Peterborough Police Service Board

Policy
Child Abuse and Neglect
2026-LE-050

Contents

1.0 Authority
2.0 Definitions
3.0 Board Policy
4.0 Direction to the Chief
5.0 Report to the Board
6.0 Implementation

1.0 Authority

1.1 Subsection 37(1) of the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1, ("CSPA") provides that a Board shall provide adequate and effective policing in the area for which it has policing responsibility as required by section 10 of the CSPA;

1.2 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;

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

1.4 The Board deems it appropriate that the Chief of Police develops and maintains procedures on and processes for undertaking and managing investigations into child abuse and neglect.

NOW THEREFORE THE PETERBOROUGH POLICE SERVICE BOARD APPROVES AND ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING:

2.0 Definitions

In this Policy:

2.1 **"Act" or "CSPA"** means the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1,* as amended;

2.2 **"Board"** means the Peterborough Police Service Board;

2.3 **"Chief"** means the Chief of the Peterborough Police Service;

2.4 **"Member"** means a member of the Peterborough Police Service;

2.5 **"Service"** means the Peterborough Police Service.

3.0 Board Policy

3.1 The 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 as directed in this Policy.

4.0 Direction to the Chief

4.1 **Procedures**

4.1.1 The Chief shall develop and maintain procedures for undertaking and managing investigations into child abuse and neglect.

4.1.2 The Chief shall ensure that the procedures referred to in section 4.1 above include a clear delineation of duties and responsibilities for all Members who come into contact with victims of child abuse and neglect.

4.2 **Protocol**

4.2.1 The Chief shall use best efforts to ensure that the police service enters into a child abuse protocol with Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Aid Society and the Regional Crown Attorney with respect to investigations into complaints of child abuse and neglect and the sudden unexpected death of any child.

4.2.2 The Chief shall ensure that the protocol referred to in section 4.2.1 is reviewed on an annual basis by the Service and shall use best efforts to ensure that other parties to the protocol conduct a similar review.

4.3 **Training**

4.3.1 The Chief shall ensure that Members involved in the investigations of child abuse and neglect have the requisite knowledge, skills and abilities required.

5.0 Report to the Board

5.1 The Chief shall report to the Board on the Service's implementation of this Policy as follows:

5.1.1 In response to questions from the Board regarding Service procedures developed pursuant to the policy, either verbally at a meeting when the question is asked, or in writing at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, as directed by the Board; and

5.1.2 Within thirty days of the Chief becoming aware of a breach of Service procedures developed pursuant to this policy that the Chief in his sole discretion determines to be a significant breach that is likely to result in liability for or reputational damage to the Board or the Service, the Chief shall:

a) report to the Board verbally regarding the matter at its next regularly scheduled meeting;

b) provide periodic verbal updates as directed by the Board at subsequent meetings pending completion of internal and external proceedings regarding the matter; and

c) after the conclusion of all internal and external proceedings regarding the matter, provide a written report to the Board explaining:

i) the breach;

ii) the circumstances surrounding the breach;

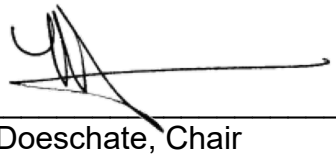
iii) the Chief's liability or reputational concerns; and

iv) the corrective measures taken, including amendments to the procedure to guard against future breaches.

6.0 Implementation

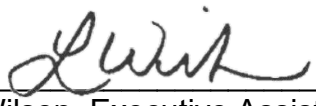
6.1 That the Board approves and adopts this Policy #2026-LE-050 Child Abuse and Neglect which shall come into force on October 21, 2026.

6.2 That Policy #LE-027 Child Abuse and Neglect, enacted on October 20, 2014, is hereby repealed effective October 21, 2026.



Mary ten Doeschate, Chair
Peterborough Police Service Board

October 20, 2026
Date



Lisa Wilson, Executive Assistant
Peterborough Police Service Board

October 20, 2026
Date