



North Yorkshire

Safeguarding Children Partnership

North Yorkshire Safeguarding
Children Partnership (NYSCP)
Annual Report
2021-2022

Enter

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Statutory Safeguarding Partner Statements

With the backdrop of emerging from the pandemic, front line colleagues across the County have shown remarkable ability in adapting their responses to meet the challenges created by it, and for this I am very proud and thankful to them. I want to thank everyone who continues to go above and beyond to make North Yorkshire a great place for children.

The Safeguarding Children's Partnership has demonstrated its ability to respond and to be creative in providing leadership through this difficult time. Our ability to safeguard children and support vulnerable families has continued, and moreover, we were able to progress our priorities and strengthen the coordination and efficacy of services.

I remain grateful to all of our partners and their dedicated front line staff for their support and steadfast commitment to the wellbeing all of our children.

I have been immensely proud to have undertaken the role of statutory partner for North Yorkshire Police over the last 12 months, working closely with dedicated and committed colleagues from a range of agencies.

The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership has continued to work collaboratively and collegiately, constantly delivering on the challenges we have faced, which has not been easy in post pandemic conditions. Our teams have worked relentlessly to keep children safe, and It has been clear to me that the welfare of children and effective safeguarding has been at the very heart of everything we have done.

The safeguarding of children is an area that has, and continues to, receive significant public scrutiny both locally and nationally. The expertise, support and appropriate challenge offered by the partnership as North Yorkshire Police responded to the recommendations from the recent HMICFRS National Child Protection Inspection has been gratefully received. This approach is testament to the strength of the partnership, and the relationships between key stakeholders. Despite the challenges that will undoubtedly continue, and the planned changes in key personnel over the next 12 months, I am confident that the partnership will continue to deliver effectively and I wish them the best of luck.



Stuart Carlton
Director of Children Services,
NYCC (North Yorkshire County Council)



Lindsey Butterfield
T/ACC Local Policing & Safeguarding

As the country has emerged from restrictions and challenges imposed by the COVID pandemic, the NYSCP has continued to respond dynamically to the needs of children and families who have been negatively impacted in various ways. Whether this has been helping children and young people to manage their emotional and mental health, strengthening multi-agency responses to child exploitation, or taking forward lessons learned from local and national reviews – the strong partnership working has been timely and effective.

With much change anticipated across the three statutory partners - health, police and the local authority - the need to maintain those strong partnership relationships will be even more critical if we are to keep a relentless focus on the safety and welfare of our children across North Yorkshire. The CCGs have now been replaced by the new Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board, which will assume statutory safeguarding responsibilities previously held by the CCG, and will be committed to continuing the excellent work of the Partnership.



Sue Peckitt

Chief Nurse, Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (formerly the North Yorkshire Clinical Commissioning Group or CCG)

Independent Scrutiny Statement

I am both independent chair of the Executive of NYSCP and its Independent Scrutineer. In the scrutiny element of my role I am bound by the requirements of the Children and Families Act 2017 alongside Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, to give a formal Statement of Assurance regarding the fitness for purpose of the NYSCP, and the degree to which it complies with those legislative or statutory guidance requirements.

In the 2021-2022 financial year I convened and chaired four Executive meetings. I have been a Participant Observer at meetings of all the subgroups whose reports follow. I keep the statutory Director of Children and Young Peoples Services and other leading officials in partner bodies aware of what I find as I undertake Scrutiny. I also co-lead two Development Days a year at which partners report, reflect, and take learning away into their own organisations and the partnership’s Executive or subgroups.

Based on my work described above, and from the extensive and detailed reading and analysis I have done and continue to do on issues in and around North Yorkshire, I now present my formal assurance that NYSCP complies with the legal requirements placed on Local Safeguarding Children Partnerships. I also confirm that all concerned are aware that the improvements and striving for excellence in which they are all engaged are never “finished” or perfect but are continuous.

The Executive oversees strategy, sets direction, and holds both commissioners and providers to account. It also scrutinises, plans for and evaluates how well agencies work in partnership. Its agendas cover an annual cycle within which all services and initiatives are reviewed, questioned and held to account. NYSCP’s work encompasses the policy and practice previously overseen by both the Children’s Trust and the NYSCP’s predecessor body the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board (NYSCB.) It does so through its oversight of the ambitions and intentions in “Being Young in North Yorkshire” which

covers all aspects of childhood and youth.

The NYSCP then has a number of subgroups which focus on particular aspects of its work. The scrutiny element of my work revolves around my attending, observing and presenting assurance on their quality and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 compliance. These groups are:

- Multi Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) and Contextual Safeguarding. The work is driven at a strategic level by an overarching countywide group, picked up operationally in each of the seven current second-tier council areas. The MACE groups’ structures and ways of working are currently under review, based on what has been learned so far and shaping the work for the future.
- A Local Safeguarding Practice Review Group (LSPRG) ensuring serious and challenging themes are tackled by systematic formal reviews which then feed into professional practice, training, reflection and ever stronger assurance of quality
- A Practice Development Subgroup (PDS) which brings together those who can drive practice through in their own organisations as a result of learning drawn not only from the LSPRG’s work and recommendations but from wider sources in research, or the work of national regional or local bodies
- A Learning and Improvement Subgroup (LIS) which both helps to drive learning and the NYSCP’s offer of training, briefing, web materials and other initiatives, but also gives a sound setting in which the county’s schools and other educational settings can find means of ensuring their contributions to fulfilling “Being Young in North Yorkshire” are both grounded, and seen by the wider partnership.

Also feeding into NYSCP are district based Local Safeguarding Partnerships (LSPs) which bring together agendas on children's and adults' safeguarding, and issues of community safety. North Yorkshire shares the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) and the Child Death Review Panel (CDRP) and Section 11 Audit activity with its neighbouring Unitary Authority the City of York Council. This work across boundaries creates efficiencies, given York and North Yorkshire share commissioning and provision of services by public sector agencies other than those within local government, and by voluntary sector bodies.

The report that follows has been approved by staff in leadership positions in NYSCP's Statutory Partner bodies. They lead a Partnership of equals focusing on wellbeing and safeguarding, from early interventions by universal services, through ever more specialised and sometimes statutory provision.

The three statutory partners are:

- North Yorkshire County Council,
- North Yorkshire Police Service, and
- Humber and North Yorkshire, Integrated Care Board, inheriting the work of the county's previous CCGs.

The NYSCP also relies on joint working across a large number and wide range of Relevant Agencies in District Council and community bodies, physical and mental health service providers, education at every level, housing, the early years sector, voluntary and community bodies, and children and young people themselves. The NYSCP also maintains links with and takes assurance from the county's Safeguarding Adults Board, the Domestic Abuse and Violence Partnership, the North Yorkshire Office of the Fire Police and Crime Commissioner, and other relevant bodies whose work supports the families and communities in which North Yorkshire's children and young people live and learn.

The Report is supported by data where it is available, so that all content bears weight and authenticity, and so that trends are reported on, issues are explained, and plans for future activity are explored from a data informed basis.

The report also reports on progress in:

- how well the youngest children and young people and their families are supported and nurtured to provide the best possible start in life;
- services for and trends in children's and young people's physical and mental or emotional health and wellbeing and how well services are commissioned and provided;
- what happens when a child or family needs an early, preventive offer of additional help or support, whether from social care, special education or other services;
- interventions that seek to help families to halt declines in wellbeing caused of physical, emotional or developmental neglect, domestic abuse or violence, or any form of exploitation;
- what happens if stronger, more directive safeguarding needs to happen with a family in the best interests of the children concerned including if they must be removed from their families and placed in care, and
- how services respond if a child or family is in conflict with the law, or has to deal with a range of extraordinary challenges, palpable dangers, or tragedy.



In the latter groups, interventions are often multi-agency and may be statutory. They are always aimed at restoring, or maintaining and assuring, the safety and wellbeing of children, their families and communities.

2021-2022 financial year passed as North Yorkshire entered the recovery and refresh stages of dealing with the effect of unprecedented challenges, triumphs and griefs of the COVID 19 pandemic. Though this report is published after the end of the 2021-2022 financial year and the worst effects of COVID 19, the after-effects are still with us. This means many of the pages that follow account for services' and partners' responses to the legacy of the worst effects of COVID 19. Ongoing wariness surrounds issues such as "all-in" returns to shared office or meeting spaces, and a need to continue to work flexibly wherever possible.

There is a great deal of pragmatism about not wishing to lose all that was learned about partnership working, inter-agency cooperation and flexibility during the worst days of the pandemic, and a determination to create a new, not trying to return to an old, normality. The after-effects of COVID 19 also continue in how well organisations and their staff continue to recover both pace and capacity. All agencies remain actively engaged in responding to safeguarding challenges that face staff and clients given that COVID 19 has in fact not gone away, and Long COVID remains a challenge for some, whatever their age or previous health status. All partners are determined not to lose gains made by working in partnership as a matter of course, rather than in separated bodies that sometimes cooperated as might have happened before March 2020.

Whilst patterns of demand on services have changed to some degree, where client groups' needs have become obvious again following the end of lockdowns, services are aware of their need to continue to adapt. The expectation is that demand for services, already rising and not always supported by additional resources, will continue to rise, exacerbated by a "long tail" of equally un-resourced work that could not be or was only minimally done during the pandemic.

As this report is completed, the effects of long-term exhaustion in staff at the end of their energy reserves is still palpable. It may be a feature of services, presenting particular challenges that go on through 2022-2023, not least also given the growing economic and financial challenges facing both services and their client groups. This Annual Report captures ongoing high quality services and practice improvement, including where inspection bodies have reviewed particular services to vulnerable children and young people. However, this is set against considerable odds and stretched financial, physical and human resources across agencies.



Dr Maggie Atkinson

Independent Scrutineer and Chair of NYSCP (North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership) Executive

Our priorities for 2021 / 2022

In 2021 we launched the NYSCP Being Young in North Yorkshire (BYINNY) strategy 2021 - 2024. As a partnership we recognise the diversity across North Yorkshire and how important it is to harness this when agreeing our delivery plans. We wanted to articulate our vision and provide a collective focus for the next three years with the flexibility to add and amend our delivery plans to reflect the ever-changing landscape.

Our children and young people are our future, we want them to thrive in North Yorkshire and achieve the best possible outcomes they can. The BYINNY strategy sets out our vision which is shaped by the feedback from children and young people living in North Yorkshire and sets out our four key themes of children and young people having:

- a safe life
- a happy family life
- a healthy life, and
- achieving in life



Key areas of progress against our four themes:

Theme One A safe life

- At the end of quarter 4 there were 440 Child Protection Plans (37.4 per 10k) and 427 Children in Care (36.4 per 10k).
- Fewer contacts screened by MAST (Multi Agency Screening Team) – reduction of 14% since 2018/19
- 1,357 external Early Help Assessments completed in the three terms of 2021
- Reduction in Children in Care from 443 in 2019/20 to 427 in 2020/21
- Just 1 custodial sentence for a young person in 2021, down from 27 in 2018
- 42% reduction in First Time Entrants to Youth Justice compared to 2017
- 380 referrals to Children's Social Care per 10k – compared to 494 nationally.
- All frontline Children & Families Staff are trained in Family Finding

Theme Two A happy family life

- 75% of Children in Care live with an NYCC Foster Carer
- No new Independent Agency placements have been committed to since the strategy
- 206 children and young people supported through the Family Finding Partnership
- Approached 1,000 young people through the Family Finding Partnership
- 1,209 individuals have registered for courses through the Solihull Parenting Programme
- 64.7% of Care Leavers are living in suitable accommodation
- 2,221 children and young people participated in the Holiday Activities and Food Programme over the Christmas Break
- 77% of Care Leavers met their Educational Needs goals in 2021/22, up from 62.9% in 2020/21

Theme Three A healthy life

- Routine childhood immunisation rates in North Yorkshire are generally above the national average, but slightly below the target coverage values, which for most vaccines is 95%.
- In North Yorkshire for 11/18 vaccines coverage is rated Amber, (for most vaccines Amber represents 90-95% coverage). For 4/18 vaccines North Yorkshire coverage is rated Green and for 3/18 vaccines, coverage is rated Red.
- Since October 2019, 253 (64% of the 369 School in North Yorkshire) have signed up to take part in our Health Schools Award.
- 57 Early Years Settings have signed up for the Healthy Schools Award since the launch in November 2021.
- The proportion of 5-year-olds experiencing tooth decay in North Yorkshire (20%) is lower than the national average (23.4%) and Yorkshire & Humber Average (28.7%). North Yorkshire has a flexible commissioning arrangements for dental care which supports children and young people with known vulnerabilities.
- 9% increase in the number of presentations at Accident and Emergency Departments
- 8% increase in the number of inpatient admissions for children

Theme Four Achieving in Life

- Return to a more expected trend in children becoming Electively Home Educated. In 2021/22 the number of EHE pupils increased by 5.7%, compared to 21% the previous year.
- During 2021/22 academic year to date, 4,096 suspensions have been received by 1,695 pupils, over 1,000 fewer suspensions than over the same period 2018/19 down from 6,358 suspension
- 4.7% of Year 12 and 13 young people are not in education, employment or training (NEET) or unknown, down from 8.1% in 2019/20.
- 64.4% of Care Leavers are in employment, education or training

The Full strategy can be read here: [82425-Being-Young-in-North-Yorkshire-Amendments_V2_Screen-Version.pdf \(safeguardingchildren.co.uk\)](#)

BYINNY has an extensive action plan that seeks to gain assurances from a variety of meeting structures, groups and wider partnerships to fulfil our ambition. In 2021/2022 it was recognised through working with our relevant agencies and most importantly children and young people themselves we identified three overarching areas of focus which underpin both the work we do as individual organisations and collectively, these are:

Social, Emotional Mental Health

Achievements in 2021/2022 include:

- Re launched the [NYSCP Self Harm and Suicide Ideation Pathway](#). The purpose of the pathway is to improve the referral processes, and the coordination of information, advice, support and treatment that is provided to children and young people who self-harm and/or experience suicidal ideation.
- Joint commissioning of Compass between Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Local Authority (LA) using Section 75 arrangement and sub-contract via specialist Child and Adolescence Mental Health Service.
- Re-established strategic and operational partnerships across North Yorkshire
- North Yorkshire County Council's Section 75 partnership agreement with Harrogate District NHS Foundation Trust to deliver the 0- 19 service, prioritising Emotional Health and Resilience Service for 6-19 year olds
- Supported Mental Health Summit - Senior Leaders from CCG, LA, Tees Esk and Wear Valley and Voluntary sector met in Feb 2022 and committed to the development of a system wide service transformation in response to the identified increased demand and pressures.
- Supported the commissioning of an Independent Scoping Project to review demand, capacity and pressures on Children's Mental Health. Report to be completed by April 22 and will feed into the summit work.
- Enhanced [The Go-To website](#), a directory of local children and young people wellbeing and mental health services in North Yorkshire

Online Safety / Abuse

Achievements in 2021/2022 include:

- We have enhanced our public facing material with service user input
 - Children and young people's [Staying Safe Online](#)
 - Parent and Carer [Reporting Images Online](#)
- In partnership with Marie Collins Foundation (MCF) we have worked with the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime commissioner, North Yorkshire Police, and other safeguarding leads to support the role out of Marie Collins Foundation E-learning Click Path to Protection equipping staff with the skills to manage increasing numbers of incidents of online harm for children
- Professionals in North Yorkshire are being upskilled in responding to a child harmed through Technology Assisted Child Sexual abuse (TACSA).
- Parents having access to material will help them respond to, what for most parents is, devastating news. The addition of the resource for parents on finding out about their child being sexually abused came about after workshop arranged with school police officers.
- The need for messages aimed at children to come from other children was achieved through working in partnership with North Yorkshire Police Cadets.

Child Exploitation and Contextual Safeguarding

Achievements in 2021/2022 include:

- We have continued to listen to the voices of children, young people, parents, carers and our communities and consulted with them to develop a series of resources to raise awareness through our Be Aware website.
- We have also made a commitment to use non-victim blaming language across our partnership that seeks to empower children, young people, parents and carers, and now have a toolkit for professionals to support with this, available on our Be Aware website.
- In January 2022, NYSCP undertook an evaluation of our MACE arrangements by facilitating a series of 7 workshops across North Yorkshire with those who attend the MACE Level 2 Locality meetings. Partners outlined significant strengths in partnership attendance, information sharing, developing key relationships with other agencies within that locality area and valued the sharing of themes and trends around exploitation across the MACE areas. Meetings held on a virtual platform brought significant savings of time and cost of travel, but didn't hamper the value of the meeting. The feedback has also been used to help shape our multi-agency plans around areas for development including disruption planning, partnership information sharing with the Police and multi-agency training across this complex, every changing landscape.
- We have run awareness campaigns including Child Exploitation Awareness Day in March 2021 and 2022
- We have also delivered direct work within our communities to raise awareness with children and young people. Raising awareness and empowering parents as safeguarding partners is also fundamental to our work in this field.
- NYCC and City of York have worked with the Home Office to be one of ten sites to pilot the devolved decision making for the National Referral Mechanism. The panel enables decisions to be made about whether a child may have been subject to modern slavery and human trafficking to be made locally by professionals who know the child.



Demographics of North Yorkshire

North Yorkshire is the biggest geographical county in England at 803,761 hectares (approximately 3,100 square miles). Although the county is large, it is sparsely populated with approximately 620,610 residents (ONS population estimate) based in a variety of urban and rural communities. North Yorkshire stretches across the country from the North Sea coast to within 12 miles of Morecambe Bay, and from south of the M62 to the edge of Teesside. In 2023 North Yorkshire will become a unitary council know as North Yorkshire Council and will be a merger of the existing county and district/borough councils.

Children growing up in the county enjoy the beautiful countryside although many children and young people also grow up in the many market towns and smaller communities within the county. Due to the sparse nature of most of the county, children and young people can feel isolated due to the long distances they have to travel to meet friends or use amenities.

- 803,761 hectares
- 3,103 miles
- 620,610 residents
- 2 NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups
- 7 District Councils
- North Yorkshire Police
- Schools (table)

	Nursery	Primary	Secondary	Special	PRU	Grand Total
Community	3	91	14	7	4	119
Foundation		1				1
Free		2				2
Voluntary Aided		23	1			24
Voluntary Controlled		86				86
Total	3	203	15	7	4	232
Converter Academy		79	19	2	1	101
Sponsored Academy		20	8	1		29
UTC			1			1
Total	0	99	28	3	1	131
Grand Total	3	302	43	10	5	363

What is North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership?

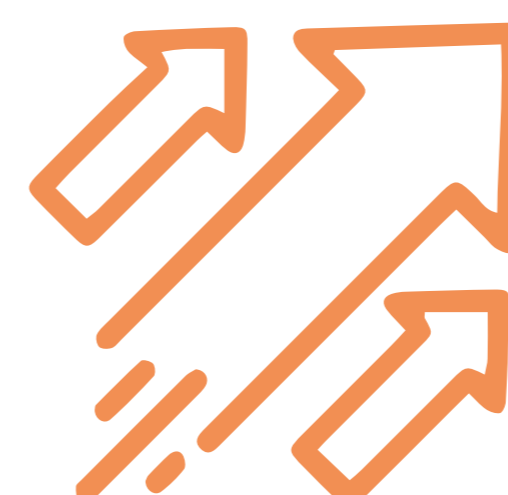
This arrangements document sets out the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements for North Yorkshire, established in accordance with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018).

The three safeguarding partners who are responsible for the local Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements in North Yorkshire are North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC), the Integrated Care Board (formerly the Clinical Commissioning Group or CCG) and North Yorkshire Police (NYP). [NYSCP-MASA.pdf \(safeguardingchildren.co.uk\)](#)



North Yorkshire
Safeguarding Children Partnership

Arrangements for the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership



NYSCP Partnership Achievement Awards

The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership showcasing the multi-agency work between the county council, police and NHS in safeguarding vulnerable children and their families.

The Partnership Achievement Awards are given to individuals or groups working or volunteering with children and young people.

Awards have recently been presented to the following professionals:

- Jess Ward, the CEO and Founder of Inspire Youth, who supported the Be Aware consultation sessions which aimed to keep young people safe from exploitation.
- Helen Lavender, Schools Liaison Police Officer across Hambleton and Richmondshire, whose support for young people ensures their risk of entering the Criminal Justice System is reduced by recognising early indicators and introducing a support plan.
- The Hambleton family assessment support team which uses local networks to support the most vulnerable families and children at risk of harm.
- Karen Hedgley, Designated Safeguarding Nurse, who has been instrumental in developing the Day or Night, Sleep Right campaign to reduce the number of sudden unexpected deaths in infancy.
- PC Antony Kent of the Police Community Safety Hub in Richmondshire, who is involved in the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) team.

Stuart Carlton, North Yorkshire County Council's Corporate Director of the Children and Young People's Service, said: "I would like to say a huge congratulations to the winners who have demonstrated innovative ways to keep our most vulnerable children and families safe from harm. These awards are organised by the partnership to highlight the best safeguarding practices and help to drive up standards across the county."

Lindsey Butterfield, Temporary Assistant Chief Constable in North Yorkshire Police, said: "It's fantastic to see the work of North Yorkshire Police officers being recognised by the partnership. I'm incredibly proud of the achievements of Antony and Helen and thank them for their hard work and dedication in safeguarding the most vulnerable in our communities."

Elaine Wylie, Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children in North Yorkshire and York, said: "Promoting the welfare and safety of all children is an exceptionally challenging area of professional practice, requiring commitment, resilience, skill and creative thinking. It is great to see all of these competencies demonstrated by the worthy recipients of these awards, and to recognise the difference they have all made to the lives of children and young people, and to multi-agency working across North Yorkshire."

NYSCP is looking for nominations for future achievement awards and more information about how you can nominate individuals, teams or services can be found at www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/partnership-award



Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group

North Yorkshire County Council is duty-bound to notify the National Panel Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel (CSPRP), and by extension the Department for Education and OFSTED, if it knows or suspects a child dies or is seriously harmed, and abuse and neglect is known or suspected. The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Practice Review Group (SPRG) carries out reviews of the cases that are notified to CSPRP and of other safeguarding cases where there has been multiagency involvement which could support learning.

Within North Yorkshire we have undertaken the following:

Number of notifications made to the CSPRP in 2021/22	1
Number of Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPR) awaiting publication (due to ongoing Police investigations)	3
Number of Serious Case Reviews (SCR) Outstanding from the Local Safeguarding Children Board (due to ongoing investigations)	1
Number of cases notified to North Yorkshire Safeguarding Practice Review Group (SPRG) in 2021/2022 by partners for consideration	5
Of the 5 cases notified to SPRG 2021/2022 for consideration, which have been reviewed locally for learning	4

For each LCSPR and SCR detailed action plans have been commenced created and actions undertaken to address the identified need. This is monitored quarterly within the NYSCP Learning and Improvement Subgroup and regular reports on progress to the NYSCP Executive. It is the view of the NYSCP Executive that these reports will not be publicly published until all due processes are concluded to ensure there is no influence to statutory investigations.

Practice Development Subgroup

The Practice Development Subgroup seeks to assure and contribute to the development of child safeguarding practice in line with National and the current NYSCP BYINY Strategy. This is achieved by providing healthy challenge and holding professionals to account with respect to safeguarding children practice.

During 2021/22 the subgroup has:

- Undertaken a Hidden Harm campaign
- Launch of the Threshold Guide and Early Help Events
- Launched the Day Night Sleep Right safe sleep campaign
- Planned and delivered Safeguarding Week 2022 activity
- Received feedback from frontline practice to support strategic developments

Priorities for 2022 – 2023

- Seek to develop the way feedback from frontline practice shapes the work of the sub group
- Consider how the NYSCP Website can be developed to support the broader focus on the BYINY priorities

The NYSCP maintains the multi-agency safeguarding procedures for North Yorkshire and provides practice guidance and one minute guides (OMG) for professionals. The NYSCP procedures, practice guidance and one minute guides can be found at:

- www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/procedures-practice-guidance-and-one-minute-guides

Practice guidance and one minute guides developed or updated in 2021/2022 includes:

- [Child Protection Medical Assessments](#)
- [Concealed, Denied or Late Presentation of Pregnancy](#)
- [Framework for decision-making: Right help, at the right time by the right person](#)
- [MACE & Contextual Safeguarding Lv. 1](#)

- [MACE & Contextual Safeguarding Lv. 2](#)
- [NYSCP Standards and Criteria](#)
- [Safeguarding Practice Review Process OMG](#)
- [School Child Protection Manual](#)
- [Self-Harm and Suicidal Ideation Pathway](#)
- [Submitting a referral to the National Referral Mechanism \(NRM\) for a child](#)
- [Sudden Unexpected Death in Infancy \(SUDI\) Prevention One Minute Guide for Professionals](#)
- [Whistleblowing Practice Guidance](#)
- [Writing a Child Protection Policy Practice Guidance](#)

The NYSCP has also produced numerous other documents and developed areas of the NYSCP website to provide guidance to parents on issues such as:

- [Elective Home Education](#)
- [Elective Home Education One Page Guide](#)
- [ICON](#)
- [Keeping Children Safe in Out of School Settings – guidance for parents](#)
- [Private Tutors, Coaches and Clubs – A guide for parents and carers](#)
- [Safer sleep](#)

For further information, please visit our website at:

- www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/help-guidance-and-support

Learning Improvement Subgroup

The Learning and Improvement Subgroup seeks to identify, report and act upon any appropriate examples of local, regional, and national learning through the Learning and Improvement Framework. During 2021/21 the Learning and Improvement Subgroup has:

- Promoted 7 point briefings
- Shared learning from Reviews
- Undertaken Training and Learning
- Masterclasses
- Audit summaries

Section 11 and Governance Audit Summary of learning

2020/21 saw the first time the Section 11 and Governance Audit has utilised the same tools by partner organisations for North Yorkshire and the City of York across for both Children and Adult Services.

Summary of findings:

Partner organisations have reported a high level of compliance with the criteria stated in the audit. However, whilst partner organisations have stated that they have the requirements in place, it can be noted that their assessment of their level of compliance was lower than the level which would be indicated by their responses to each criteria. This may indicate that there is a reduced level of confidence in the arrangements that partner have in place, or that they are striving to improve on these requirements, to ensure that they are fully embedded.

Partner organisations recognise that there has been a significant increase in demand on front-line teams, which is directly attributable to the COVID-19 Pandemic. This has led to reviews of pathways, systems, and processes, including adapting practice and the development of virtual working with technological solutions. Partner organisations are also mindful of the impact on staff, their wellbeing and resilience, particularly new starters.

It should be noted that partner organisations recognise both positive and negative aspects brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, including improved partnership working through virtual platforms, maintaining face to face delivery which were in place at the time of the audit and the challenges of working from home. At the time the audit was completed, it should be noted that partner organisations stated they were responding to an increase in missing persons, individuals in mental health crisis, older people with complex needs, hidden harm in children and young people, and adults with drug and alcohol related issues.

A number of partner organisations have identified that training is a priority over the next year.

A number of partner organisations stated that undertaking the Section 11 and Governance Audit activity has provided them with an opportunity to review and reflect on our safeguarding processes and future strategic planning.

Recommendations from the report

NYSCP Recommendations:

1. The NYSCP liaise with the Children and Families Service regarding Independent Schools not following contractual arrangements in respect of the reporting of safeguarding concerns, and report back to the Practice Development Subgroup, identifying any actions and recommendations, as appropriate.

Joint Recommendations for the NYSCP and North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board (NYSAB): Managing Allegations against Staff is a key area of work and there is a need to continue to deliver safeguarding and refresher training, to ensure that staff's knowledge is kept up to date.

2. Support organisations with the development of strategic plans and policies and procedures, which should be reviewed in line with NYSCP and NYSAB safeguarding policies and procedures respectively.
3. The NYSCP and NYSAB in conjunction with the North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership (NYSCP) undertakes an annual Training Needs Analysis to identify any areas of weakness and development in multi-agency training.
4. It was noted that one partner organisation did not respond to the questions regarding having procedures to notifying the LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer) or Safeguarding Team, or where a worker who has raised a concern cannot continue in their current employment, that the organisation fulfils its moral and legal obligation to offer support to enable them to move on. Where this is the case, the partners should provide assurance to the NYSCP/ NYSAB that these arrangements are in place and if not provide timescales for implementation or a rationale for why these are not in place.
5. The NYSCP, NYSCP and NYSAB Joint Engagement and Communication Strategy needs to be highlighted across the Partnerships to ensure partner organisations have joined up approach to safeguarding, which promotes the safety and well-being of children, young people, adults and families.

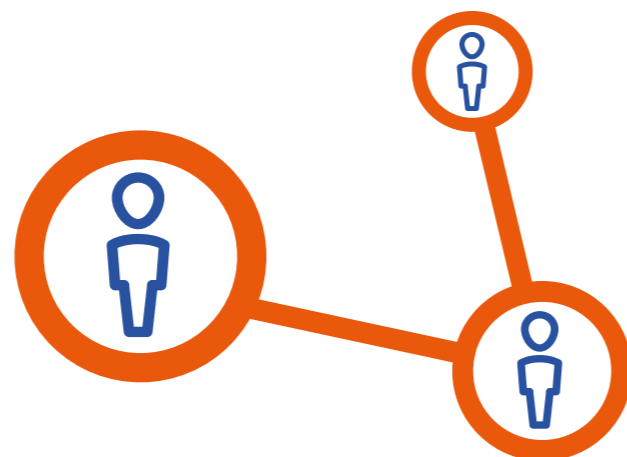
6. Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust (HDFT) be requested to share their findings from a recent culture survey and the effectiveness of this with the LIS (Learning and Improvement Sub) and PPDL (Policies, Practice, Development and Legislation).
7. Where partners have identified concerns regarding information sharing and these issues cannot be resolved, concerns should be raised by partners through the NYSCP and NYSAB Subgroup(s), as appropriate, including supporting examples of practice supporting these issues

Schools Safeguarding Audit

Between November 2020 and June 2021, the NYSCP completed its biennial audit of the safeguarding arrangements within primary and secondary phases of education for children and young people up to the age of 18. The purpose of the audit is to seek assurance of the level of safeguarding arrangements within all schools and identify areas for development.

For more information about the learning see our published 7-point briefing:

- [School-Audit-2020-2021.pdf \(safeguardingchildren.co.uk\)](https://safeguardingchildren.co.uk/school-audit-2020-2021.pdf)



Multi agency Safeguarding Thematic Deep Dives

When partner agencies and individual professionals engage in case auditing, it helps understand:

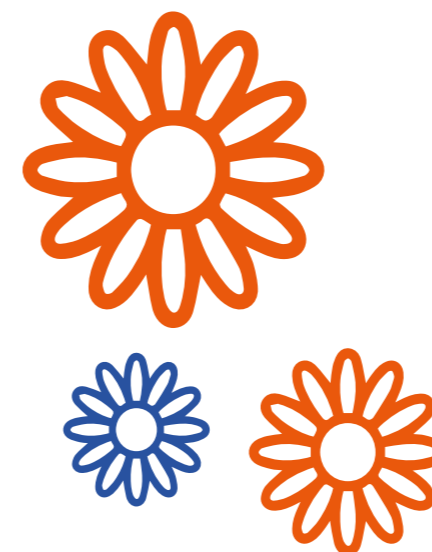
- the effectiveness of front-line practice in protecting children and young people
- how well the lessons of Case Reviews and other reviews of practice have been learnt; and
- what the impact of locally delivered training has been.
- importantly, it allows us to identify good practice and ask questions about whether things could be done differently to improve the safeguarding system.

During 2021–2022 we have undertaken the following deep dive audits

- Multi-Agency Responses Children Subject to Repeat Child Protection Plans
- Multi-Agency Responses to Children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- Multi-Agency Responses to Cases of Children Experiencing Neglect

For more information about the learning from audits visit our published 7-point briefing:

- [NYSCP \(safeguardingchildren.co.uk\)](https://safeguardingchildren.co.uk/nyscp)



Priorities for 2022 – 2023

The Learning and Improvement Subgroup has identified the following deep dive audit themes be explored in 2022:

- 1. Multi-Agency Responses to Referrals on the Grounds of Neglect:** This audit will focus on the most common category for Child Protection Plans and will look at how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted on childhood neglect and its predisposing factors. This audit will be completed between January and April 2022.
- 2. Multi-Agency Responses to Child Exploitation:** Examining cases relating to Child Sexual Exploitation, Child Criminal Exploitation, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (including referral to the National Referral Mechanism) and a case with an online element to exploitation. This audit will be completed during the autumn term.
- 3. Multi-Agency Responses to Domestic Abuse:** Following the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board (NYSCB) audit in 2018 of the “Multi-Agency Responses to Safeguarding Children Where Domestic Abuse is a Feature”, this audit will identify how multi-agency working have changed in response to domestic abuse since the last audit, especially considering the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This audit will be completed between the Autumn / Winter term

Multi agency Training and Learning

NYSCP Developments in Safeguarding Mini Masterclass

The Masterclasses continue to be a popular feature amongst our multi agency professionals. A monthly free one hour lunch time webinar provides frontline staff with updates on a variety of topics. During 2021/2022 we have undertaken the following:

- Child Sexual Abuse and the Sexual Assault Referral Centre
- NYSCP Quick Fire Updates
- Mental health and Suicide Prevention
- OPFCC Commissioned Services
- Mini Masterclass Social, Emotional Mental Health
- Growing up in North Yorkshire Survey
- NYSCP Quick Fire Updates
- Child Exploitation

IDAS (Independent Domestic Abuse Services) who attended a Masterclass on the 25/03/21 said:

“The training was excellent - very engaging for virtual training, and the trainer was extremely knowledgeable and very clear. Very useful.”

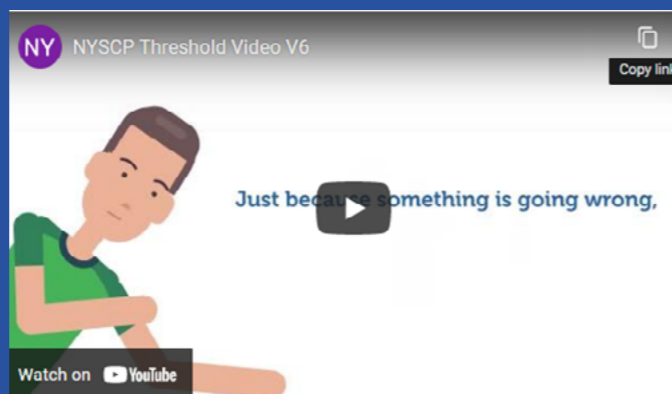
‘Voluntary sector colleague’

“Perfect. They are so much better being on Teams rather than like they used to be [in person]. Really useful to hear about resources that NYCSP have put out there for us to use as a School”

‘Education Colleague’

Each Masterclass is recorded and can be viewed via our [NYSCP YouTube Channel](#)

Attendance has grown year on year and just under 600 people registered on to the events with 400 attending the session live. We have seen an additional 500 views on our YouTube recordings of the Masterclasses.



Framework for decision-making: Right help, at the right time by the right person

NYSCP held 5 launch events, 3 in June 2021 and 2 in September 2021. Just over 500 people registered for the event with just under 400 attending in person. We also have seen an additional 179 views on our [YouTube Channel](#).

The [“Framework for decision-making: Right help, at the right time by the right person”](#) has been developed to help and support practitioners working with children across all agencies and organisations, when faced with a decision about the safety and wellbeing of a child or young person. It is a collaborative approach to support and drive our shared ambition of the right help, at the right time from the right service and, importantly, from the right person.

Our promotional video for the threshold guide has been viewed over 600 times on YouTube.

“This course helped me gain a greater understanding of the support and procedures in place in North Yorkshire, and the inclusion of a guest speaker to share personal experience helped drive messages home. I also learnt from comments/questions from other participants as well.”

‘Voluntary sector colleague’

“This has been very useful as an update on practice and on any changes, so I can feed back to my team – thank you”

‘Health Colleague’



Multi Agency Child Exploitation and Contextual Safeguarding

The Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) and Contextual Safeguarding (CS) across North Yorkshire focuses on; Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE), Harmful Sexual Behaviour, (HSB) Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MSHT), Missing from Home (MFH), Online Child Exploitation (OCE) and wider Contextual Safeguarding. Our [MACE Level 1](#) arrangements focus on the identification, risk assessment and risk management of children at risk of or experiencing harm and [MACE level 2](#) focuses on the sharing of information around potential perpetrators and locations that could pose a risk of harm to children and young people within our communities.

Moving to meetings on a virtual platform has seen significant savings of travel time for partners across North Yorkshire. This has resulted in increased representation at our Level 2 meetings. Over 25 different statutory and relevant agencies attend MACE Level 2 including professionals from; Police, Children Social Care, Youth Justice, Drug and Alcohol Services, Housing providers, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue, Primary, Secondary, Independent and Specialist Schools, Army Welfare, CAMHS, 0-19 Health Services, Young Carers, Community Safety, Probation and third sector commissioned services. Work to promote the work of MACE has continued both virtually and face to face across the county including through our [NYSCP Safeguarding Masterclasses](#) as well as identifying resources to increase awareness including [Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking](#).

We know that those who pose a risk of harm to young people will create networks that enable children to cross local and regional boundaries to avoid detection. MACE Level 2 locality groups have responded to this, by undertaking a series of mapping meetings across our traditional district boundaries to understand the threat and risk posed through extra-familial harm.

This has brought together professionals from different organisations working in different areas of NY and our boundary areas to share information, identify places and spaces where young people do not feel safe and individuals who may pose a risk of harm. Multi-agency plans have then been put in place to disrupt the exploitation and held those who pose a risk of harm to young people to account.

The year has also seen a continued focus on prevention and early intervention with North Yorkshire Police initiatives such as [Operation Divan](#) and [Operation Choice](#) seeking to support, rather than criminalise young people, and divert them away from crime and potential exploitation. North Yorkshires Trusted Relationship has continued to offer support to children who are at risk of, or being exploited. For many reasons young people who are being exploited can initially find it difficult to work with professionals and as such, the trusted relationship service compliments the work of statutory partners by offering an informal, highly flexible support offer to develop positive trusted relationships with children and young people. For example, throughout 2021/22, in 60.6% of closed episodes, the trusted relationship services had supported a reduction in the child exploitation risk.

“We all need to be aware of child exploitation, because it damages family relationships on so many deep levels and in ways we never imagined”

Raising awareness of the issues affecting children and young people through exploitation have been central to the progress made this year. We have continued to listen to the voices of [children, young people, parents, carers](#), and our [communities](#) and consulted with them to develop a series of resources to raise awareness through our [Be Aware website](#). We have also made a [commitment](#) to use non-victim blaming language across our partnership that seeks to empower children, young people, parents and carers. We have run awareness campaigns including [Child Exploitation Awareness Day](#) in March and continued to support and promote work to support children who are abused online in partnership with organisations such as the [Marie Collins Foundation](#). We have also delivered direct work within our communities to raise awareness with children and young people such as our specialist Hand in Hand services over five months delivered interactive sessions in schools to over 4,600 children. Raising awareness and empowering parents as safeguarding partners is also fundamental to our work in this field. Parents valuing our commissioned Parents Against Child Exploitation (PACE) Service in offering vital support and advocacy where their children are at risk of, or are being harmed by offenders outside of the home.

Finally, following a successful bid made by NYCC and City of York to the Home Office to be one of ten sites to pilot the devolved decision making for the [National Referral Mechanism \(NRM\)](#), a joint NRM panel was created. The panel enables decisions to be made about whether a child may have been subject to modern slavery and human trafficking to be made locally by professionals who know the child. The process is quality assured by the Home Office and subject to independent national evaluation. However, within North Yorkshire the pilot has seen a drastic reduction in the considerable time delays previously seen around decision making. It has enabled the average time for a Reasonable Grounds decision to be made for a young person to be on average just over 15 days and a Conclusive Grounds decision in just over 35 days. We have also welcomed additional support provided in this area from the [Independent Child Trafficking Guardianship Service](#) run through Barnardos and additional training provided by [Hope for Justice](#) to over 70 frontline professionals working across North Yorkshire and the City of York.

We continue to build our Be Aware knowledge. Be Aware is an online knowledge hub set up and run by NYSCP in collaboration with young people, parents and carers, and professionals across North Yorkshire to help prevent and tackle child exploitation.

To find out more visit www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/beaware

The poster features the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership logo at the top left. It includes three circular icons: a child sitting on the floor, a woman on a mobile phone, and a person being supported. The central text reads 'Be Aware of child exploitation in North Yorkshire'. Below this, it states 'A Hub for Everyone in North Yorkshire, so we can tackle Child Exploitation together.' and lists three bullet points: 'Raise awareness', 'Spot the signs', and 'Know where to go for help and advice'. At the bottom, it provides the website 'www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/beaware' and a QR code with the text 'Scan the QR code to find out more'.

Communications and Engagement

Over the past year we have worked with North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adult Board and Community Safety Partnership to sign up to a joint Engagement and Communication Strategy safeguardingadults.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Joint-Engagement-and-Communication-Strategy.pdf

We are working together to ensure people who live, work, or visit North Yorkshire are aware of what ‘safeguarding’ means and have access to information that will help them make informed decisions and stay safe. We want to listen to the views what people have to say to us about safeguarding whether this be feedback or sharing experiences. The whole community needs to understand what abuse, exploitation, harm, and neglect looks like, as well as the roles they play in keeping people safe and promoting welfare. Safeguarding is everybody’s business.


During 2021-22 we have delivered campaigns on

- Hate Crime Awareness Week
- Safeguarding Week 2021 (North Yorkshire, York, and East Riding)
- Hidden Harm
- Mental Health Awareness Week
- Advice for Parents & Carers during Lockdown
- Safer Sleep Week
- Domestic Abuse Aware & “Ask for Ani” codeword scheme
- Day or Night Sleep right
- Private Fostering
- Young Peoples Mental Health Support
- Safer Internet Day
- Anti-Bullying Week
- 16 days, 16 stories – taking a stand against gender-based violence
- Creating Hope through Action – Suicide Prevention Campaign

At the end of March 2022, we saw a total of 1667 Followers on twitter a growth of 123 within the year. Our tweet impressions continue to increase and our engagement on the platform focuses to the professional audience.

 Follow us on twitter: [@NYSCP1](https://twitter.com/NYSCP1) / [Twitter](https://twitter.com/NYSCP1)

During 2021 - 2022 we have introduced Facebook to our catalogue of social media channels. We have seen 415 people like our page and 481 people follow us, on this platform focus is to parent and carers.

 Like us on Facebook: [North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership - Home](https://www.facebook.com/NorthYorkshireSafeguardingChildrenPartnership-Home) | [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/NorthYorkshireSafeguardingChildrenPartnership-Home)

NYSCP E-bulletin

Our monthly free e-bulletin continues to grow with 1752 people currently signed up to receive the latest news. In November 2021 we asked our subscribers for their views, with 94% saying they found this useful to their role, the feedback also resulted in changing the way we deliver this electronically to minimise technical issues in accessing the latest news and developments in safeguarding children and young people. You can view previous versions online by clicking the link below.

Sign up by visiting: [NYSCP \(safeguardingchildren.co.uk\)](https://safeguardingchildren.co.uk)

NYSCP Website

During 2021-2022 we have seen a total of 77,718 users visit our website with 205,729 pages views across the year. Feedback on our website is extremely positive and has been highlighted by many as an extremely valuable resource for all things Safeguarding Children.

www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk

NYSCP Podcast

Also new to 2021 – 2022 is our NYSCP Podcast hosted by our Policy and Development Officer and selected guests. A variety of topics are featured from Private Fostering, Operation Choice, Commissioned services, ICON, and Hidden Harm. Just over 260 people have listened to one of our podcasts and this is something we are keen to increase over the coming year.

Listen now by visiting anchor.fm/north-yorkshire-safeguarding-children-partnership

NYSCP YouTube

In August 2021 we launched our YouTube Channel offering another option for professionals to access our recorded webinars, masterclasses and share learning. The channel is separated into targeted playlists for professionals and the public. For more information please visit:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCUeuPdnazmoELTpkuNEW80g



Safeguarding Week 2021

Partners from the Safeguarding Adults Boards, Children’s Safeguarding Partnerships, Community Safety Partnerships across North Yorkshire and the City of York as well as East Riding Council delivered a virtual Safeguarding week during the week of 21st – 25th June.

The following information gives a feel as to the sessions.

	2021
Number of online sessions	34
Registered attendees	2,450
% attendance	60%
Feedback survey responses	357
Did the week provide a good learning opportunity?	97%
Was the content informative?	98%
Was the content engaging?	97%

Our thanks to the vast array of partnership presentation and to those who made the time to attend, learn and share with colleagues.

Child Death Review Process

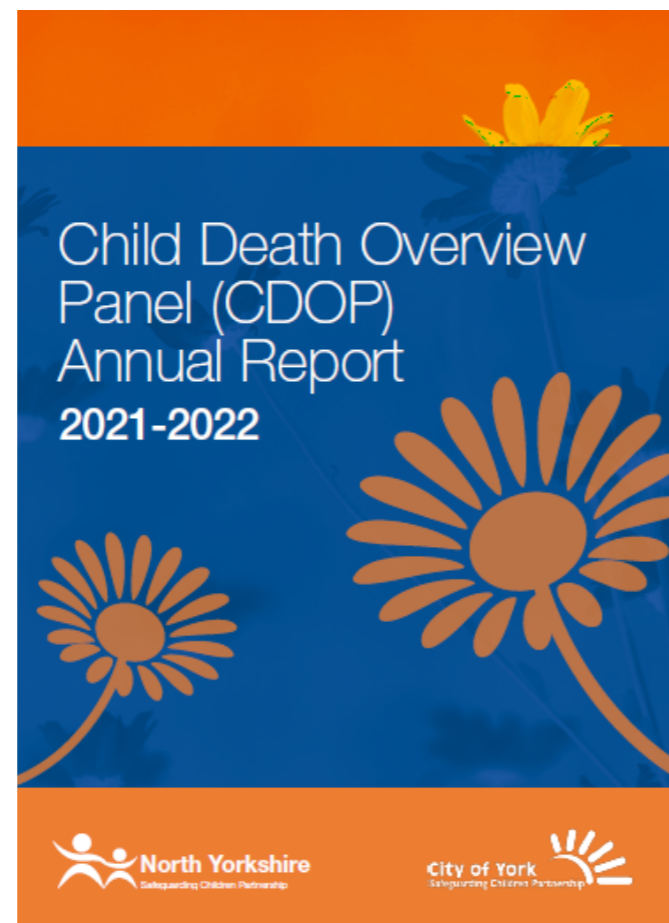
Child Death Review Partners, the Local Authorities and the Humber and North Yorkshire Independent Care Group (previously the Clinical Commissioning Groups for North Yorkshire) and City of York hold responsibility for the delivery of the Child Death Review Process as set out in the Children Act 2004, as amended by the Children and Social Work Act 2017.

The publication of the [Child Death Review Statutory and Operational Guidance in 2018](#) built on the requirements set out in Chapter 5 of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 and details how individual professionals and organisations across all sectors involved in the Child Death Review should contribute to guided standardised practice nationally and enable thematic learning to prevent future child deaths.

The process is undertaken locally for all children who are normally resident within North Yorkshire and City of York.

- The NYSCP are committed to learning from the circumstances and factors present in each death, and to;
- Identify any change that can be made or actions which can be taken that might help to prevent similar deaths in the future
- Share learning with colleagues locally, regionally, and nationally so that the findings will have a greater impact
- Analyse trends and targeted interventions that can be delivered in response to findings, for example, through an extensive multi-agency campaign of training and awareness raising

For further information regarding the Child Death Overview Process, please refer to the [CDOP Annual Report 2021/2022](#)



Voice of the child

As a partnership, we heard routinely from relevant agencies of the work they do to capture the voice of the child within the work they are undertaking on an operational basis. Within our audit activity we regularly see how professionals are seeking and speaking directly with children and young people. Within the work of the partnership, we routinely use feedback from children and young people to help us to seek assurance that agencies are all they can to be child focused and listen to the voices of our service users.

Throughout the year as a partnership we have:

- Ensured our Youth Voice groups across North Yorkshire have a platform at our NYSCP Strategic Group meeting
- We routinely use and promote the use of the Growing Up in North Yorkshire Survey which hears directly from students across North Yorkshire schools this has been used along with feedback from children and young people in the creation of the NYSCP Being Young in North Yorkshire Strategy.



Local Safeguarding Partnerships

Local Safeguarding Partnerships (LSPs) are local safeguarding meetings where partners come together. Professionals are based in Children, Adult and Community Safety services and aim to raise awareness of safeguarding in the local area and respond to local need. The groups identify learning needs, share good practice and deliver the local priorities within the Board and Partnership's business plans. We have four groups across the County in Harrogate, Craven, Hambleton and Richmondshire, Selby and Scarborough and Ryedale. Examples of the work taking place in the local safeguarding partnerships include:

Selby

The Selby LSP took part in Safeguarding Awareness Week 2021. Working with community safety partners, a focus was placed upon one safeguarding theme a day. Communications were both targeted and for the general public. The themes included:

- Domestic Abuse and Alcohol Misuse,
- Hidden Harms,
- Community Safety Hubs,
- What to report/ How to report general messages and
- Benefits of collaboration to safeguard.

The Selby LSP has taken time this year to review the priorities across safeguarding and community safety and agreed the local priorities for further development. A focus of the partnership has been to local professionals across services following the COVID-19 pandemic, a strengthening those existing relationships. The approach in the upcoming year (2022/23) will be to focus our work on an issue/topic every quarter and will include general awareness raising/an overview of the topic of focus, highlighting upcoming guidance and practice changes and identifying communication or training needs. This approach will give the partnership a broader awareness of subject matters and services, and will hopefully enable closer working, increasing access and use of local services to prevent abuse.

Hambleton and Richmondshire

The Hambleton and Richmondshire Local Safeguarding Partnership is well-attended by a wide range of both statutory and non-statutory partner agencies.

On the agenda for the first meeting of the year the organisations each provided a summary presentation slide to share with the Board a summary of the activities undertaken by their services during Safeguarding week (2021-22). Areas which were promoted / had awareness raised included:

- fraud and cyber scams
- modern slavery
- reducing isolation and loneliness
- suicide prevention and
- support for carers.

Each organisation has reported regularly on what they are doing to promote safeguarding throughout the year including their support of national awareness days.

Partner agencies have supported each other's local campaigns through their social media platforms and shared resources within their agency workforces.

Case discussions brought to the forum in the last 12 months were consent and information disclosure, Safeguarding in Sport and the Victim Code and the new Domestic Abuse Bill. The focus of the final quarter was on each of the agencies providing a plan on a page, which outlined the role of the organisation, main safeguarding contact (s) details, useful website links and the services priorities in relation to safeguarding activity.

The Board and Partnerships record quarterly updates to be presented at the LSPs on key topics and issues. These updates are published on the NYSAB website and are available to view here:

safeguardingadults.co.uk/lsp

Financial Position

The NYSCP budget is agreed annually and contributions made by several partners outlined below.

Organisation	Contribution (£)	Percentage of Budget
North Yorkshire County Council	143,183	48%
North Yorkshire Clinical Commissioning Group	91,344	28%
North Yorkshire Police	44,633	17%
City of York Partnership (Child Death Contribution)	16,693	6%
Probation	1,434	0%
CRC	350	0%
Total Budget	297,636	100%

Priorities for 2022 – 2023

Within the NYSCP Strategic Group Meeting a review of the Being Young in North Yorkshire Strategic Action Plan was undertaken progress updates received by relevant agencies against the action identified. Upon review of the BYINY Strategy the following three areas were agreed to be the priority areas for 2022/2023:

Children's Emotional wellness and wellbeing

Reduce demand on specialist provision, ensure parents and carers feel upskilled and confident to support children, develop a single point of access for all and to roll out trauma informed schools and wider settings.

Parental Conflict

Aim to develop across the partnership understanding of the impact of parental conflict on children and how to work with parents/families on this topic

Promote positives of online engagement whilst minimising the risk children face online

Increase awareness of the threats and opportunities for the online space for children and young people. Empower children and families to take positive action whilst utilising technologies.

Contact details:

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Contact us

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