



Kingston and Richmond
Safeguarding Children Partnership

**Kingston & Richmond Safeguarding Children Partnership
Quality and Innovation Subgroup - Terms of Reference**

November 2024

I. Purpose

The Quality and Innovation Subgroup (Q&I Subgroup) is held jointly across both Kingston and Richmond. Multi-agency quality assurance activities are key functions of the partnership and allow us to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of what is done by our partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote welfare.

The purpose of the subgroup is to monitor that all agencies are doing the right things at the right time to consolidate or improve outcomes for our children, young people and their families by thinking together, learning together and improving together. This will be achieved by:

- The subgroup will start with the experience of the children and young people in which to inform our practice.
- Examining, challenging, and scrutinising performance and effectiveness in meeting objectives set out in the KRSCP Business Plan.
- Analysing performance data in a consistent way to identify areas of strength and development to inform the subgroup areas of multi-agency work, including through the use of Section 11 safeguarding self-evaluations and partners' annual reports.
- Implementing an annual audit activity programme and reviewing the findings to determine strengths and improvement areas in which to give feedback to all agencies.
- Identifying successes and sharing examples of effective and innovative practice and evidence-based research.
- Considering local practice in relation to the child's journey and effective multi-agency working. The subgroup's activity will be presented to the Delegated Safeguarding Partners (DSP) following appropriate synthesis and analysis which highlights areas of strengths and development.

The subgroup will lead on one deep dive per year which will form part of a multi-agency learning event across the partnership. The theme of the deep dive will be in agreement with DSPs. The subgroup will also undertake one multi-agency audit per year to look at previous themes to assure the partnership that learning is embedded and there is evidence of practice improvement. In addition, the subgroup will identify other multi-agency audit work based on trends or other areas of learning and seek to test the results of previous work.

The Quality and Innovation Subgroup operates in alignment with the Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 Guidance. Safeguarding partners are expected to maintain oversight of the quality of local practice and its impact on children and families. This involves implementing robust quality assurance mechanisms to ensure safeguarding practices are both effective and lead to positive outcomes.

Key aspects of this alignment include:

- Data Collection and Analysis: Effective collection, sharing, and analysis of data enables early identification of new safeguarding risks, issues, emerging threats, and joined-up responses across relevant agencies. (Chapter 2, Paragraph 40)
- The use of Section 11's: to highlight the responsibilities of organisations to ensure that they have robust safeguarding policies and procedures in place. (See chapter 4)
- For further context see [Working Together 2023](#)

II. Anti-racist and discriminatory practice

The Quality and Innovation Subgroup is committed to upholding the principles of Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) as outlined in the Kingston and Richmond Safeguarding Children Partnership EDI Statement¹. The subgroup will ensure that all safeguarding practices and decisions reflect a commitment to valuing every child, family, and practitioner. This includes considering the impact of protected characteristics and additional vulnerabilities in all data analysis, audit activities, and multi-agency collaborations. Ultimately, the subgroup will scrutinise, challenge, address, and assure what is happening in each agency and as a partnership will act as appropriate.

III. Membership

- Children Services, Achieving for Children (AfC) (including Children's Social Care, Family & Youth, Early Help, Identification & Assessment, Quality & Assurance, Pupil Support Service, Virtual School)
- Metropolitan Police Service SouthWest Basic Command Units (SWBCU)
- Designated Nurse- Safeguarding Children, Southwest London Integrated Care System (ICS)
- Designated Nurse- Children looked After (CLA) Kingston & Richmond, SWL Integrated Care System (ICS)
- Designated Doctor for Richmond and Kingston CLA
- Voluntary Sector from both Kingston & Richmond
- Chelsea & Westminster NHS Foundation Trust (West Middlesex Hospital)
- Kingston and Richmond NHS Foundation Trust (KRFT)
- Southwest London St George's Mental Health (SWLSTG) NHS Trust
- Adult Social Care - Safeguarding Adults, The Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames
- Adult Social Care and Public Health Serving Richmond Council
- Community Safety Richmond
- Your Healthcare (YHC) – Kingston
- Central London Community Healthcare (CLCH) NHS Trust
- West London Mental Health Trust
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- Public Health Richmond and Kingston Councils
- London Fire Brigade – Kingston & Richmond
- Probation service for both Kingston & Richmond
- Richmond Integrated Recovery Service (RIRS)
- Healthwatch -Kingston & Richmond
- Lay Governor Member/schools
- Young Carers organisations Kingston & Richmond
- Housing for Kingston & Richmond Councils
- Rugby Football Union (RFU)
- Kingston & Richmond Safeguarding Children Partnership (KRSCP) Team

IV. Duties of subgroup members

- Subgroup Chairs will be expected to report on a routine basis (quarterly) to the DSPs.
- Members should respond to local themes and trends, picking up live issues from frontline workers.

¹ [Equality, diversity and inclusion statement - Kingston and Richmond Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

- Members of the subgroup should have a senior enough role to have influence in their organisations. Members agree to taking actions from the subgroup and ensure actions are followed up and taken forward.

V. Governance and accountability

- The Quality and innovation subgroup is co-chaired by the Associate Director for Quality Assurance and Review, AfC and the Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children - Richmond Place, NHS South West London ICB. The subgroup chair will report quarterly on activity and outcomes achieved by the subgroup to the statutory strategic leadership. The chair will also attend the meeting of subgroup chairs.
- Subgroup members will provide an annual update as part of the KRSCP annual report

VI. Subgroup operation

- Subgroup meetings will take place four (quarterly) times per year and members recalled for extraordinary meetings as required
- Subgroup members are expected to attend every meeting. Where there is a legitimate reason for non-attendance, an apology must be sent and a representative nominated to attend.
- Attendance at subgroup meetings will be monitored, and lack of representation from agencies will be highlighted.
- Meeting agendas will be circulated at least five working days before the meeting. Minutes will be distributed to subgroup members after the meeting.

VII. Review

The terms of reference will be reviewed at least every two years, or more frequently, if necessary, to ensure they remain relevant and effective in guiding the subgroup's work.