

safeguarding



children

in Stockport

LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

C H I L D R E N ' S C O M P A C T

**This summary of the COMPACT is to be used for consultation
with children and young people.**

Based on Version 7 (September 2005)

Why do we need a COMPACT?

The government has asked lots of different people of all ages what is important for children and young people and what can make things better for them. As a result they have produced 5 outcomes that have now become law in the Children Act 2004.

The outcomes are:

- ☺ Be healthy
- ☺ Staying safe
- ☺ Enjoying and achieving (being happy and doing well at school/ college)
- ☺ Making a positive contribution (being a benefit to the community and having a say in what services are provided)
- ☺ Economic well-being (having a job and being able to stand on your own two feet)

You can find out more by going to the Every Child Matters web-site:

www.everychildmatters.gov.uk

What is the COMPACT?

The COMPACT is an agreement between all the organisations that work with, or provide services for, children and young people in Stockport. It says what they agree to do to make sure that Stockport is a safe place for all children and young people to live.

From April 2006, Stockport is required to have a LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (LSCB for short). The LSCB will take the lead for the 'Staying Safe' outcome.

The COMPACT describes the aim and the role of the LSCB and all its members. It says what they are expected to do and how they will be monitored to check that they are keeping to the agreement. It also says what money will be made available by the members to make sure the LSCB works properly.

What is meant by 'Staying Safe' and 'Safeguarding'?

'Staying Safe' includes lots of different areas.

Here are some examples to give you an idea of how big it is:

- ☺ Safety in the home.
- ☺ Safety on the roads.
- ☺ Being safe from bullying when you're away from home.

- ☺ Having less cars and less pollution.
- ☺ Making sure that staff are suitable to work with children.
- ☺ Making sure that children are safe from abuse.

You may be able to think of more examples.

'Safeguarding' is about the welfare of children and applies not only to children and young people but also to the adults who care for them or who work with them.

It includes:

- ☺ the **promotion** of welfare - giving everyone information about keeping children safe and involving them in consultation;
- ☺ providing services to ensure the **prevention** of harm to children, including getting involved at an earlier stage to stop children and young people having to live away from their families and communities; and
- ☺ where things are difficult providing services that ensure the **protection** of children from harm.

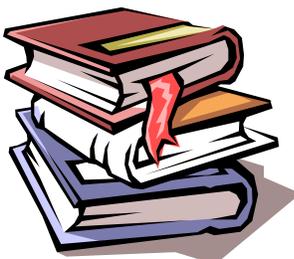
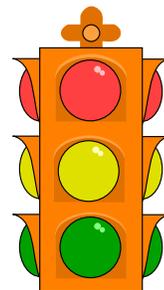
What have children and young people said about staying safe?

Stockport held its own consultations in November 2004 and February and March 2005. The sessions were run by Stockport Corporate Youth Strategy Team, Stockport Children's Fund Participation Officer, Stockport Play Development Team, GHK Consulting (as part of the evaluation of Stockport Children's Fund) and the 'Children-in-Need' pilot evaluation.

These are the themes identified by children and young people as priorities for Staying Safe:

Road Safety

- Better street lighting
- Improved school crossings
- Less cars and car pollution
- Traffic control
- More police in local areas
- Communicating with and respecting young people
- Better bus and taxi security

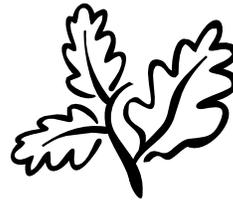


Safety at school

- Safer playgrounds
- No bullying and name-calling
- Monitoring of visitors in school (name badges not just visitors books)
- Less children dropping off children at school
- No vandalism

Environment

Safe areas for young people to meet
CCTV
Less pollution
Less litter
Better public toilets
Passive smoking
Drug dealing



At home

More alarms (fire, burglar, smoke)
Being looked after by someone responsible who knows what's right and what's wrong
Having a mum and dad to care for me and stick up for me
Having a great family that never gets mad
Listening to children

The LSCB have taken these suggestions into account when they have made their plan for work over the next three years.

How is the LSCB going to make these improvements?

The people who are members of the LSCB are senior people from all the organisations that work with children and young people or their parents or carers. There are representatives from the Council. These include people from the Children and Young Person's Directorate - including Children's Social Care (this is the new name for the children's part of Social Services), Head Teachers, the Youth Offending Team (YOT) and Leisure Services. There are people who work for the Health services- some from Stepping Hill Hospital and some from surgeries and clinics. There are others who work in the justice system - the Police, Probation, CAFCASS (the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service) and the Crown Prosecution Service and the Magistrate's court. There are also some people who represent voluntary organisations - Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) and the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC).

Each of these people will see what their organisation can do to make the improvements. They will tell the LSCB what they are going to do and then report back on their progress or any problems they may have.

For some things the LSCB will set up working groups to make sure a task is carried out. (Like the group that has written the Children's Compact).

The LSCB will produce an annual report that says what they have achieved. This will include asking children and young people what they think has got better and what still needs to be done.

What happens next?

This document is to let you know how the LSCB is planning to work and for you to let us know if you think we've missed anything out. It's also to give you some feedback from the 'Staying safe ' consultation.

So, please fill in the attached feedback sheet and let us know what you think.



If you need to post the feedback then send it to:

Eve Skinner
LSCB Administrator,
Sanderling Building,
Bird Hall Lane,
Cheadle Heath,
STOCKPORT.

THANK YOU

CHILDREN'S COMPACT

Young Person's Consultation Feedback

Did you find the COMPACT easy to understand?
Do we need to make any changes to make it better?



What do you think should be the priorities for the LSCB?



How do you think the LSCB can promote 'safety' with children and young people?



Any other comments

