



## Levels of Need (Thresholds) Guidance - updated June 2017

1. Regulation 5 of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards Regulations 2006 sets out the functions of the Local Safeguarding Children Board. One of those statutory functions is the development of policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area of the authority, including policies and procedures in relation to:

***'the action to be taken when there are concerns about a child's safety or welfare, including thresholds for intervention'.***

2. The Levels of Need (Thresholds) guidance is the document in Worcestershire which sets out for practitioners what the response looks like for children and young people who have different needs and, in particular, the threshold for making a referral to Children's Social Care for a statutory intervention because the child is 'in need' as defined by the Children Act 1989.

3. The Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) has approved a new version of the Levels of Need (Thresholds) guidance (June 2017) which has replaced the October 2016 document. ***Please note that this is an interim document which reflects the current position in Worcestershire. It will be reviewed again when the new Early Help Strategy has been agreed in the Autumn.***

4. The Levels of Need (Thresholds) guidance is located on the Board's website at: [http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/file/7962/levels\\_of\\_need\\_guidance\\_formerly\\_threshold\\_guidance](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/file/7962/levels_of_need_guidance_formerly_threshold_guidance) and in the Worcestershire section of the regional safeguarding children procedures located [here](#) (you will need to select Worcestershire from the drop down list)

Please ask your staff to access the document directly from one of the links above to ensure that they are accessing the most up to date version.

5. A series of WSCB learning events will be held during October and November 2017 where information will be provided about any further changes to the Levels of Need (Thresholds) guidance. Information about these events will be circulated via safeguarding leads.