



E S S E X
Safeguarding
Children
B O A R D

Essex Safeguarding Children Board

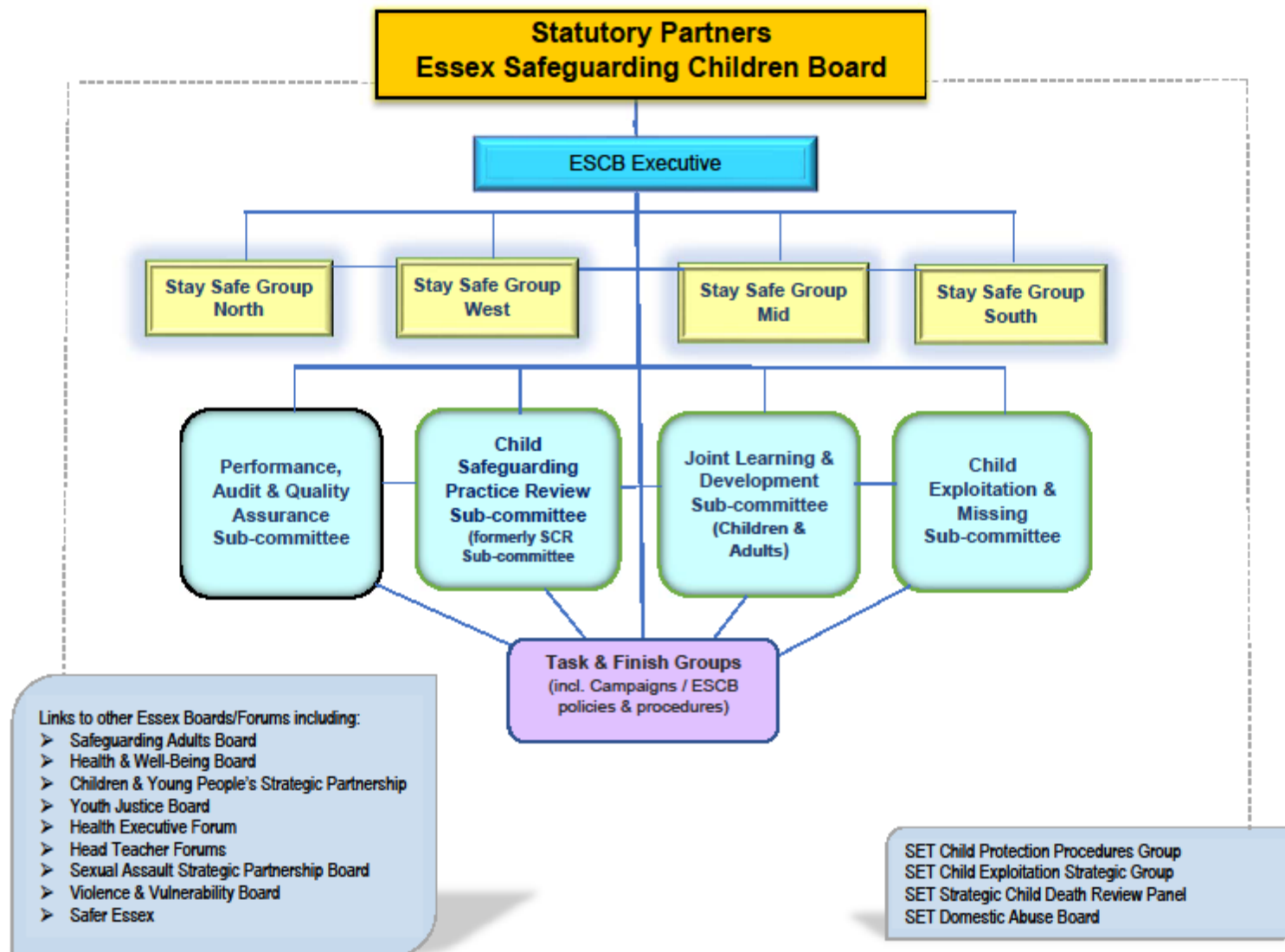
Briefing Pack for Scrutiny

April 2022

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2. Structure Chart of ESCB



Essex Safeguarding Children Board – Draft Business Plan 2022 - 2027

PRINCIPLES

- Principle 1.** Championing the interests and rights of children and young people.
Principle 2. Involving all partners in Essex in their statutory duty to co-operate on safeguarding matters.
Principle 3. Receiving independent challenge and scrutiny, to ensure feedback, accountability and learning.
Principle 4. Change is led by measurable improvements in the safeguarding systems and outcomes for children and their families.
Principle 5. Address challenges faced by disadvantaged or minority groups by tackling inequalities between children, connecting families to services, and ensuring that all Essex children grow up in a safe environment with access to good education, regardless of their background.



PRIORITIES	AREAS OF WORK	
SAFER AT HOME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early help/intervention • Family inclusive practice • Child Exploitation/Missing Violence and Vulnerability work (links to Violence and Vulnerability Board) • Operation Henderson and other campaigns • Multi agency working • Learning from reviews (Learning and Development Sub-Committee) • Transitional safeguarding (across ESCB/ESAB) • Statutory Partners and Board • Mental health and wellbeing • Child on child abuse • Child Missing Education / Elective Home Education • Harmful Sexual Behaviour • Online safety 	<p>Responsibility for the monitoring of the Business Plan lies with the Statutory Partners via the ESCB Executive.</p> <p>Work in these areas will be carried out by Sub-Committees and links in with the work of four quadrant-based Stay Safe Groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance, Audit & Quality Assurance Sub-Committee • Child Safeguarding Practice Review Sub-Committee • Joint Learning and Development Sub-Committee • Child Exploitation and Missing Sub-Committee • SET Procedures Working Group
SAFER IN THE COMMUNITY		
SAFER SAFEGUARDING SYSTEMS		
SAFER IN EDUCATION		

5. Update regarding Children Missing Education (CME) and Elective Home Education (EHE)

Prepared ahead of the ESCB Scrutiny Panel – 14th April 2022

As at 1st April 2022, the total number of children and young people, falling into cohorts Reception through to Year 11, listed as CME across Essex is 542 and, in respect of EHE, is 2626. Whilst the number of CME remains consistent with that which has been noted in Essex in previous years, the number within the EHE cohort has risen slightly, a pattern which has been noted by colleagues in most local authority areas. Many of the children who were de-registered in favour of EHE during the academic year 2020/21 have since returned to a school roll, now that parental/family anxieties linked to the pandemic have eased. It is, however, fair to say that Essex does have a lasting legacy of EHE registrations which occurred during the peak of the pandemic, which has caused our overall levels of EHE to remain high, when compared to pre-pandemic levels.

CME

The Local Authority makes use of all available avenues of enquiry and information sharing protocols to establish the whereabouts of children who have been reported as CME. Where it is confirmed that a child is resident at an Essex address and it appears that their parent/s is/are not proactively seeking a school place, the Education Compliance team (part of the Specialist Education Services portfolio within the Education directorate) will use available statutory powers, namely the School Attendance Order process, as set out within the Education Act 1996.

EHE

With regards to the EHE cohort across Essex, the Education Compliance team will act upon all concerns which indicate that a child may not be in receipt of a suitable home education and will make use of all available intelligence when prioritising cases for assessment. Concerns are received via a wide variety of sources including schools (at the point of de-registration), health colleagues, members of the public, other local authorities, family members, Youth Offending Team, etc. In addition, locally agreed processes allow for any child who is known to social care (either historically or currently) to automatically be prioritised for an EHE assessment, to enable the LA to satisfy themselves that parents are committed to providing a suitable education to their child/ren. Where parents are not able to satisfy the local authority of their commitment/ability to provide a suitable home education, the status of the child is updated to reflect that they are a child missing from education (CME) and the School Attendance Order process is instigated.

Update provided by Anita Patel-Lingam (Statutory Education Compliance Manager) – April 2022