaths, ensuring that learning is shared more broadly. This arrangement will be known as HIPS (Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth & Southampton).

For more information:

Please visit the PSCP website: <https://www.portsmouthscp.org.uk/>

[Working Together 2018](#)

If you have any queries, please contact PSCP@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Structure Chart

