



Guide to the Bracknell Forest Local Safeguarding Children Board



What is the LSCB?

The Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) is a statutory partnership made up of organisations that work with children and young people. It brings together senior and operational staff within local organisations to help co-ordinate services and make certain they work together to keep children safe from harm.

The Chair of the LSCB provides advice, support and challenge to members of the partnership to ensure that their work is effective and is independent of all organisations.

Details of the [chair and members of the LSCB](http://www.bfscb.org.uk) can be found on our website: www.bfscb.org.uk

What does the LSCB do?

The LSCB is responsible for:

- working with organisations to develop an understanding of the problems that families living in Bracknell Forest can face.
- making sure people listen to children and young people about what makes them feel unsafe.
- co-ordinating the work of organisations to provide early help (help before problems become too big)
- co-ordinating the work of organisations to make sure they are able to safeguard and protect children and young people.
- working with organisations to help them agree guidance on how they will work together to safeguard children
- commissioning multi agency training on subjects such as law, the local LSCB procedures and roles and responsibilities for helping families and keeping children safe. Details of inter-agency training can be found at www.bfscb.org.uk/training
- ensuring that the safeguarding practice of organisations is effective
- reviewing incidents where a child / young person is hurt or killed to help us understand what happened, why it occurred and how improvements can be made.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Communities play a vital part in preventing abuse and neglect by working with partner agencies to ensure children / young people are kept safe. The LSCB supports community groups to safeguard children / young people by helping them:



- safely recruit and manage staff
- ensure that all staff are trained and able to:
 - raise awareness of the issues
 - encourage families to access early help
 - understand the possible indicators of abuse
 - ensure concerns are reported without delay
 - support plans to improve long-term outcomes

Involve (formally BFVA) play an important role in supporting local groups to fulfil their safeguarding responsibilities. Further details can be found at [here](#).

How does the LSCB assess the effectiveness of safeguarding?

The information we routinely gather helps us to identify how many children may need additional support, and how many might need services to protect and safeguard them.

By listening to children/young people, families/carers and those working with them, our partners can better understand what problems are of most concern and the type of services that they think make the most difference.

Using this knowledge, we look at how well organisations work together to keep children and young children safe, what work their staff do and if necessary what improvements they may need to make.

We also encourage anyone who works with children, or their families to speak out if they cannot resolve a child protection concern within their organisation.

For more information on how to raise concerns please see the LSCB's online guidance: [LSCB Whistle-blowing Form](#)

What are the LSCB's local priorities?

The LSCB has a three year Business Plan which identifies how the LSCB will meet its legal responsibilities for ensuring children are protected from harm and, in addition has a number of targeted priorities. www.bflscb.org.uk/about-board

The right help for children at the right time

The LSCB has produced '[Thresholds Guidance](#)' to provide a framework for all professionals working with children, young people and their families. It aims to help you identify when a child may need additional support to achieve their full potential.

It introduces a continuum of help and support, providing information on levels of need and gives examples of some of the indicators that may assist in identifying a child or young person who may be in need of additional support.

There is also an [animation](#) which introduces the concept of the guidance in just over five minutes.

LSCB Resources

The LSCB has a number of resources that have been developed to share good practice and help organisations safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults. These can all be found on the LSCB website and include:

- [**Inter-Agency Guidance and Safeguarding Tools**](#) help organisations ensure they act to protect children, and to assess how they meet their broader safeguarding responsibilities.
- [**Allegations Against Staff Guidance**](#) and advice regarding safer working practice helps organisations manage concerns about staff/volunteers and to respond robustly to any allegations made against them.
- [**Safeguarding Cue Card**](#) is designed to give professionals and frontline staff advice on what to do if a child or young person is suspected to be in need of help or protection.
- [**Safeguarding Information for Children and Young People**](#) is also provided through the www.xpressionz.co.uk website and helps ensure children/young people can get the right help for the problems they face.
- [**Evidence of Learning to Improve Safeguarding**](#) that is available from inspections, research and serious case reviews.