

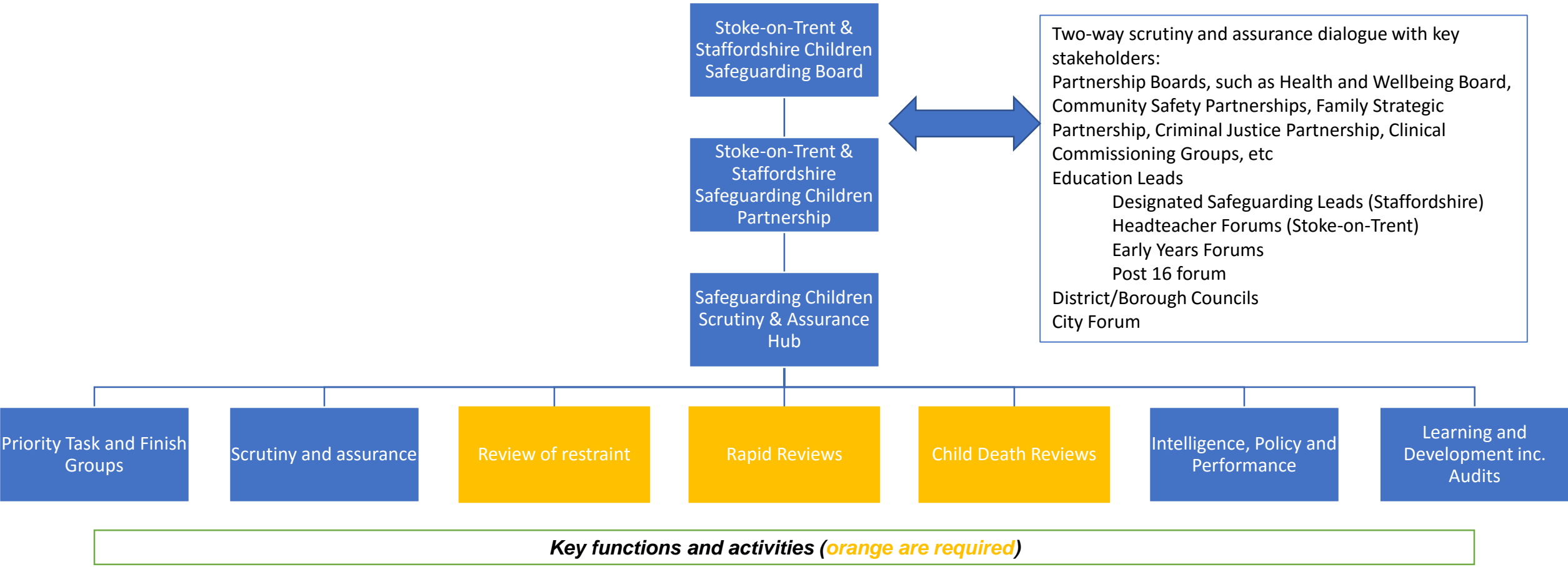
Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board

- Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) are being reviewed following the Wood Review, Children and Social Work Act 2017 and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.
- Presents an opportunity to design a partnership infrastructure that enables us to do the best for the children in Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire.
- Statutory Safeguarding Partners are:
 - ACC Jennifer Sims, Staffordshire Police
 - Heather Johnstone, Executive Director of Nursing and Quality, Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Clinical Commissioning Groups
 - Mark Barratt, Interim Director of Children and Family Services, Stoke-on-Trent City Council
 - Helen Riley, Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Families and Communities, Staffordshire County Council.

Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board

- Existing Local Safeguarding Children Boards ceased to operate on the 31 March 2019.
- The new Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board (SSSCB) published the new arrangements and commenced from 1 April 2019.
 - The Board will meet monthly during the implementation period and then quarterly thereafter. The Chair will change half yearly, first Chair being Heather Johnstone.
 - The Board will be supported by a Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership
 - The Board will interface with other key partnership boards in respect of safeguarding children to offer scrutiny and gain assurance of their effectiveness
 - There will be an interface between the new board arrangements and District/Borough/City multi-agency arrangements
 - Scrutiny and assurance of the Board will be delivered through a range of mechanisms and not through the recruitment of an Independent chair

New Structure



The Board have made the following key decisions:

- A Joint Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership will be set up to support the Safeguarding Board to deliver the priorities and plan:
 - This sub-group will be supported by a Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Scrutiny and Assurance Hub. The Hub will be staffed by the Local Safeguarding Children Board team and utilise other expertise as required.
 - Will meet monthly for the six months during the implementation period.
 - The group will be commissioned by the Board to co-ordinate a range of activities, including: Developing a Performance Framework; responding to emergent needs; deliver the transition plan etc)
 - To actively encourage the education sector as the 4th statutory partner
- A Joint Safeguarding Children Board team will support the new arrangements. The staffing structure will remain 'as is' during the transition period and will be reviewed during 2019/20 following the principles of form to follow function.

Agreed range of Independent Scrutiny Options

- Role of Lead Member for Children – to exercise their independence and democratically elected function to afford clarity and scrutiny for their citizens
- External Audits
- West Midlands Peer Review - Liaise with West Midlands partners to utilise the peer review network.
- Lay Member on the Board providing a ‘critical friend’
- Views of Front Line Practitioners, Children and Families utilising the established Voices of Children, Young People and Families forum.
- Feedback from Regulators and Inspections
- Engage national subject experts to conduct a review of priority areas
- Fully utilise the requirement of all partners to complete the Section 11 and Section 175 audits

Other Next Steps

- There will be transition period that will see a range of activity being commissioned, activities include:
 - The development of a logo and website for the joint Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board
 - Review of the existing multi-agency training offer
 - Conversations to ensure a review of the “new arrangements” is conducted in December 2019.
- Continue communications bulletins to keep the wider partnership updated on the transition arrangements.
- Further development of identified priorities of:
 - Children at risk of exploitation
 - Mature partnership working