

# Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership

## Assurance Report 2022/2023

### Contents

|                                                      |    |
|------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Introduction from Partners                           | 1  |
| About Kirklees                                       | 5  |
| ✓ Council Population Factors                         |    |
| ✓ Population breakdown                               |    |
| ✓ Safeguarding Activity                              |    |
| Governance, assurance and Oversight                  | 8  |
| KSCP Business Priorities 2022-2023                   | 8  |
| KSCP Structure                                       | 15 |
| Independent Scrutiny                                 | 15 |
| ✓ Independent Scrutineer                             |    |
| ✓ The purpose and expected impact of scrutiny        |    |
| ✓ Scrutiny engagement across the system              |    |
| ✓ Why Scrutiny is a priority for Kirklees            |    |
| Subgroups and Task & Finish groups:                  | 17 |
| ✓ Safeguarding Effectiveness Subgroup                |    |
| ✓ Section 11 Self-Assessment Audit                   |    |
| ✓ Learning and Development Subgroup                  |    |
| ✓ Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) Subgroup |    |
| ✓ Child Death Overview Panel                         |    |
| ✓ Exploitation Strategic and Operational Groups      |    |
| ✓ Policies, Procedures and Guidance Subgroup         |    |
| ✓ Whole Family Approach                              |    |
| Budget                                               | 22 |

## Introduction from Leading Safeguarding Partners

### Message from Kirklees Children`s Services

Kirklees are committed to improving the outcomes for all our children and young people. We remain focused on ensuring that our children are safe, have the best start in life and aspire and achieve. I believe we have made further significant progress since our last Inspection of Local Authority Children`s Services in 2019. I am proud of the strength of our local partnership arrangements and the impact we have in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our children and young people. This has been supported by Ofsted through our joint targeted area inspection (JTAI) findings in June 2022 highlighting “partners at a strategic level enable a well-

embedded practice approach that supports professionals to work well together". The quality of decision making, and partnership working was specifically acknowledged in the peer review in May 2021 and the JTAI in June/July 2022.

2023-2024 will bring a number of challenges, including the current financial climate and the ongoing crisis in finding stable loving homes for our children and young people Looked After. However, there are a number of policy changes nationally that will provide us with a range of new opportunities. "Stable Homes, Built on Love" (2023) provides a framework for how we can integrate services around our children and families with a focus on early intervention. To support these changes to working together to safeguard children will allow a level of flexibility in relation to which professionals are best placed to meet need. We also welcome the proposals in Working Together to more formally recognise the role of educational settings and schools in our local Safeguarding Partnership.

The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and alternative provision improvement plan sets out the Government plans to change the SEND and alternative provision system in England to ensure children and their families get the right support in the right place at the right time. I am confident our refreshed SEND transformation programme has a focus and a vision that ensures as a partnership we can deliver at pace to achieve improved outcomes for our children with additional needs.

As ever we welcome the ongoing scrutiny and challenge from partners and elected members through a number of arrangements and forums. This scrutiny and support ensure we reflect both internally and externally in relation to our achievements but also our challenges and how as a partnership these can be addressed. We continue to be committed to delivering high quality services with our children, young people and families that improve life chances and outcomes.

Tom Brailsford  
Strategic Director Children and Families  
Kirklees

### **Message from the Integrated Care Board**

An Integrated Care Board (or ICB) is a statutory NHS organisation which is responsible for developing a plan for meeting the health needs of the population, managing the NHS budget and arranging for the provision of health services in a geographical area.

The NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (WYICB) became a statutory organisation on the 1 July 2022 as part of the Government's new Health and Care Act.

The WYICB has 4 aims:

1. To reduce health inequalities
2. Manage unwarranted variations in care.
3. Secure the wider benefits of investing in health and care.
4. Use our collective resources wisely.

The WYICB has a legal responsibility to ensure that the principles and duties of safeguarding children and adults at risk are fulfilled for both the WYICB and the

providers through which it commissions services. The WYICB is one of three statutory partners on the Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership (KSCP). The WYICB is made up of 5 placed base partnerships: Calderdale, Kirklees, Bradford, Wakefield and Leeds. The placed based partnership in Kirklees is called the Kirklees Health and Care Partnership (KHCP) and has a shared safeguarding team with Calderdale Cares Partnership. We operate at Kirklees place and come together with other safeguarding teams in the WYICB to deliver aspects of work that make sense to do at scale. Formal governance arrangements are established at both Kirklees and West Yorkshire level.

Key achievements of the WYICB Kirklees safeguarding work for 2022- 23 include: Established formal safeguarding governance and assurance mechanisms as part of the transition from Clinical Commissioning Groups to the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board.

The Health Assurance and Improvement Group (HAIG) has continued during this reporting period providing strategic oversight, assurance, improvement, and the scrutiny of safeguarding children arrangements across the local health economy, reporting directly to the Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership (KSCP) Executive group and supporting the ICB and KSCP in fulfilling their statutory duties. Continued development and engagement with GP Safeguarding Leads through regular meetings and facilitating a dedicated safeguarding practice learning training event. Learning from across the partnership which has been shared has included the Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) multiagency audits and Child K audits and CSE multi-agency audit.

Analysis of themes emerging from GP Safeguarding Standards to support learning and practice improvements co-ordinated via quarterly GP Safeguarding Leads meetings.

Development of a Primary Care Good Practice Guidance for Children/Young People and Adults at Risk who are not brought to Health appointments – Was Not Brought. Coordination of bespoke training to Primary Care colleagues facilitated by Front Door Children's Social Care leads on 'When to contact Children's Social Care'. This training session now forms part of the multiagency KSCP core training offer and is available for all partners.

Development of 7-minute briefings included case study on forced marriage and transitions.

Health Pathway development and wider work to support risk notification of exploitation from the exploitation screening panel across the health economy. Coordination of work with health partners around engaging males and significant others in keeping with the 'whole family approach' and learning from National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel reports presented to the KSCP Learning and Development Sub- Group for multiagency partners to consider.

Looking forward to the future, our priorities include raising the profile and seeking assurance regarding the Every Sleep a Safe Sleep and ICON Programmes in conjunction with Public Health. We remain committed to working within the KSCP responding to the ever-changing safeguarding landscape, learning from local and national safeguarding reviews, working in collaboration with our safeguarding partners to implement new and emerging legislation, with the collective aim of

achieving a consistent and proactive approach to meeting the needs of children who require safeguarding interventions.

Penny Woodhead  
Director of Nursing and Quality  
Kirklees Health and Care Partnership

## **Message from West Yorkshire Police**

As the Fourth largest Police Force in the Country, West Yorkshire Police faces a number of complex Policing challenges. With higher than average demand both in terms of calls for service and in recorded crime levels, we work in partnership with five local authorities. Beyond the county of West Yorkshire, we also collaborate across the Yorkshire and Humber Region and wider North Eastern region, particularly in response to threats of counter terrorism and organised criminality.

During the most recent His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Police Inspection on Effectiveness, Efficiencies and Legitimacy in 2021, the Force was seen as highly performing. The highest grade of 'Outstanding' was achieved in four categories to add to the 'Outstanding' the Force has previously achieved for crime recording. The Force was graded as 'Good for Protecting Vulnerable People'.

Our neighbourhood Policing model lies at the heart of our service delivery. It is underpinned by local response, crime investigation and safeguarding functions. Neighbourhood policing is supported centrally by specialist operational and crime capabilities which all combine together to meet our Policing Purposes within the West Yorkshire Policing Strategy. The three key areas of focus within that strategy being 'Reducing Crime, Protecting Vulnerable People and Reassuring the Public'. This aims to deliver in conjunction with the Mayor's Police and Crime Plan. More Specifically, the Protecting Vulnerable People strand of our strategy is central to the Police and Crime Plan Priority of 'Keeping People Safe and Building Resilience'. Safety of Women and Girls was one of the 10 Mayoral Pledges and is a cross cutting issue in the Police and Crime Plan.

The West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit has continued in its efforts to tackle serious violent crime through a unique public health-led approach, bringing together organisations across local communities to tackle underlying causes and funding vital local projects that undertake positive preventative work with children and young people. The unit has a partnership emphasis, with specialists from health, police, local authorities, education, youth justice, prisons, probation, community groups and others aiming to cut violence together through early intervention, prevention, and education.

A Force wide review of safeguarding arrangements has increased resourcing levels locally and allowed more focus to deal with increases in demand safeguarding. It has also allowed local investigators to identify often hidden demand in areas such as so called honour based violence, forced marriage and modern day slavery.

On a local level, Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements are supported by local Strategic Leaders to develop strong partnerships. This commitment is reflected in the ongoing engagement and dedication shown by all Kirklees partners in coming together under those Child Safeguarding Partnership arrangements.

On a daily basis across Kirklees Police Officers respond and investigate matters involving mental health, missing persons, Domestic Abuse, online safety, radicalisation and child safety concerns. We work hard within the partnership to try and prevent harm and reduce risk, working with the voluntary sector to support victims and develop our early intervention strategy to solve problems at an early stage.

James Griffiths

Chief Superintendent  
District Commander  
Kirklees District

## About Kirklees

The Metropolitan Borough of Kirklees is one of five Local Authorities in West Yorkshire. It covers an area of 157 square miles and has a population of around 433,300 of which 23% are aged 0 to 17 (nationally 23.6%). The district emerged from local government re-organisation in 1974 and is made up of eleven former local authority Boroughs and Districts in the former West Riding of Yorkshire.

It has three distinct areas:

- North Kirklees, which includes the urban centres of Mirfield, Dewsbury, Batley and Cleckheaton along with the more rural Spen Valley:
- Huddersfield; the largest town in Kirklees with around 143,907 residents

The rural and semi-rural area south and west of Huddersfield, including small towns such as

Holmfirth, Meltham, Skelmanthorpe, Kirkburton, Slaithwaite, Marsden, Honley and Denby Dale.

[Full Report](#)

### About Kirklees: Population Factors (information from 2021 census)

Total population 433,300

49 / 51 split between male and female

86.8% of the population were born in the UK

BAME 26.2%, Pakistani is the largest BAME group at 9.9%

23% of the population in Kirklees are children

18% of children in Kirklees are living in low income families

10.6% of households experience fuel poverty (in line with England)

## About Kirklees: Population Breakdown (information from 2021 census)

### Population by broad minority groups by %

|                                             |     |
|---------------------------------------------|-----|
| Asian/ Asian British                        | 16  |
| Black / African / Caribbean / Black British | 1.9 |
| Mixed / multiple Ethnic groups              | 2.3 |
| Other Ethnic groups                         | 0.6 |

### Total Population 433,300

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Aged under 15 | 19% |
| Aged 15 – 64  | 64% |
| Aged over 65  | 18% |

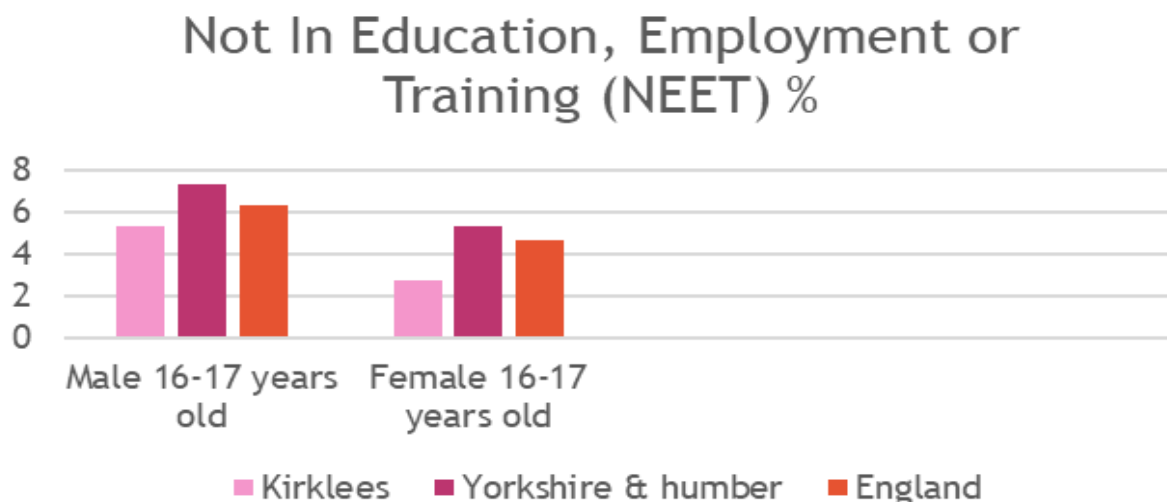
### Deprivation at a glance

|                                                             |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Percentage of children living in low income families (2016) | 18% |
| Percentage of households experiencing fuel poverty (2018)   | 11% |
| Homeless and in priority need (per 1,000 households 2017)   | 3%  |

There are approximately 70,000 schoolchildren in Kirklees.

### Not in education, Employment or Training

This is a column chart providing comparison between males and females as well as Kirklees, Yorkshire and Humber and England



## About Kirklees: Safeguarding Activity

### Percentage of re-referral to Children Social Care within 12 months of the previous referral

|              |     |
|--------------|-----|
| Re-Referrals | 18% |
| Referrals    | 82% |

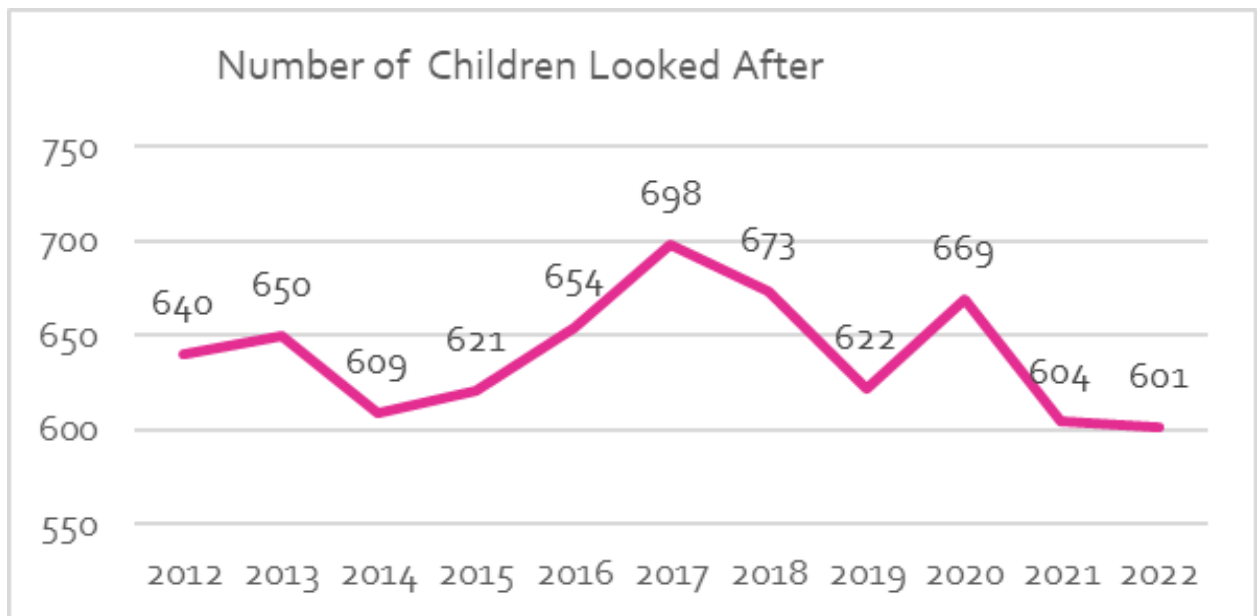
### Child Protection Plans in 2022 by Category of Abuse

|                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| Neglect         | 269 |
| Emotional Abuse | 212 |
| Physical Abuse  | 78  |
| Sexual Abuse    | 51  |

**Number of initial contacts to the Front door (2022)** 17893

### Number of Children Looked After

This is a line chart showing the numbers over the last 10 years



# Governance, Assurance and Oversight

During the reporting period the KSCP Executive Group met eight (8) times to assure themselves that the Partners continue to deliver against the priorities of the Business plan.

Attendance at the KSCP Executive comprises of the three key partners from Children's Services, West Yorkshire Police and the Kirklees Integrated Care Board and includes representation from Education, Public Health and the Independent Scrutineer.

Partners give significant input of time, commitment and resources.

The KSCP Business Manager and Secretariat supports the work of the KSCP to help coordinate the subgroups who deliver against the priorities for the KSCP Executive.

The role of the KSCP over this reporting period has been to:

- ✓ Jointly identify safeguarding priorities for Kirklees and to monitor against the Safeguarding Children Business Plan.
- ✓ Receive reports from the Executive Group and other partners in respect of the delivery of the Business Plan.
- ✓ Consider reports on relevant learning and development activity
- ✓ Receive reports from Independent Scrutiny activity.
- ✓ Receive reports on activity and the viewpoints of children and young people.
- ✓ Act as a reference group for the Safeguarding Partners.
- ✓ Manage the submission of Serious Incident referrals and Rapid Reviews
- ✓ Identify and take action on new and emerging issues in the Borough in respect of children's safeguarding.
- ✓ Ensure effective linkages with other relevant partnerships and governance structures.

## **KSCP Business Priorities 2022-2023: Demonstrating the impact...How did we do?**

1. Tackling child exploitation and serious youth violence
2. Enhancing the emotional wellbeing of children and young people
3. Promoting healthy relationships
4. To identify and reduce the impact of domestic abuse on children, young people and their families
5. To identify and reduce the impact of Neglect on children and young People and achieve the offer of Early support for children and families
6. The lived experience of children, young people, and their families



## Tackling child exploitation and serious youth violence

### Priority:

Within Kirklees, the objective is to ensure that we work to prevent exploitation and violence before it happens. This stems from the belief that exploitation and violence are preventable, and this works to improve the health and well-being of our children, young people, and their families. To achieve this, a whole system, multi-agency approach will be employed, and we will encourage action that shields young people from becoming involved in exploitation and violence. Paramount to this strategy is recognising young people who are at risk of committing violent crimes or those at risk of being a victim of violence and/or exploitation at an early stage and we should have the confidence to be able to intervene at the earliest opportunity.

What we have done / What needs improvement / Future work:

### Good practice identified:

The Kirklees Exploitation Problem profile has now been delivered by the Exploitation Operational Group.

The links with education colleagues is now fully embedded within the Strategic Group which creates greater awareness and opportunities. This is exemplified by the appointment of the new Deputy Chair.

Development of a health Risk Notification Pathway to enhance communication of known exploitation risks

### Areas for development:

Continue to improve focus, data and learning identified in the new Exploitation Problem Profile.

Identify new opportunities within our agencies to share the information in the Problem Profile.

Ensure the relevant support and direction continues to be delivered through each agency at a Strategic level.

### Future work:

Identify suitable, achievable, and measurable priorities from the Exploitation Problem Profile for the Operational group and wider partnership to deliver/ improve on outcomes for the district.

Ensure the Exploitation Problem Profile remains current by it being refreshed on a 6 monthly basis.

Ensure awareness of the Exploitation Problem Profile is delivered across each partnership agency as well as the role each partners plays in its understanding and delivery.

Look at opportunities to share the information / messaging contained within the Problem Profile with the wider community where needed in a sanitised format to create wider learning and awareness.

## Enhancing the emotional wellbeing of children and young people

### Priority:

Children and young people who take their own life and or self harm may be attributed to multiple factors, including poor mental health, academic pressures or worries, bullying, social isolation, family environment and bereavement, relationship problems, substance misuse or neglect. Deprivation and poor physical health can also be a contributory factor. A multi-agency response with increasing recognition and awareness around the signs and things to look out for is needed to address this as well as an awareness around how to talk about mental health.

We have identified that there is a wealth of participation and engagement ongoing within agencies and services. The work shared demonstrates the commitment to improving the emotional wellbeing of children and young people and therefore reducing self-harm and suicide, has been captured.

### Some of the work undertaken included:

The creation of a Children's Emotional Wellbeing partnership. This group brings together stakeholders from across Kirklees to jointly identify issues, collate data and set local priorities. Partners include the local authority (including young people's voice team, public health, the learning service, social care and youth work), NHS ICB, CAMHS, and Voluntary sector organisations. The strategy and work programme will be intelligence and insight led. The aim of the partnership is to create shared system ownership and responsibility for issues influencing the Emotional wellbeing (EWB) of children. Also, to understand how wider stakeholders can contribute to the agenda, such as Housing and Regeneration.

A launch event for the EWB partnership was held in November 2022. This was well attended and included presentations from people with lived experience, as well as practitioners.

Participation in the West Yorkshire Adversity, Trauma and Resilience programme. This has included an audit of activity and best practice in Kirklees.

Support service commissioned for LGBTQ+ young people and their families. This issue was identified as a priority following feedback and intelligence from young people.

Positive engagement opportunities were provided as part of the development of the new community mental health service model, to be known as Kirklees Keep in Mind.

Work has begun to develop a Kirklees wide approach to bullying

### Recommendations for next year's work programme

A new Kirklees Place Partnership Emotional Wellbeing strategy is to be developed. Priorities will be identified, and action plans developed.

Establish regular co-production and feedback mechanisms to ensure Voice of Young People is central to the development of the partnership.

Implementation of Kirklees Keep in Mind service model.

## Promoting Healthy Relationships

Priority:

As a result of the Ofsted review into sexual abuse in schools and colleges, it was identified that it is not only the responsibility of schools to solve this issue, but that there are wider societal issues that need to be addressed. Findings state that incidents of abuse and harassment have become normalised, with most young people having experienced abuse or harassment in some form. There is a high prevalence of sexual harassment and online sexual abuse, and this has become commonplace for some children and this prevalence is underestimated by schools.

### Good practice identified

Positive engagement with the school system:

Designated Safeguarding Leads network meetings and Secondary Head Teacher network meetings have a focus on child-on-child abuse & Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) / misogyny

Ofsted review findings shared across the Partnership

The "Our Voice" Team's project on "engaging with young people about their understanding of reporting peer-on-peer sexual harassment and harm" reports' findings in this area have been shared and additionally the group is linking outside of meetings to develop resources for schools and to ensure key messages are circulated e.g. recent concerning TikTok trend escalated from Prevent and shared with schools immediately.

### Areas for Development

Whilst the HSB toolkit is being utilised work still needs to be undertaken on establishing and developing local support pathways for victims and perpetrators of HSB and their families

Training and development of resources for schools.

## To identify and reduce the impact of domestic abuse on children, young people and their families

### Priority:

We will consider our partnership response to children affected by domestic or abuse by increased capacity for advocacy for children subject to a plan of protection to be achieved.

Engagement work to commence with young people to capture their voice and understanding of domestic abuse recognition and how to report it and develop robust multi-agency training for both adult and children's domestic abuse agenda.

Domestic abuse is a priority for the KSCP and Safer Kirklees and has been identified as a key theme in the Safer Kirklees Partnership Plan. Local partners have adopted an integrated approach to implementing strategies to address domestic abuse and linked areas of work around forced marriage, child sexual exploitation and human trafficking.

### Work undertaken during the year:

Specialist therapeutic support provided by Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership (in partnership with Northorpe Hall and Women Centre)

Specialist work with families by Domestic Abuse Consultants in the Front door

Operation Encompass notifications to schools

Training for Designated Safeguarding Leads in high schools to raise awareness of domestic abuse amongst children and young people. A similar package is also being developed for children in primary school

### Work to be undertaken during 2023/2024:

Specialist multi-agency training to support practitioners working with families to support children and young people, partner with survivors and hold perpetrators to account for their behaviour. A further eight professionals have completed the 4-day training in March and a further 4 courses will be offered over the coming year.

Further training, including a basic awareness of the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people e-learning and a face-to-face session for professionals, will be delivered in 2023/24.

Scope a relevant dashboard to monitor the prevalence of domestic abuse, the impact on services and outcomes from ongoing work to support children and young people affected by domestic abuse. This will be raised at the Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership in May 2023.

Map existing meetings where domestic abuse can be added as an agenda item and progress the priorities identified in the KSCP Business plan

Shape the provision for children and young people affected by domestic abuse that may be offered through refreshed commissioned services

## To identify and reduce the impact of Neglect on children and young People and achieve the offer of Early support for children and families

Priority:

Our Early support offer aims to be a vehicle for lasting change in the way that services are delivered for children and families who require Early support due to circumstances that foster neglect in all areas in children and young people. It will offer an opportunity to bring together key partners to develop system-wide transformation through innovation and changing our approach to working with families with complex needs.

Some of the work undertaken:

Families Together Area Partnerships Commissioned.

Families Together Community events held to increase parent/family voice within the area partnerships.

Supporting Families Programme visit on 20 February 2023 identified Strong Partnership in Kirklees

Co-produced Families Together branding.

Work to be undertaken in the 2023/2024 Annual cycle

Kirklees Families Together Data and Impact group to be established to lead on the Outcomes Framework

Early Support Strategy (2018) review to continue.

'Developing a high-quality parenting offer in Kirklees' commissioned to be completed end of July 2023

## The lived experience of children, young people, and their families

Priority:

The importance of ensuring the lived experience of children and young people, as well as their families is well highlighted. By ensuring that children, young people, and their families can have their experiences heard, changes to safeguarding systems

can be made to ensure their needs are best met, and that systems are influenced by their 'lived experience'

#### Some of the work undertaken included:

- ✓ The Everyone's Invited project with Education Safeguarding and the Our Voice team looked at peer on peer sexual harassment and harm with young people and provided a wealth of information around consent, issues online and learning young people wished to receive.
- ✓ The implementation of The Listening Hub which provides an online platform for young people, families, professionals, and community group members to share their voice directly with the Partnership.
- ✓ Positive engagement opportunities were provided as part of the Section 11 Challenge Events.
- ✓ Engagement with LGBTQ+ young people to discuss safeguarding priorities to influence future decision making.
- ✓ The Local Offer work alongside Project Search to co-create Virtual Reality resources for young people with SEND.
- ✓ 'Point of contact' Police officers assigned to young people at risk of Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) or CSE to allow for meaningful relationship building and the sharing of Lived Experience views of young people to influence policy change.
- ✓ Co-creation of resources by LGBTQ+ young people within the Brunswick Centre to be shared with teachers and professionals in Kirklees and Calderdale as well as work to increase participation with young people and families affected by HIV.
- ✓ A pilot project between several education provisions which allows young people to inform the Personal social Education (PSE) curriculum within schools alongside PSE leads and Dedicated Safeguarding Lead (DSL's.)
- ✓ The Lived Experience of Children, Young People and Families members agreed to step down/change the formal process of the group. The group identified that work was already ongoing in relation to Lived Experience of children, young people and families within services. There was a consensus view that this is a healthy position in terms of how work is being developed and driven as it demonstrates the partnership's commitment to putting children, young people, and families at the heart of our work.
- ✓ Moving forward the group will reconvene to look at the KSCP Business Plan and the proposed workstreams to provide assurance that the lived experience of children, young people and families can be captured.

## **KSCP Structure**

Subgroups:

- Strategic Learning and Development Subgroup
- Operational Exploitation Subgroup
- Strategic Exploitation Subgroup
- Safeguarding Effectiveness Subgroup
- Early Support and Neglect Subgroup
- Child Safeguarding Practice Review Subgroup
- Emotional Health and Wellbeing Subgroup
- Lived Experience of Children, Young People and Families Subgroup

- Policies, Procedures and Guidance subgroup
- Domestic Abuse Impact on Children Subgroup
- Child Death Overview Panel
- Healthy Relationships

The above subgroups send regular reports to the Chairs Delivery group

The Chairs Delivery Group attend the Executive group meeting

The Executive group attend the Partnership Group meeting

## Scrutiny

### Independent Scrutineer

The KSCP has designed and set out a proposed model for developing effective and enhanced scrutiny within the Multi-agency safeguarding arrangements (MASA). The intention being to clearly outline the Kirklees position on scrutiny as a tool for driving improvement, to articulate the vital and important role that the workforce, parents/ carers and children and young people play in challenging services and in shaping service responses. The development of our scrutiny model has been informed by good practice and research.

We have therefore:

- ✓ Endorsed an approach and scrutiny plan.
- ✓ Formally signed up as a partnership to the formal principles as adapted locally for the Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements
- ✓ Committed to supporting a multi -agency response to look at system wide issues within the safeguarding system.
- ✓ Supported a widening of scrutiny activity beyond a single individual and agreed that the named scrutineer 'holds the ring' in pulling scrutiny activity together in a meaningful way to support the Partnership Executive.

[Full MASA Report](#)

### The purpose and expected impact of scrutiny:

The University of Bedfordshire developed a report and toolkit to support the development of local approaches to scrutiny activity. That report and the six steps it outlines have been the basis for scrutiny activity conducted by KSCP and the

Independent Scrutineer to date and will continue to form a golden thread running through the scrutiny activity plan set out below. Namely all scrutiny activity will link to

1. The strategic planning and policy implications for the three statutory partners
2. The engagement of the wider safeguarding partners
3. The involvement of children and young people in safeguarding plans at an individual and service level
4. The quality assurance processes to measure how much? And how well?  
Alongside impact
5. The clear link to national and local learning from Child Safeguarding practice Reviews
6. The planned programme of workforce development

In Kirklees we have sought to take independent scrutiny from a process driven event to an enhanced approach that includes regular constructive dialogue with those who use our services.

## Scrutiny engagement across the system:

Practitioners and workforce: We have been able to use virtual means to engage with the workforce on critical service issues and serious cases, we use the same format to engage with a workforce group on the themes identified for scrutiny.

Children and Young people:

There are a number of existing forums to assist us to engage with young people that provide a valuable insight into their perception of services. These include:

- ✓ The Children in Care Councils
- ✓ Our Voice Engagement and Participation Programme
- ✓ The Youth Offer group
- ✓ The LGBTQ+ group facilitated by the Brunswick centre.
- ✓ The Youth Parliament
- ✓ School/College councils
- ✓ Youth Justice Service
- ✓ Youth Engagement Service

## Why Scrutiny is an action for Kirklees

- Enables the voice and concerns of children and young people, families and workforce to be heard
- Drives Improvement
- Is conducted and led by an independent scrutineer
- Provides critical challenge to Executive policy and decision makers



# Subgroup Reports

## Safeguarding Effectiveness Subgroup

### The subgroup achieved:

- ✓ All Quarterly Safeguarding Summaries were received for the meetings and provided an effective and holistic view of performance and assurance from across the partnership
- ✓ Moved to a new data booklet in line with the KSCP Business Plan priorities
- ✓ Undertook and recorded a schedule of audits

### Future work planned:

- ✓ The new data booklet will continue to be developed as a 'live' document which will be updated as the safeguarding system updates.
- ✓ Multi-Agency Audits will be planned further ahead and co-ordinated across subgroups.

### Key Factor:

- ✓ The group convened 3 times during the year with the 4th meeting taking place outside of the reporting period due to timings of data being released (24/04/2023).

## Section 11 Self-Assessment Audit

### Future areas of focus:

During July and August 2022 challenge sessions took place with partner agencies whereby each organisation presented to a Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership panel (made up of the 3 lead members) on the areas that needed improvement and other challenges ahead for the organisation.

Young Persons questions were also collated and asked at the sessions.

Overall we found:

- ✓ The impact of the pandemic affected all agencies to varying degrees and at the time of compiling this report, agencies are still feeling the impact especially the health sector. Colleagues are tired and stressed but showing grit and resilience through an un-precedented time.
- ✓ Staff have been moving onto different roles and there have been high levels of vacancies within organisations. This is being experienced both locally and nationally.
- ✓ This is a common issue within organisations working in multi-agency environments and there are steps to take to ensure organisations share information at the right time to reduce risks to children and young people. The

Partnership Intelligence Portal has received positive feedback and is promoted by organisations at training and meetings.

- ✓ The pandemic has challenged supervisions as agencies have been spread thinly and as organisations work through the impact, supervisions and the obvious advantages of these conversations are being re-engaged by agencies.
- ✓ With capacity being an issue during the pandemic regular quality assurance checks and audits of cases have not been undertaken to their usual frequency for some organisations but this is now rectified and managed for the future

The overall Section 11 Challenge Report which outlines the findings and summaries from each organisation was presented to the Executive Group with no further recommendations.

## Learning and Development Subgroup

Core KSCP Training continues to be delivered.

These courses are:

- ✓ Working Together to Safeguard Children
- ✓ Working Together to Safeguard Children Refresher
- ✓ Making a Positive Contribution to Child Protection Conferences
- ✓ Introduction to Child Neglect
- ✓ Improving Assessments in Child Safeguarding.

Following a Training Needs Assessment being undertaken the following courses are now being delivered by the partnership:

- ✓ Domestic Abuse and Impact on Children
- ✓ Exploitation Training
- ✓ Learning from Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews
- ✓ Parental mental health and impact on children
- ✓ Police Intelligence Portal Training
- ✓ Gambling Harm and Young People
- ✓ Modern Slavery
- ✓ Whole Family, Stronger Family
- ✓ Family Group Conference Awareness Training
- ✓ Impact of Parental Substance Misuse
- ✓ Adversity and Trauma Informed Approaches

Key Factors:

- ✓ Core KSCP Training is delivered virtually and in the classroom on a 50/50 basis to reflect the requirements of delegates following a survey undertaken in 2021 during the pandemic.
- ✓ 60 courses were provided over the year with over 1000 multi-agency staff attending
- ✓ This group convened 4 times.

## Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) Subgroup

### Key work undertaken 2022-2023:

- ✓ Identification of future audit activity
- ✓ Strengthening of links to Safeguarding Effectiveness and Learning Development group
- ✓ Streamlining and improvements to Serious Incident process and Rapid Review Process
- ✓ Timescales met for Serious Incident and Rapid review Processes undertaken.
- ✓ National Reviews considered from a local perspective, demonstrating the value in consideration of outside cases for local review, learning and assurance: For example, The National Panel 'Child Protection in England' written in response to the tragic murders of Arthur Labinjo-Huges and Star Hobson and Child Q case (London)

### Future work planned for 2023 – 2024:

- ✓ Continued focus on streamlining and reviewing our Matrix of cases
- ✓ Collaboration with University of Huddersfield to enhance understanding of themes from local reviews
- ✓ Continued focus on progressing and finalising cases and action plans currently 'open'
- ✓ Consider what support is needed for the Learning and Development Subgroup to develop course material on Learning from Local and National case reviews, this will provide a cyclical mechanism to share learning across the multi-agency system.
- ✓ Support work to improve the Neglect toolkit.

### Key Factors:

- ✓ The group convened 4 times

## Number of Serious Incident Notifications during reporting period (April 2022 – Mar 2023)

Number of Serious Incident notifications reported to the KSCP Business unit

Nine – 9

Number of serious Incidents progressed by the Local Authority to National Panel

Two – 2

Number of Rapid Reviews completed

Two – 2

Number of Safeguarding Reviews initiated

Nil - 0

Number of Local Learning Reviews

One – 1 (Youth Justice Review)

Analysis of the above data: Seven cases did not meet the criteria for a Serious Incident, two cases went on to Rapid Review with one going on to a Youth Justice Board Review. The other case, following the Rapid Review identified no new learning.

Future areas of focus:

An audit covering Neglect has been completed, this has highlighted areas of improvement required and work is underway to improve and update the Neglect toolkit, Neglect Strategy and Neglect Training content.

## Child Death Overview Panel

Our Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) works across two health footprints which include the Mid Yorkshire Hospital Trust and the Calderdale and Huddersfield Foundation Trust.

During this reporting period we have developed a quarterly report to identify and analyse any changes that we can make or actions we can take that might help to prevent similar deaths in the future.

There has been shared this learning with colleagues regionally and nationally so that the findings have a wider impact.

Trends have been analysed and targeted interventions in response to these have taken place.

There have been 49 Notifications and 32 cases have been reviewed.

[Full CDOP Report](#)

## Strategic and Operational Exploitation Subgroups

Influenced the following Factors:

- ✓ Delivery of the Kirklees Exploitation Problem Profile which is as a result of the hard work by the group.
- ✓ This now identifies areas and issues of concern which will allow the Strategic Group to set priorities for the Operational group as well as measuring performance.
- ✓ The Exploitation Problem profile has now been delivered by the Exploitation Operational Group as requested by this group.
- ✓ The links with education colleagues are now fully embedded within the Strategic Group which creates greater awareness and opportunities.
- ✓ Development of a health Risk Notification Pathway to enhance communication of known exploitation risks

#### Future work planned for 2023-2024:

- ✓ Identify suitable, achievable, and measurable priorities from the Exploitation Problem Profile for the Operations group and wider partnership to deliver/improve on for the district.
- ✓ Ensure the Exploitation Problem Profile remains current by it being refreshed on a 6 monthly basis.
- ✓ Ensure awareness of the Exploitation Problem Profile is delivered across each partnership agency as well as the role each play in its understanding and delivery.
- ✓ Whilst we need to allow the Profile to benefit district awareness and focus our combined attention, we also need to ensure it remains current to identify any changes in the landscape as well as assisting in measuring performance across the partnership.

## Policies, Procedures and Guidance Subgroup

#### Influenced the following Factors:

The Kirklees Safeguarding Children's Partnership co-ordinates the development of policies, procedures and practice guidance for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in Kirklees. The group analyses the implications of national multi-agency policies, procedures, practice guidance or research findings in terms of the need to develop any additional local policy, procedures or practice guidance.

Briefings: We continue to collaborate with the wider West Yorkshire Procedures TRIX group.

#### Updated Procedures during reporting period:

- ✓ Gang Activity and youth violence
- ✓ Pre-trial Therapy
- ✓ Perplexing Presentations and Fabricated or Induced Illness in Children

#### Local Guidance Documents:

- ✓ Professional Curiosity
- ✓ HBA Guidance
- ✓ Disguised compliance
- ✓ Abusive Head Trauma
- ✓ Mental capacity
- ✓ Who has Parental Responsibility
- ✓ Supervision policy

#### Future work planned for 2023-2024:

- ✓ The group intends to continue to approve briefings and policies throughout the year.

Key Factor: The group convened twice for the year cycle.

## Whole Family Approach

Influenced the following Factors:

Our vision for Kirklees is to have a range of services that are accessible and available to anyone who may need them, working together around individuals, families and communities to prevent, respond to and repair the damage caused by domestic abuse.

Future work planned for 2023-2024:

Domestic abuse is a priority for Safer Kirklees and has been identified as a key theme in the Safer Kirklees Partnership Plan. Local partners have adopted an integrated approach to implementing strategies to address domestic abuse and linked areas of work around forced marriage, child sexual exploitation and human trafficking.

[KSCP website – Domestic Abuse](#)

## Budget

Income from partners:

|                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Kirklees Council      | 168,160 |
| CCG                   | 88,172  |
| West Yorkshire Police | 18,175  |
| National Probation    | 6,888   |
| Training              | 9,266   |
| Other Income          | 33,490  |

Expenses:

|                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| Staffing               | 269,404 |
| SPR`s                  | 3,570   |
| Website / Software     | 29,993  |
| Training               | 19,695  |
| Supplies and Services  | 1,380   |
| Independent Scrutineer | 42,815  |

Overspend 42,706