



Briefing Paper in respect of

Tameside Safeguarding Children Framework

2011 Edition

Tameside Safeguarding Children Framework – 2011 Edition

Introduction

The TSCB publishes the *Tameside Safeguarding Children Framework*. It was first published in 2007 as the Tameside Safeguarding Framework. Following the publication of the new Working together to Safeguard Children in 2010, the TSCF has been revised with significant changes set out below.

The new content of the new TSCF also reflects learning from Serious Case Reviews conducted by the TSCB in 2009-11.

General changes

- It is now called the *Tameside Safeguarding Children Framework*
- The term 'Key Worker' has been replaced by the term 'Lead social worker'
- The term 'Children's Social Work' has replaced the term 'Children's Social Care'
- Strategy Meetings/Discussions are called by the generic name 'Strategy Discussions' but there are specific circumstances in which the strategy discussion should always be conducted via an actual meeting

Section by Section changes

Section 1 - Introduction

Section 1 is unchanged except for introducing the TSCB website:
www.tamesidesafeguardingchildren.org.uk

Section 2 – The Principles of Safeguarding

Section 2 – this section is new and is based on new content in the 2010 edition of Working Together to Safeguard Children

Section 3 – Information Sharing

Section 3 (ex-section 2) – this section contains new content emphasising the important role of communication in information sharing. It also contains new content relating to using the public interest test for sharing information.

Section 4 – Making Referrals

Section 4 (ex-section 3) – this section contains the following additional content on:

- the use of the TSCB Escalation of Concern procedure
- the use of the TSCB Multi-agency Referral form for written referrals to Children's Social Work

- The response of Children's Social Work to a referral

Section 5 (ex-section 4) – Involving Parents, Carers, Children and Young People

This section is largely unchanged.

Section 6 (ex-section 5) - Assessments

This section contains the following additional content on:

- how assessments should be carried out
- the need to address risk management as a result of assessment
- the need to recognise the risk posed by children and young people who may be a risk to other children and young people
- using historical information to inform assessments
- contacting the police about any crime or suspected crime
- timescales for completion of Initial and Core Assessments
- Child Assessment Orders

Section 7 (ex-section 6) – Child Protection Enquiries

This section contains new content on:

- responding to child welfare concerns where there is or may be an alleged crime
- allegations of harm arising from underage sexual activity
- when to convene a Child Protection conference in the light of information about sexual offences against or abuse of a child

Section 8 (ex-section 7) – Child Protection Meetings

This section contains new content on the role of the child protection plan in risk management.

- Child Protection Conference Risk Assessments
- Managing the risk of sexually harmful behaviour
- Reflective Reviews – to assist practitioners where there are exceptionally difficult circumstances in implementing the Child Protection Plan
- Family Group Conferences - achieving consistency of approach with Child Protection conferences and Child Protection Plans

This section also states that following a decision to discontinue a Child Protection Plan a recommendation can be made at the Child Protection Conference for specific services to continue to be provided to a child and their family.

Section 9 (ex-section 8) – The Core Group and the Implementation of the Child Protection Plan

This section remains largely the same but with additional emphasis on the importance of seeing the child and the risk associated with difficulties in achieving access to the child.

This section also re-iterates the additional content in section 8 about the use of reflective reviews.

Section 10 (ex-section 9) – Quality Assurance

This section contains new content on:

- The TSCB Quality Assurance Approach (QAA)
- Dissent and Disagreement by Practitioners in respect of a Child Protection conference decision