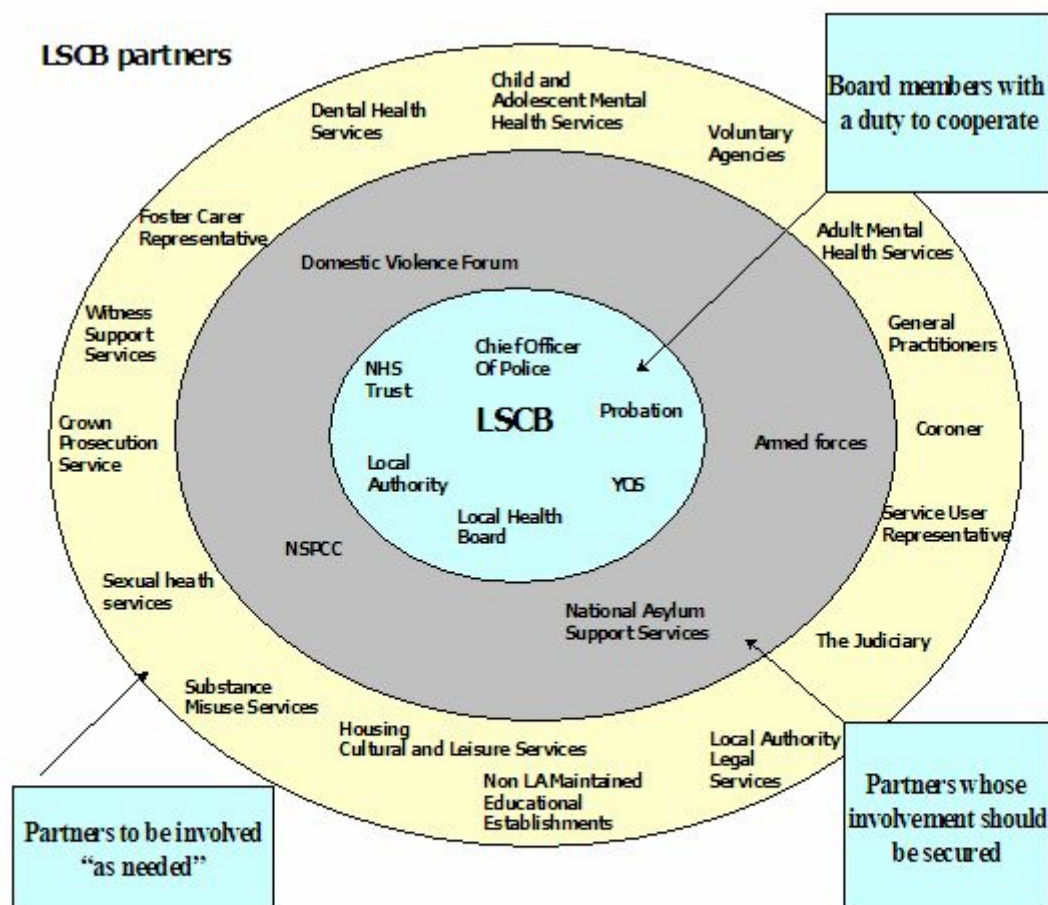


The Children Act 2004 required every local authority to set up a Local Safeguarding Children Board. The CLSCB (Carmarthenshire Local Safeguarding Children's Board) is Carmarthenshire's response to this. The CLSCB is made up of a number of local key agencies, as depicted in the diagram below, who are all committed to achieving the best outcomes for all the children and young people living in Carmarthenshire and who we may have particular responsibilities for.



The aim of the Board is to improve outcomes for children by coordinating the work of local agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and ensuring the effectiveness of that work. Safeguarding is a broader concept than that of Child Protection, which has previously been the focus of multi-agency activity. Safeguarding means, 'Protecting children from impairment, preventing impairment of children's health and development and ensuring children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care'.

Child Protection means 'Activity undertaken to protect specific children who are suffering or at risk of suffering significant harm'.

The core objectives of the LSCB are set out in section 14(1) of the Children Act 2004 and are as follows:

To co-ordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area of the authority:

'To ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for that purpose'.

Local Safeguarding Children Board's are required to undertake:

- **Responsive work to protect particular children and young people**
- **Proactive work for children in need and vulnerable young people**
- **Preventative work for all children and young people**

With particular regard to the following groups:

- Children in need.
- Children abused and neglected within families, including those being harmed in the context of domestic abuse.
- Children abused outside families by adults known to them.
- Children abused and neglected by professional carers, within an institutional setting, or anywhere else where children are cared for away from home.
- Children abused by strangers.
- Children abused by other young people.
- Children who abuse.
- Children involved in prostitution.
- Children who misuse drugs, alcohol and other substances.
- Asylum seeking children, whether with families or unaccompanied.
- Children with particular needs or disabilities.
- Children with parents of compromised parenting capacity.

The work of the Board includes:

- Developing multi-agency policies and procedures for safeguarding children and young people.
- Participating in the strategic planning of children's services.
- Providing strategic direction, co-ordination and planning in respect of inter-agency safeguarding issues.
- Working with Local Strategic Partnerships to raise awareness of Safeguarding issues, ultimately helping them to address safeguarding children in their plans, promote safeguarding and wellbeing for all children and young people.
- Contribute to the Children and Young People's Plan and any other strategic plans that will impact on children.
- Help agencies maintain a focus on safeguarding, particularly during significant organisational change.
- Communicating the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children to professionals and the wider public.

- Receiving regular information on the effectiveness of inter-agency arrangements e.g. Performance data, Inspection reports; making any recommendations that might further Safeguard children and young people.
- Conducting Serious Case Reviews when a child dies or is seriously harmed and abuse or neglect is suspected.
- Ensuring procedures to ensure a coordinated response to unexpected child deaths.
- Collecting and analysing information about all child deaths that occur in the area to identify issues of concern.
- Ensure agencies recruit and develop those staff working with children appropriately, so that they are suitably equipped to deliver effective practice in safeguarding and protecting children and young people.
- Providing multi-agency training and development to staff on safeguarding and protecting children and young people.
- Agree the budget for the LSCB.
- Contribute to the inspection of local children's services and review their findings.