



Department
for Education

ISAG October Meeting Update

ISAG held its **second virtual meeting on 28 October 2025**, chaired by **Adrian Loades** (National Safeguarding Partner Multi-Agency Facilitator). The group will meet monthly for 12 months to drive forward its strategic priorities.

Agenda discussed:

- **Terms of Reference:** Members agreed to the updated terms and member list to be published on gov.uk.
- **Independent Scrutiny Project Survey Results:** The Department for Education presented early findings from a national survey exploring independent scrutiny practices.
- **Independent Scrutiny Project Interview Themes Discussion:** Members discussed key themes to guide upcoming interviews, focusing on the roles and impact of scrutineers, how scrutiny priorities are determined, and the methods and outputs used in their work. They also considered engagement with children and young people, diversity within scrutiny roles, and the involvement of lay members. A detailed addendum was provided to support the process, containing 37 questions to shape the interviews.
- **December Meeting Planning:** The group agreed to cancel the December meeting due to scheduling constraints. The January meeting will go ahead as planned, and the overall meeting schedule will be extended to continue through September 2026.

We welcome input from across the sector. Please contact:
Safeguarding.REFORM@education.gov.uk to share your insights or ask questions.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 25 November 2025 at 11:30 AM BST

© Crown copyright 2025