

Title: Independent Scrutineer – Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership		Post Ref.
Job Purpose		
<p>To provide assurance regarding the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in Nottinghamshire including the arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding cases. Act as a constructive critical friend to the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and promote reflection to drive continuous improvement.</p>		
Key Responsibilities	Key Accountabilities	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend the Safeguarding Assurance and Improvement Group and ensure that it is fulfilling its functions effectively and with integrity. 2. Provide an objective assessment of the effectiveness of the safeguarding arrangements including how they are working for children and families as well as practitioners. 3. Provide an annual assessment of the safeguarding partners' leadership of the arrangements for inclusion in the partnership's yearly report. 4. Act as an advisor to the safeguarding partners regarding any responses by the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel to the conclusion reached in Rapid Reviews. 5. Undertake a six-monthly audit of Rapid Reviews to provide assurance to the Strategic Leadership Group about the effectiveness of that process. 6. Assist in resolving operational disputes through the escalation procedures. 7. Actively look at opportunities to build networks and peer support. 8. Attend meetings of, and act as a critical friend to, the Strategic Leadership Group. Provide scrutiny of the partnership's yearly report. 9. Attend scrutiny meetings with Nottinghamshire County Council Chief Executive and elected members and the 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The provision of an assessment of safeguarding effectiveness within the safeguarding arrangements 'yearly report' supported by clear evidence and analysis. 2. Effective arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding cases in accordance with statutory guidance. 3. A clear and effective performance management framework. 4. Evidence of well-reasoned and supported contributions to the Strategic Leadership Group. 	

10. Visit frontline settings to strengthen communication between the partnership and frontline practitioners and contribute to effectiveness judgements.
11. Contribute to the planning and delivery of the partnership multi-agency audit programme.
12. Act as an expert advisor regarding proposed significant changes to the interagency safeguarding children procedures.
13. Scrutinise the effectiveness of the partnership training programme
14. Receive the minutes of all group meetings under the safeguarding arrangements to maintain an understanding of the work being taken forward by the partnership.
15. Contribute towards the public response by the partnership to issues of public concern, such as following a child safeguarding practice review.
16. Receive notifications from the safeguarding partners regarding significant incidents/developments.

The post holder will perform any duty or task that is appropriate for the role described

Person Specification

Education and Knowledge

1. Academic and/or professional qualification in social or health care, education or criminal justice.
2. Knowledge of recent developments in health care, social care, policing, and legislation and research underpinning child protection work.
3. Knowledge and understanding of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
4. Understanding of how to maintain effective safeguarding practice.
5. Understanding of the principals of effective partnership working

Experience

14. Substantial experience of safeguarding children work in a multi-agency context, at operational and strategic levels.
15. Of operating within a performance management framework
16. Undertaking case reviews and audit

Personal skills and general competencies

6. Excellent written and verbal skills.
7. Strong analytical skills, an ability to assimilate large volumes of information, draw clear conclusions and make appropriate recommendations.
8. Ability to work in a multi-racial/multi-cultural context, respect and value diversity.
9. Ability to recognise discrimination in its many forms and promote equal opportunities.
10. Ability to ensure appropriate handling of sensitive information.
11. A high level of personal drive and commitment to excellent customer care and the ability to set an example for other staff.
12. Strong interpersonal skills to gain the agreement and acceptance of others including colleagues, senior managers and customers.
13. Ability to meet agreed objectives and delivery targets.

Role Dimensions

1. The role is appointed by the Lead Representatives for the safeguarding partners (Chief Executive Nottinghamshire County Council, Chief Officer Nottinghamshire Police and the Accountable Officers for the Clinical Commissioning Groups within Nottinghamshire & Bassetlaw).
2. Reporting line - the role is independent of the NSCP member organisations but will be accountable to the Chief Officers of the Safeguarding partners.
3. The role does not have decision making responsibilities on behalf of the partnership or the organisations that make up its membership but is required to act as an advisor and provide an independent assessment of safeguarding effectiveness.
4. There are no direct reports or budget responsibilities.
5. Appointment is initially for a 3 year term