

This model is in draft and will be piloted between January and May 2024; amendments will be made in response to learning from the pilot.



BOLTON SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP MULTI-AGENCY SUPERVISION AND MAPPING MODEL

ONE VISION

In Bolton We Want to Give All Our Children the Best Possible Start in Life, So That They Have Every Chance to Succeed, Be Safe and Be Happy

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Purpose

The purpose of multi-agency supervision and mapping across partner agencies is to provide a mechanism to reflect on children's experiences which are either very complex, feel 'stuck', are drifting or where planned interventions are not making the expected impact.

Multi-agency supervision and mapping is not about sharing new information or making case decisions, rather it provides a safe space and 'slow time' for practitioners to reflect on the child/children's experiences, review information across the partnership, review the impact of current interventions, identify any themes, trends or learning and agree collective solutions. Using this approach should help strengthen the relationship between practitioners, identify what is working well, and where change is needed to secure the best outcomes for children. Multi-agency supervision and mapping does not replace statutory processes such as Early Help, Child In Need, Child Protection and Care Proceedings. This framework does not replace single agency individual professional supervision.

Working transparently with children and families is a priority. However, this should not prevent practitioners meeting to reflect on the progress of their help and support and what they might do differently to better work alongside the family in supporting them to achieve their goals for the child.

Where there are serious concerns which place a child at immediate risk of harm, local child protection processes should be followed. Where the concern is regarding disagreement between professionals on thresholds, decision-making etc., the Bolton Safeguarding Children Partnership (BSCP) [Resolving Professional Disagreements and Escalation Process](#) should be referred to.

Where wider learning points are identified through this process, for example, trends within the locality or specific agency learning needs, these should be fed back to the BSCP Quality Practice Group by the facilitator. By adopting this approach, the statutory partners will support practitioners to: -

- Refocus on the desired outcomes for the child and their family and the steps needed to achieve this
- Identify previously unseen patterns in family life and/or fill gaps in knowledge about family life, attachments and relationships
- Reduce duplication, create 'SMART plans' and ensure the right interventions are being delivered
- Build confidence, relationships and knowledge across the multi-agency workforce

Principles

The multi-agency supervision and mapping model will support the statutory partners to further embed their principles, namely: -

- A culture of continuous development, improvement and learning
- Agency roles and responsibilities are understood
- Thresholds are applied consistently
- Wide and active engagement in multi-agency safeguarding arrangements

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Process

This process can be used at any point on the Framework for Action continuum where two or more practitioners are working together, this can be from preventative support to statutory help. It may also be helpful to consider using the model when: -

- A child is on the edge of care to prevent entry to care
- When secure accommodation becomes a potential option to keep a child safe
- Where there are new emerging risks e.g. child exploitation/anti-social behaviour/persistent absence

[Appendix 1](#) provides a flow chart outlining the full process described in the sections of this guidance.

Request Multi-agency Supervision and Mapping

Requests can be made by any practitioner working with a child or their family and should be made via the Bolton Safeguarding Children Partnership mailbox, using the request template ([Appendix 2 – Request for Multi-agency Supervision and Mapping](#)). Cases which are appropriate for this model are most likely to be identified by: -

- Those working directly with the child, young person or family.
- Designated or named safeguarding leads
- Service/Team managers who provide management oversight

It is expected that any practitioner who makes a request, will discuss this with the Lead Professional (if this is not the referrer) as well as notifying other members of the multi-agency 'team'.

The multi-agency reflective session will be held within 15 working days from the date it has been agreed to progress the request, or sooner dependent on the need.

Each organisation that is involved in the process will need to consider whether they require an internal pathway to support organisational decision-making and tracking when their practitioners refer for support using this model.

A facilitator will lead the multi-agency group supervision ([Appendix 3 – List of Multi-agency Facilitators](#)). This is someone who is independent from the line management of the practitioners involved, and independent of any previous involvement with the child and family. There may be occasions when two facilitators support a session, this will be dependent on need and complexity, or other relevant factors.

The Facilitator

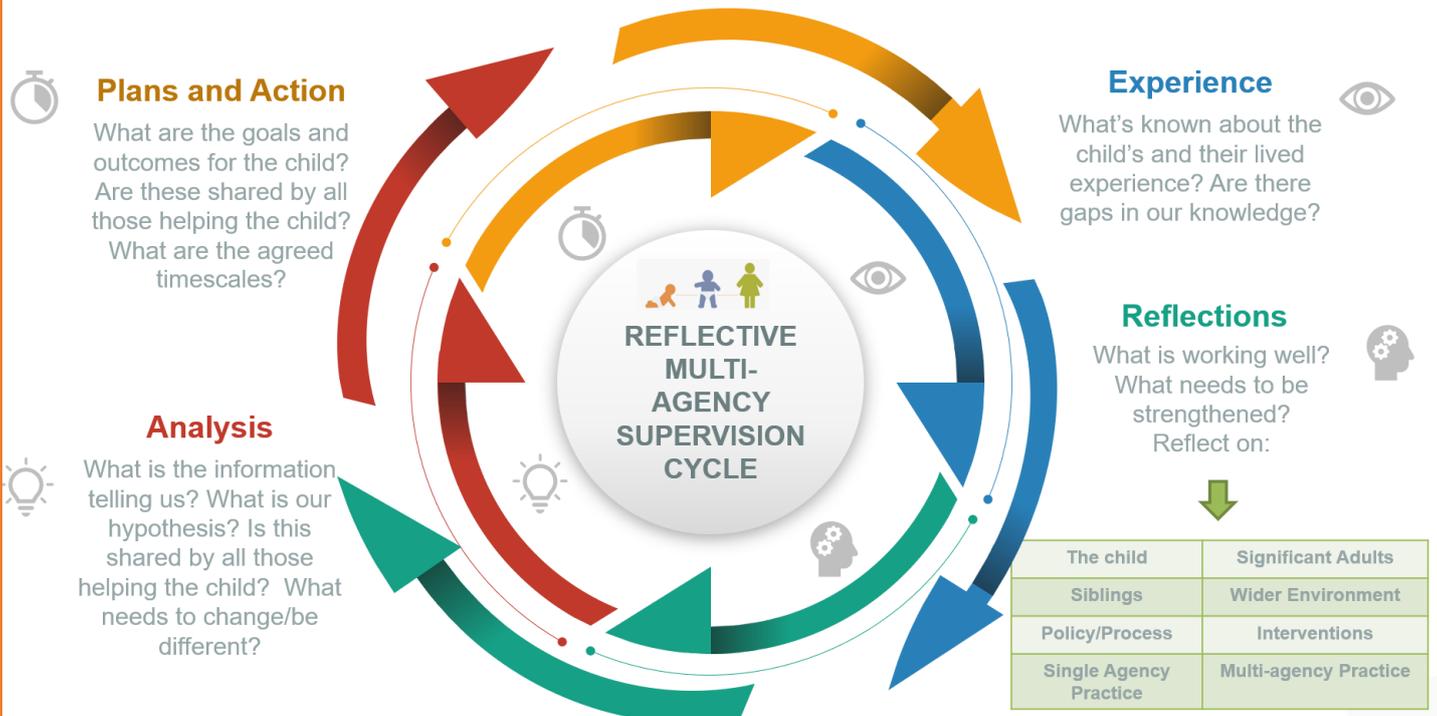
The role of the facilitator(s) is to: -

- Create a safe environment that promotes honest discussion and reflection
- Maintain neutrality throughout
- Ensure all attending have delegated authority and support their agency/organisation to agree plan and future action
- Support the group to ascertain what is known/not known about the child's lived experience; reflect on current areas of strength and concern; discuss hypotheses, identify where change may be needed, from whom (including practitioners) and the

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success measures as well as plan, allocate actions and set a review date. This is outlined in the model below

- Provide a summary of the session, confirm the agreed actions and share with all involved ([Appendix 4 – Multi-agency Supervision Session Summary](#))
- Ensure the learning and actions are inputted to the partnership learning log, identifying emerging or new learning for the statutory partners to consider



Attendees

The role of the attendees is to: -

- Complete a chronology of your service involvement to support the identification of key themes, patterns, strengths and areas of worry; the timescale can be flexible dependent on the unique circumstances of each child but will usually be no more than 12 months from the point of referral
- The lead profession should also provide a copy of the most recent assessment and multi-agency plan
- Be reflective and listen to the views of others
- Contribute to an open, safe discussion about current help and support and its impact
- Offer constructive challenge and creative solutions

Family Involvement

Prior to a request being made for a multi-agency group supervision and mapping, families will be made aware, and informed of the purpose. The child/family voice will be gained prior to the session and used to inform the discussion. Guidance on this is included in [Appendix 5 - Discussing Multi-agency Supervision with Children and their Families](#).

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Where any changes to the child/family plan are suggested, this will be shared with the child/family by an identified member of the multi professional group.

Evaluating Impact

Prior to the session, attendees will be asked to complete a pre-session evaluation, which includes their perceptions of successful outcomes. This will be repeated and enhanced in the post session evaluation ([Appendix 6 - Multi-agency Supervision Feedback Tool](#)) to test initial impact.

A follow-up interview will be held with the Lead Professional, the child (where appropriate) and their family six months after the session to evaluate the outcomes for the child and their family. As the model progresses, further evaluation opportunities will be built into its design, and will inform the future developments.

Confidentiality, Information Storage and Retention

The parameters around confidentiality of the information shared will replicate those of the respective agencies' current governance regarding confidentiality and the sharing of information across agencies for the purposes of safeguarding children and young people in accordance with Working Together 2023.

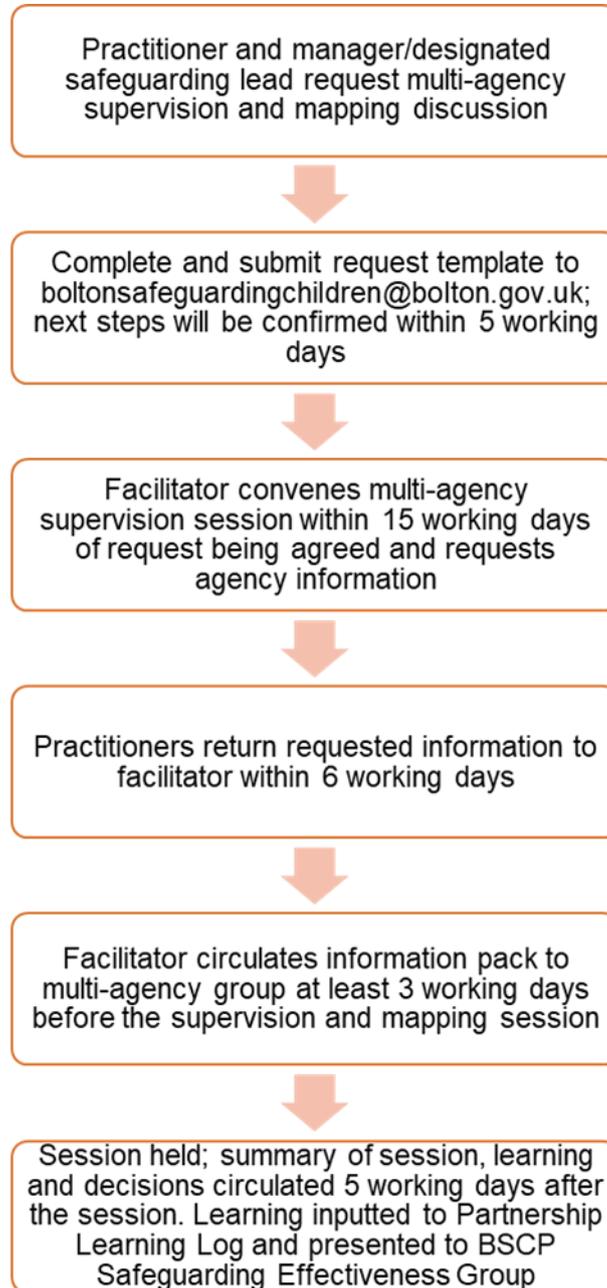
The statutory partners will maintain a tracker that summarises anonymous information about each multi-agency supervision facilitated, including the key learning points. This will be stored securely within the partnership folders, with access limited to the BSCP Business Manager and administrator. The information will be used to identify any emerging or recurrent themes that may strengthen or reduce the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements.

Individual organisations will need to determine how the supervision summary will be stored within their systems.

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Appendix 1

MULTI-AGENCY SUPERVISION AND MAPPING PROCESS FLOW CHART



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Appendix 2

Request Template - Multi-agency Supervision and Mapping Session

Who's Making the Request?

Date of Request	
Your name	
Your role	
Organisation	
Address	
Contact details	T
	E

Tell us about the Child and their Family

Child's surname					
Child's forename					
Also known as					
Home address					
Child's DOB					
Child's gender					
Ethnicity					
Disability (detail)					
Current level of need	Universal	Preventative	Early Help	Targeted Help	Statutory Help

Mother

Mother's name	
Mother's DOB	
Mother's address	
Ethnicity	
Disability (detail)	

Father

Father's name	
Father's DOB	
Father's address	
Ethnicity	
Disability (detail)	

Siblings

Sibling's name	
DOB	
Address	
Gender	
Ethnicity	
Disability (detail)	
Sibling's name	
DOB	
Address	
Gender	
Ethnicity	

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Disability (detail)	
Sibling's name	
DOB	
Address	
Gender	
Ethnicity	
Disability (detail)	

Is the Lead Professional aware a request has been made? If no	Yes	No	Not Applicable

Reason for Request

Use this section to outline why you think a multi-agency reflective supervision session is needed and how it could help.

Family Pen Picture: use this section to provide a descriptive portrait of the child and family as known to your service at the time of any involvement. Think about the family network and relationships, the strengths in the family and what supports the family to function well. You should also consider any pressures the family may have experienced that may have impacted on the child. This could include financial pressures, parental experiences of trauma, domestic abuse/violence, child abuse, neglect, loss, bereavement, alcohol or drug misuse, engagement and accessing support services, parental mental health, learning difficulty/disability/SEND, culture and diversity, belief systems

Who needs to be invited? This should include details of all practitioners working with the child and their family.

Agency	Name of Practitioner	Contact Details
Adult Social Care		
Children's Social Care		
Domestic Abuse Service		
Drugs/Alcohol Service - Adult		
Drugs/Alcohol Service - Child		
Early Years Setting		
Primary School		
Secondary School		
PRU/Alternative Provision		
Further Education		

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Housing		
GP		
Mental Health Service - Adults		
Mental Health Service - Children		
Midwife		
Health Visitor		
Schools Nurse		
Police		
Youth Offending Team		
Probation Service		
Youth Services		
Voluntary/Community		
Faith Group		
Other		
Please provide details of all other agencies		

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Appendix 3

List of Multi-agency Facilitators

(NB - this will be completed following the outcome of the pilot)

Name	Job Role and Organisation	Contact Details

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Appendix 4

Multi-agency Supervision and Mapping Session Discussion and Action Summary

Multi-agency Supervision and Mapping Session Discussion and Action Summary	
Meeting Identifier	
Meeting Date	
Facilitator	
Attendees	
Key Learning Points	
Agreed Actions	
Escalation Issues	
Escalated To	

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Appendix 5

Discussing Multi-agency Supervision with Children and their Families

All the people working with you and your family want to make sure they are working in the best way to support you. Your views are very important. We want to talk to you about multi-agency group supervision and listen to what you have to say. In particular, I want to: -

- Talk to you about the multi-agency group supervision
- Answer any questions you may have
- Ask you about your views, what you think is happening and why, as well as agree what will be shared from you to the multi-agency group
- Tell you when this is happening and what will happen next

We want to make sure you get the right help when you need it and where you need it. We want to learn how to make it better for your child and for your family. We think it will be helpful to have an independent supervision session, some time out to make sure this is happening.

A multi-agency group supervision does not replace any other meetings in place for your child(ren). It is about the people working with your family coming together to ensure that your child's needs are being met and that your child is safe and feels safe. We want to do this so that your child's plan can move forward.

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Appendix 6

Multi-agency Supervision Feedback Tool (this will be completed online)

Your name: -

Facilitator(s) name(s): -

Date of Multi-agency Supervision: -

Pre-session Views – please complete this three working days before the supervision session

How are you feeling about the impact and effectiveness of current multi-agency planning and interventions?

0 - not at all effective; 5 - very effective

1	2	3	4	5
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Why have you selected this score?

Post-Session Views - complete at the end of the supervision session

How are you feeling about the likely impact and effectiveness of multi-agency planning and interventions moving forward?

0 - not at all effective; 5 - very effective

1	2	3	4	5
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What worked well in today's supervision session?

What would have made today's supervision session better?

What learning points have you taken away?

Any additional feedback or learning points you would like to give the facilitators or to improve the effectiveness of the process?