

# Policy Briefing

## WAKEFIELD & DISTRICT safeguarding children board

### West Yorkshire Inter-agency Safeguarding Children Procedures

### Amendments following Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010 was published by the DCSF in March 2010 and replaced the previous version, launched in 2006. As a result, multi-agency safeguarding children procedures have been amended and the amendments are detailed below. In addition, these procedures are updated routinely on a bi-annual basis.

1. **Terminology and definitions:** change in title from "Keyworker" to **Lead Social Worker**, and change in definitions of emotional abuse and sexual abuse – due to wording changes *Working Together 2010 (WT 2010)*.
2. **Department for Education:** Any references to the DCSF in procedures will be amended to reflect the new government's change of departmental title (apart from publications where the author was DCSF).
3. **Underlying Policy, Principles and Values (ref. 1.1.2):** Updated revised text (*WT 2010*).
4. **Local Safeguarding Children Board – Role and Function (ref. 2.1.1):** Updated across various sections, e.g. more information on relationship between the LSCB and Children's Trust Board ("CTB") (including requirement for separate chairs); requirement to appoint 2 lay members and requirement for the LSCB to produce and publish an Annual Report with a copy sent to the CTB (*WT 2010*).
5. **Agency Roles and Responsibilities (ref. 2.1.2):** Updated to include infrastructure and governance to deliver safeguarding responsibilities (*WT 2010*).

6. **Referrals (ref. 3.1.):** Updated to include referrers having the opportunity to discuss concerns with a social worker, and referrers being specifically asked if they have any information regarding domestic abuse, mental illness, substance misuse and/or learning difficulties (*WT 2010*).
7. **Initial Assessments (ref. 3.2):** Updated with several amendments, e.g. the timescale for completion is now 10 days instead of 7 days; the child should be seen by the lead social worker; and the Initial Assessment is only deemed to have been completed once the assessment has been discussed with the child and family and authorised by the manager (*WT 2010*).
8. **Strategy Discussions (ref. 3.3):** Updated to include involving adult services professionals if issues such as domestic abuse, substance misuse or mental illness are present (*WT 2010*).
9. **S.47 Enquiries and Core Assessments (ref. 3.4):** Updated with several amendments, e.g. there are references to when the child should be seen alone by the Lead Social Worker (*WT 2010*).
10. **Initial Child Protection Case Conferences (ref. 3.5):** Updated with several amendments e.g. the initial case conference should take place within 15 working days of the strategy discussion, or, where more than one strategy discussion took place, of the strategy discussion at which the s.47 enquiry was initiated. Also, where a child who is the subject of a child protection plan becomes looked after, the CP plan should form part of the care plan (*WT 2010*).
11. **Child Protection Review Conferences (ref. 3.8):** This section has been updated with various amendments, e.g. each core group member has to provide an agency report for review conference.  
  
Also that when discontinuing the child protection plan when the child becomes 18, there should be a review around the time of the child's birthday.
12. **Bullying (ref. 5.1.5):** Updated with DCSF definitions of bullying and cyberbullying.
13. **Children Moving Across Boundaries (ref. 5.14):** Updated to clarify responsibilities both within and between local authority boundaries.
14. **Domestic Violence (ref. 5.17):** Updated to include more guidance for professionals around the assessment of risk and referral.
15. **Complex (Organised or Multiple) Abuse (ref. 5.18):** Updated to include links to Home Office/DoH guidance and ACPO guidance on investigations.
16. **Forced Marriages (ref. 5.21):** Updated to take account of guidance on applying for Forced Marriage Protection Orders.
17. **Children from Abroad (including Migrant Children and Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children):** Updated to include reference and link added to guidance for the UK Border Agency on making arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

18. **Safeguarding Children who may have been Trafficked (ref. 5.26):** Updated to include reference to new legislation and a link added to the 'tackling trafficking toolkit'. Also reference to the National Referral Mechanism set out in *WT 2010*.
19. **Allegations Against Persons who Work with Children (ref. 6.1.2):** Updated to amend references to PoCA List and List 99, and change to the Independent Safeguarding Authority.
20. **Unexpected Child Death (ref. 9.1):** Updated with various amendments, eg revised definitions, new sections on the duties of coroners and registrars.
21. **Serious Case Reviews (ref. 10.1.1):** Updated and the full text of ch.8 from *WT 2010* is now included.

**West Yorkshire Inter-Agency Safeguarding Children  
Procedures can be accessed online  
at:**

**[www.proceduresonline.com/westyorkscb](http://www.proceduresonline.com/westyorkscb)**