



Sarnia Police Services Board Policy

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Approved By: Board Chair	Signature: <i>Paul Wiersma</i>

A Legislative/Regulatory Requirements

Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1, provides that a Board shall provide adequate and effective policing in the area for which it has policing responsibility as required by **Section 10 and 11 (1)** of the **CSPA**.

Subsection 38 (2) of the **CSPA** provides that a Police Service Board may establish policies respecting matters related to the Police Service or the provision of policing.

O. Reg. 392/23: Adequacy and Effective Policing (General) prescribes standards for adequacy and effectiveness of police services.

The **Child and Family Services Act (CFSA)** mandates that the paramount purpose of any child abuse and neglect investigation is to promote the best interests, protection and well-being of the child.

B Policy Statement

1. The Sarnia Police Service Board recognizes that matters of child abuse and neglect are serious in nature, and it is therefore the policy of this Board that investigations into such matters be conducted professionally and thoroughly, and in accordance with procedures established by the Chief of Police.

C Board Policy

1. It is the policy of the Sarnia Police Services Board with respect to child abuse and neglect investigations that the Chief of Police shall:
 - (a) In partnership with the local Crown, Children's Aid Societies, municipalities, school boards and other appropriate service providers, including hospital staff, work to establish a committee to develop a local strategy to prevent, and respond to complaints of, child abuse and neglect;
 - (b) Develop and maintain procedures on and processes for undertaking and managing child abuse and neglect investigations;
 - (c) Enter into a child abuse protocol with local Children's Aid Societies with respect to investigations into complaints of child abuse and neglect, and the sudden unexpected death of any child; and
 - (d) Ensure that members involved in the investigations of child abuse and neglect have the requisite knowledge, skills and abilities required; and
 - (e) If the alleged child abuse fits the definition of a major case, require officers to comply with the procedures set out by the Ministry.
2. The Chief shall make a written report to the Board on or before August 30th of each year in respect of investigations into child abuse and neglect. The report shall include:
 - (a) A summary of the written procedures concerning investigations into child abuse and neglect;
 - (b) Confirmation that the procedures and protocol are being complied with; and
 - (c) A summary of the training given to members regarding investigations into child abuse and neglect.
3. The Chief shall ensure that a proposed protocol is presented to the Board for review and approval.