

# Annual report of Local Arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people

2021/22



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Alongside our Children's MARS Local Arrangements and other key documents, all policies, procedures and resources referenced in this document are published on the Children's MARS website.

# Welcome and Introduction

Welcome to our **Annual report of Local Arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people 2021/22**

In North Lincolnshire, our ambition is for children to be **in their families, in their schools and in their communities** and through our One Family Approach, we aim to create a system that works for all children, young people and families.

Set in the context of our One Family Approach and the underpinning practice model, our [Children's Multi-Agency Safeguarding and Resilience \(MARS\) Local Arrangements](#) place children, young people, families and communities at the heart of our early help and safeguarding system. Across the partnership, we want to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people and families via the fewest best interventions, leading to whole family turnaround, and we are proud to acknowledge and celebrate the positive outcomes achieved and the strength of partnership working.

The COVID-19 pandemic created unprecedented challenges, developments and opportunities, though the ongoing progress made in developing services that help and work with vulnerable children, their families and communities placed North Lincolnshire in a strong position to respond and we have continued to listen, learn, review and adapt to maintain and build on our creative, innovative and flexible practices. This has resulted in positive experiences and outcomes, and contributes to achieving our ambition for children to be **in their families, in their schools and in their communities**.

In 2021/22, we have continued to:

- ✓ fulfil all functions across our Local Arrangements
- ✓ respond to the needs of individuals and diverse communities, prioritising the most in need, to help and protect children, young people and families
- ✓ support and develop our workforce
- ✓ build on our outstanding partnerships and practice to ensure that everyone is able to recognise and fulfil their responsibilities

The Supporting Families Programme, which closely aligns with the ambitions and values of our One Family Approach and our Local Arrangements, has a renewed focus on the importance of bringing services together around families to deliver whole family working and it emphasises the importance of early help in increasing the likelihood of good outcomes for children and families.

We have high expectations of ourselves as partners to deliver outcomes through integrated working and we have a culture of high challenge and high support which is indicative of our robust, longstanding and creative partnership arrangements.

We would like to thank our Independent Scrutiny Officers for leading on a range of scrutiny and assurance activity and for their constructive challenge, evaluation and areas for consideration on how to drive continuous improvements.

This report fulfils our statutory responsibility to publish a report at least once in every 12 month period and sets out what we have done as a result of our Local Arrangements, including child safeguarding practice reviews, and how effective these arrangements have been in practice.

In addition, the report also includes:

- evidence of the impact of the work of the safeguarding partners and relevant agencies, including training, on outcomes for children and families from early help to looked-after children and care leavers
- an analysis of any areas where there has been little or no evidence of progress on agreed priorities
- a record of decisions and actions taken by the partners in the report's period (or planned to be taken) to implement the recommendations of any local and national child safeguarding practice reviews, including any resulting improvements
- ways in which the partners have sought and utilised feedback from children and families to inform their work and influence service provision

Looking forward, we are in a strong position to respond positively to new policy directions, including (but not exhaustive) the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel's Child Protection in England report and the Independent Review of Children's Social Care final report, and we remain committed to a culture of listening, learning, reviewing and adapting. This is reinforced through our republished arrangements, our learning and improvement culture that is welcoming of improvements and innovations and the multi-agency practice developments and service transformation that continue to evolve.



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North Lincolnshire  
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Chief Superintendent  
South Bank Divisional  
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## Governance and Partnerships

Over the last year, there have been changes at a strategic level across all statutory partner agencies, including the designated safeguarding partners, though there has continued to be a collaborative leadership approach and shared commitment to ensuring an equal and robust partnership. In the Independent Scrutiny Officers review of local arrangements, it was acknowledged that safeguarding partners '*demonstrate a clear, confident grip on the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in the area*'.

The key roles and functions of the board, are detailed in the [Terms of Reference](#) and the responsibilities are detailed in the Local Arrangements and underpinning [Memorandum of Understanding](#). Further information about our partnership structures can be found in the Local Arrangements which have been updated to reflect the changes in our partnership arrangements.

As part of our commitment to listen, learn, review and adapt, we have continued to review and refine our subgroup arrangements. Some examples include:

- In November 2021, the Multi-Agency Audit Group (MAAG) terms of reference was refreshed to lessen the focus on formal audit processes and highlight that the meeting is an opportunity for partners to come together to reflect on multi-agency practice. As part of the refresh, the MAAG was renamed as the Multi-Agency Reflective Practice Forum (MARPF)
- Whilst the Children's Help and Protection Pathway (CHaPP) group maintains oversight of the interface between early help and the safeguarding pathway, it was identified that further work was required to support and strengthen early help practice and lead on system developments with a membership focussed exclusively on early help. The Early Help Strategic Leads Group (EHSLG) was re-established with dual governance to the Children's MARS Board and also the Integrated Children's Trust to take account of the alignment with the Supporting Families Programme

North Lincolnshire has an embedded, responsive partnership system and approach. Reporting to the Children's MARS Board, the CHaPP group is our established assurance mechanism which oversees good practice as well as emerging practice and performance issues. There have been bespoke CHaPP meetings to 'deep dive' into specific areas of practice to ensure high challenge and high support leading to partnership action, improved practice and improved outcomes. Examples include:

- A meeting held on the theme of emotional wellbeing and mental health to respond to an increase in A&E attendances relating to self-harm
- A meeting to review data collated by North Lincolnshire Council public health team in respect of deliberate and unintentional injuries that provided lead officers with an opportunity to reflect on the data relating to children and identify any gaps in provision

Overall, the Local Arrangements continue to have a positive impact on outcomes for children and families. Efficient board arrangements with shared chairpersonship, core membership and active, engaged discussions and decision making continues.

# Headlines and Summary of Performance and Populations

Headlines which indicate our system is working and making a difference to children, young people and families include:

- ✓ The vast majority of performance and activity information relating to the early help and protection system continue to show sustained high performance and compliance with local practice standards and statutory timescales which demonstrate the success and effectiveness of our local practice
- ✓ Families benefit from an effective early help offer, delivered by agencies committed to intervening early, supporting the whole family, and preventing escalation of need through the fewest, best interventions
- ✓ Children in North Lincolnshire who are in need of help and protection are receiving timely, appropriate help and support, they make good progress, and are supported to live safely within their family network
- ✓ There are fewer children in external foster care and residential provision enabling them to remain connected to their local support networks and community

We have maintained and further developed our performance framework which provides assurance and oversight of performance activity, a summary of which is as follows:

- **The number of formal early help assessments recorded has risen:** This reflects a partnership commitment to meeting need early and preventing escalation. Audit activity and management oversight at the front door also shows evidence of a significant amount of informal early help being provided where professionals intervene early in accordance with the Helping Children and Families In North Lincolnshire document
- **The number of strategy discussions has increased:** Dip sampling and audits identify that strategy discussions are held appropriately, and outcomes are aligned to the child's needs and presenting risk
- **There has been an increase in Children's Services Assessments (CSAs) completed:** This is aligned to the fluctuations in referrals (linked to national COVID restrictions being eased), though it is anticipated that populations will become more stable
- **The numbers and rates of children subject to child protection plans has increased though it remains below national and statistical neighbour averages:** For children who do require a child protection plan, they benefit from timely initial and review conferences that prevents drift and have strong multi agency support that leads to a timely de-plan based on lasting change

# Headlines and Summary of Performance and Populations continued

## Summary of performance activity continued

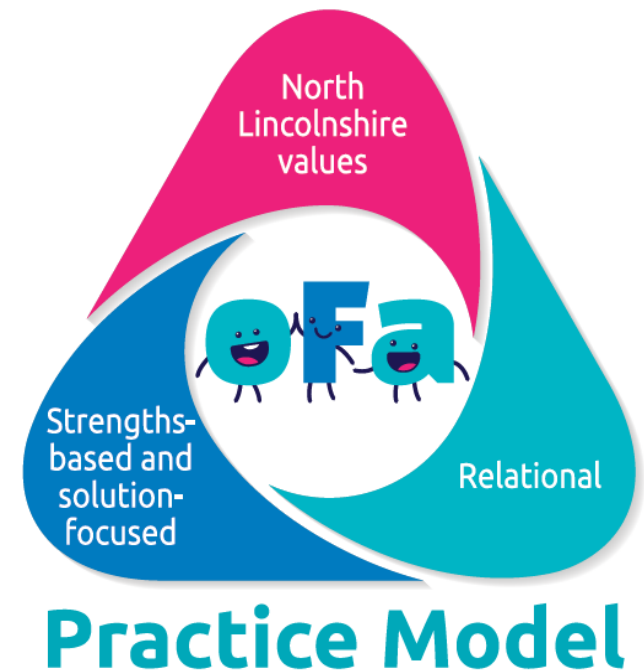
- **The children in care population remains low:** This reinforces our ambition for children to be in their families, in their schools and in their communities
- **The improving trend of children in care experiencing placement stability has continued:** The 2020/21 year end figure for children experiencing three or more placements is the lowest it has been over the last 5 years and this has been maintained in 2021/22 demonstrating the commitment to stability for children in care. Those in care and remaining in the same placement has also improved during 2021/22
- **Care leavers who are in education, employment or training has remained higher than national and statistical neighbour averages:** There has been an increase in care leavers in higher education
- **There has been an increase in school suspensions this academic year:** This increase is mostly due to high suspension rates in a couple of schools and support and challenge is in place to these schools
- **The numbers of Electively Home Educated children has started to decrease:** A case management approach to each request is being taken which identifies need at a much earlier opportunity, alongside early indications of parents not providing suitable education. This has resulted in a speedier return to formal education in a number of cases
- **Overall numbers of children identified to be at risk of or who have experienced exploitation has remained similar compared to the previous year:** There is enhanced management oversight of this cohort through regular case audits and within case supervision. Through the Risk Outside The Home Strategy, partners are working to ensure that children receive help at the lowest level
- **There has been a 13% decrease in incidents of missing children since 2020/21:** The Multi-Agency Missing Children Meeting is embedded and robust in focussing on reducing missing incidents with action plans being devised to complement statutory plans
- **The number of children entering the youth justice system as 'First Time Entrants' continues to be low:** A high proportion of cases are prevention and out of court disposals demonstrating the success and effectiveness of the preventative approach
- **There has been an increase in allegations which meet the threshold for the managing allegations process:** The December 2020 update of Working Together saw the inclusion of a fourth criteria in respect of 'transferable risk'. This, along with further awareness raising of the managing allegations process through training, may account for the increase in the number of allegations

# Key Developments and Successes

## One Family Approach Practice Model in action

The North Lincolnshire One Family Approach Practice Model has continued to be embedded within multi agency practice helping to frame all aspects of family help and protection around values-driven, strengths-based, solution-focused, and relational practice with families at the centre. Examples of the model in action are:

- **Extensive evidence of relational practice** as seen in audit work, where the stability of workers alongside tenacious and committed practice clearly helps achieve good outcomes for children
- The development of the **North Lincolnshire Centre for Relational Practice training offer**, delivered by in-house ‘champions’ – a network of committed practitioners
- The embedding of the **Partnership Integrated Triage (PIT) Stop** to ensure a streamlined offer of early help provided by the most appropriate professional
- A strengthened focus **on family-led decision making** through the family solutions model and the risk outside the home meeting format
- An amplified focus on **engagement with fathers, male carers** and wider family networks to ensure sustainable family solutions
- The development of an **integrated family support ‘request for service’ process**, with a range of interventions available to reflect preventative and targeted levels of need and supporting effective step-down transition from social work





# Key Developments and Successes

## 0 to 2 pathway

Developed in 2020/21, the 0 to 2 pathway strengthens the offer, oversight, and response to this vulnerable group as part of the wider priority given to achieving the Best Start for children. The offer has strengthened during 2021/22 as follows:

- The **Multi Agency Pre-Birth Liaison and Consultation (MAPLAC)** process has been mainstreamed, acting as a key forum for identifying expectant parents who may have additional needs or vulnerabilities to ensure an effective offer of help
- The **virtual ante-natal programme** has continued as a blended approach in line with the wishes of parents. This offer is delivered in partnership between midwifery services, 0 to 19 health visiting and children's centres. The quality of early assessment has improved with the vast majority of integrated assessments at 2 to 2 ½ being fully integrated and face to face
- **Children aged 0 to 2** referred to social work services benefit from additional oversight to ensure an early years offer as appropriate particularly for those with additional vulnerabilities. The systems and frameworks around this have been mainstreamed into practice
- The development of the **integrated and accessible children's offer**, with greater agility and flexibility to reflect the wishes and needs of families. This includes the provision of virtual support alongside face-to-face help, and a broader range of venues for when people want to meet, making use of the community hubs, adult community learning courses, and the cultural offer for children and families such as that taking place in the 20:21 Visual Arts Centre
- The development of the North Lincolnshire Council **Families Direct e-newsletter** which provides information to families about services, what's on in their local area, and how to access advice and support
- There has been **independent scrutiny of the 0 to 2 pathway** which highlighted a number of practice strengths, working to achieve best outcomes for children and families
- Improved assessment of children's communication and **0 to 3 Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) pathway**, and universal training across the sector on infant mental health, Solihull approaches and attachment means children needs are identified and met sooner

# Key Developments and Successes

## Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

Reflecting national recognition of the emotional impact of COVID-19, locally there has been a strong response to this area over the period of the pandemic. Under the auspices of our Children's MARS arrangements, we have maintained a line of sight on the emotional wellbeing of children, young people and families.

In 2021/22, key developments are as follows:

- Developed a tracking tool for monitoring the numbers and progress of children open to children's services, including children in care, who are waiting for a CAMHS or Barnardo's service in relation to their mental health and emotional wellbeing. An emotional wellbeing meeting with key partners has been established to provide challenge and strengthened oversight of the responses to these children
- Improved the management information at the front door in relation to children experiencing acute distress and self-harm with the inclusion of a new classification criteria and additional oversight
- Maintained a strong focus on developing partnership data and oversight of outcomes in relation to children's emotional wellbeing and mental health. This focus can be seen in the challenge presented to key partners at the CHaPP group and the Children's MARS Board
- Represented children's services across the region at the Humber Coast and Vale workstream meetings, aimed at improving services and access as Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) transition to the Integrated Care System
- Taken part in the national Link programme, working with schools, colleges and mental health / emotional wellbeing services to strengthen relationships and local practice
- Ensured a strong emotional wellbeing offer to children and young people, co-ordinating communications with partners about services such as Kooth in order to maximise reach and engagement
- Planned and rolled out the implementation of Mental Health Support Teams
- North Lincolnshire Council and CCG partners are rolling out an Infant Mental Health strategy through workforce development which builds a universal, targeted and specialist approach to attachment and childhood trauma in the early years

All children and young people awaiting a CAMHS or Barnardo's service are known and monitored to ensure they are in receipt of appropriate information, advice and support to support their emotional wellbeing and mental health needs, pending any formal assessment of support and needs.

# Key Developments and Successes

## PIT Stop

The PIT Stop was piloted in March 2021 and has now been mainstreamed into practice. It embeds the principles and values of the One Family Approach by ensuring the needs of children and families are met at the right level by the most appropriate person ensuring the fewest, best interventions. It was developed with a view to providing a more streamlined and robust offer of help to children and families as, previously, a high proportion (around 70%) of all information shared by the Police concluded with no further action being taken. The embedding of the PIT Stop has reduced this considerably. The PIT Stop jointly considers police information (that has already been through police decision making processes and determined that partnership triage is required) with a view to identification of potential levels of need and appropriate responses in line with North Lincolnshire's Helping Children and Families in North Lincolnshire document (refreshed in December 2021). It does this by:

- Taking a One Family Approach to decision making, where the partnership works to identify early risks / needs, harm and vulnerability, and the most appropriate person to lead an offer of help
- Enhancing the partnership link between needs, vulnerability and locality-based problem solving
- Ensuring holistic information is shared to inform effective decision making without delay
- Strengthening the quality of information available, with consistent analysis of need
- Identifying themes and emerging trends within communities to build resilience enabling proactive targeting of resources
- Building intelligence that encourages a long-term approach to reduce future risk, needs and vulnerability which in turn builds resilience and reduces demand and cost
- Sharing the relevant information to identify how need can be met at the lowest possible level by the most appropriate person

The PIT Stop has recently been further developed to incorporate domestic abuse notifications which were previously considered in a separate triage process. This has created an even more integrated forum for considering and responding quickly to emerging need.

- PIT Stop has been effective in ensuring holistic partner information is shared to understand the lived experience of the child and ensure early intervention is provided by the most appropriate agency to prevent need from escalating
- The quality and analysis of partner information has been strengthened and there is joint accountability for decisions made
- Its effectiveness is evidenced in the low number of children entering into children's services following initial discussion and a very low number of repeat discussions
- The number of contacts made by the police which concluded with no further action has reduced from 70% in March 2021 to around 30% currently
- The analysis of the Child Exploitation Vulnerability Tracker to understand emerging risks has enabled proactive early intervention in key hotspot locations which has prevented escalation

# Key Developments and Successes

## Focus on vulnerable children in education

Strong leadership has resulted in sustained improvements in the percentage of settings, schools and colleges that are recognised as 'good' and 'outstanding' by Ofsted.

School improvement functions and school to school support, includes a sharp focus on vulnerable children in the annual quality of performance review which is undertaken with all participating schools and academies (69 out of 79). Where concerns are revealed in the joint self evaluation, follow up work takes place at whole school and leadership level to ensure schools are effectively delivering an inclusive curriculum which meets children's individual needs, as well as specialist challenge and support to drive improvements.

There has been a range of discussions with across children's services and education inclusion to develop our response to the survey pertaining the **Ofsted review into sexual abuse in schools and colleges**. A statement has been published on the Children's MARS website regarding our local response and current offer, with much information and guidance for schools and colleges already available on the website including training that has additionally been developed and/or disseminated by education leads.

The **daily tasking meetings**, which were established in May 2020 in response to COVID-19, continue to be embedded into practice and they are continually reviewed to reflect the changing context maintaining a One Family Approach to supporting more vulnerable children to access education.

The meetings provide an **opportunity to enable the workforce to think creatively, respond quickly, seek advice and support from partners, and implement effective plans to improve the circumstances and increase aspirations for children**. We have supported and empowered families through multi-disciplinary direct work to raise awareness of the importance of education, raising aspirations and building confidence and resourcefulness in finding solutions to promote attendance and achievement.

The team of professionals have supported children in accessing school uniforms, creating individual timetables, supporting families to take their children to school and being part of the team around the child for continued support, where necessary. Learning from the voice of children and families has informed this meeting.

Practitioners involved with the daily tasking meetings share that they have:

- **Built on and emphasised the collective responsibility to ensure vulnerable children are in education**
- **Increased connectivity and fostered stronger relations between staff**
- **Improved confidence and upskilled professionals to challenge on behalf of children and their families**

## Key Developments and Successes

In order to demonstrate the impact of the Daily Tasking Meeting two case examples are outlined with analysis by the children's lead professionals.

*Young person (YP) was referred to the daily tasking meeting in Spring 2021, he was 17 at the time. YP was identified as not in Employment, Education or Training. YP was also on the MACE meeting agenda due to concerns that he was at risk of child criminal exploitation and being exploited by an Organised Crime Group.*

*The impact of the Daily Tasking Meeting has been that there has been a **clear line of sight on YP's opportunities in relation to Education, Employment and Training** with the social worker and key professionals being re-directed and encouraged on a regular basis to continue to build a relationship with YP, discuss his future aspirations and engage him in relevant work and agencies. The Daily Tasking Meeting ensured on emphasis on education, employment, and training so momentum was not lost.*

*After 7 months, this resulted in him accepting a referral to Empower and YP attended a telephone appointment and then two face-to-face appointments at the end of 2021, where he updated his CV and secured employment. YP was supported to gain employment at a local manufacturing business.*

*With the Daily Tasking Meeting encouraging persistence, the multi-agency group has supported YP and **he has now been diverted away from risks associated with child criminal exploitation and is now in employment.***

*Child Z is a 12 year old male child. He became known to the Youth Justice Partnership (YJP) due to a public order offence at his home address which consisted of conflict with his mother and her partner.*

*School concerns were identified when he first became open to the YJP at the end of 2020. Z's attendance was 64% with over 20 authorised absences and almost 10 unauthorised absences with this continuing to decrease. This resulted in his attendance dropping to 7% between the end of 2020 to the end of the school year in 2021.*

*It had also been identified by professionals that Z's emotional well-being had been impacted upon, including his sleeping and eating patterns.*

*The YJP Education Inclusion Officer identified that they **felt empowered by the Daily Tasking meeting to challenge the school.** SENDIASS and Education Inclusion Officer were involved with a challenge to the secondary school. This included submitting an EHCP referral and consideration of a nurturing alternative provision to phase Z back into and engage with his education.*

***Z has since returned to full time education** into a provision in line with his assessed needs. Z is thriving and he has improved emotional wellbeing and has had no further offending.*

# Key Developments and Successes

## Children in Care and Care Leavers

The CHaPP has strengthened its oversight of vulnerable children to include a line of sight on children in care and care leavers in 2021/22.

### Children in Care

In 2021/22, there has been a continuing focus on helping children to remain in their families, schools, and communities. Overall numbers of children in care have continued to reduce, continuing a longer-term downward trend and reflecting our focus on early help and achieving reunification and permanence for those who do enter care. The values and vision enshrined in our One Family Approach Practice Model are at the heart of our practice for children in care. We strongly believe that children need to remain connected to their local community and the You Say Who model is well embedded into practice and children's connections and relationships are paramount in this. By using the You Say Who model children have made reconnections with family members and people that are important to them.

In 2021/22, we have further developed our emotional wellbeing oversight for our children in care. As part of this drive to ensure that all children have support to be emotionally well, the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaires (SDQ) that are completed each month receive oversight from CAMHS, Barnardo's therapeutic service, the designated child in care Nurse, Educational Psychologist, Service Manager for both Children in Care and Fostering. The group has ensured that children's SDQ scores are reflected upon and needs lead to additional support.

### Care Leavers

A service review and redesign has resulted in more Personal Advisors and therefore greater capacity to spend time with our young people.

All our care leavers have continued to be regularly contacted in line with their plan including visiting them in their homes.

We have continued to provide MIFI devices for young people to ensure that they remained digitally connected during the pandemic and beyond, which is actively supporting emotional wellbeing and reducing social isolation for our young people.

We have consulted directly with the Rees Foundation to consider the support that our young people can benefit from through accessing services that they provide. This led to exploring the Ask Jan Membership which we are now beginning to provide to care leavers on a needs-led basis



Shine a Light Area of Focus

## Risk Outside The Home

We said we would further develop the multi-agency approach to Risk Outside the Home with a focus on harmful sexual behaviour

# Risk Outside the Home: Harmful Sexual Behaviour

## What have we done?

- The connectivity between the Risk Outside the Home Strategy Group and the Harmful Sexual Behaviour Panel has been strengthened by including the chair of the Panel to the membership of the strategy group and developing an annual reporting process
- Brook Sexual Behaviours Traffic Light Tool training was commissioned and a number of staff across the partnership have been trained as trainers. Regular training is taking place as part of the Children's MARS Education and Training programme
- Harmful Sexual Behaviour training was commissioned from the Child Sexual Abuse Centre of Expertise
- A Harmful Sexual Behaviour training presentation for schools and colleges and a Risk Outside the Home awareness presentation was developed and made available on the Children's MARS website
- Training was commissioned for practitioners on the AIM2 Assessment Tool and Good Lives Intervention model to equip them with the knowledge and skills to support children and young people
- A Risk Outside the Home toolkit for practitioners was developed, published and disseminated. The toolkit contains a range of tools, resources and guidance covering all types of harm relating to Risk Outside the Home
- Harmful Sexual Behaviour training has been delivered to schools, colleges and education providers through the Designated Safeguarding Leads Termly Briefing to ensure that they are able to identify inappropriate behaviours and offer early help and support
- 7 minute briefings on Children's MARS scrutiny and assurance activity were developed and disseminated relating to the work of the Harmful Sexual Behaviour Panel and the Thematic Assurance Event on Harmful Sexual Behaviour. These briefings were shared at key partnership meetings and staff forums including at a Designated Safeguarding Leads Termly Briefing and a GP Practice Teaching and Learning Event for primary care staff
- Communications were built into the Children's MARS communication and stakeholder engagement planner throughout the year with a specific focus around key national campaign dates (#LookCloser and #SaySomethingIfYouSeeSomething). Resources were strengthened on the Children's MARS website and promoted via social media on topics such as trafficking, knife crime, online abuse, sexual harassment, bullying and teenage relationship abuse



# Risk Outside the Home: Harmful Sexual Behaviour

## Outcomes and Impact:

- The Risk Outside the Home Strategy Group and the Children's MARS Board have strengthened oversight of the impact of local practice relating to harmful sexual behaviour including the views of children and families on interventions through the Harmful Sexual Behaviour Panel annual report
- Key staff across the partnership have an increased awareness of the role of the Harmful Sexual Behaviour Panel including how to seek advice and support from specialist Harmful Sexual Behaviour practitioners
- By strengthening the available resources and training materials on the Children's MARS website and the dissemination of briefings and reports through the communications list, staff have increased access to advice and recommended tools to use in practice and can signpost these to children and families
- The AIM2 assessments continue to impact directly on court outcomes, we can now provide the courts with robust evidence-based risk assessments and a plan of support enabling young people and families to move on in their lives, whilst ensuring robust risk management with shared agency responsibility
- By widening the pool of HSB practitioners through specialist training, children and young people continue to receive timely interventions and sustainable outcomes at the earliest opportunity and at the lowest safe level

Practitioners in attendance at training throughout the year have shared feedback around the impact of training on their practice.

## Brook Traffic Light Tool:

- The Brook Traffic Light Tool is a very useful tool for clarification and identification of need. It is very clear and easy to use. In dealing with children with complex needs, it is invaluable to have the widest range of knowledge and assessment tools as possible
- The tool is very clear, informative, easy to access and supports next steps for young people. I have also found this informative to consider my professional opinion during multi-agency decision making

## Harmful Sexual Behaviour training

- I feel I am more able to recognise signs of harmful behaviour and feel better equipped to help both the harmer and the harmed
- The training has helped me provide the necessary care to either the harmer or the harmed. It has also provided me with a greater understanding to evaluate the level of harm and which outside agencies to involve, if necessary

# Risk Outside the Home: Harmful Sexual Behaviour

## Independent Scrutiny

Under the Children's MARS local arrangements, there has been a thematic assurance event on the theme of Harmful Sexual Behaviour consisting of:

- a presentation from leads of the North Lincolnshire Harmful Sexual Behaviour Panel which set out the context, including how the pathway works and how it is monitored
- a discussion with frontline practitioners to discuss the local approach to Harmful Sexual Behaviour, gather their views and share areas of good practice
- a multi-agency case audit practice learning line of sight event discussing two children who are receiving Harmful Sexual Behaviour intervention

This event was led by Dave Basker, Independent Scrutiny Officer.

Through the thematic assurance event on the theme of harmful sexual behaviour, there is evidence of good quality practice, e.g.

- The Harmful Sexual Behaviour Panel are flexible in their approach - cases which do not meet the criteria are considered where required and the Panel considers preventative work
- There is good multi-agency representation at the Harmful Sexual Behaviour Panel which provides a wealth of experience to contribute to intervention and provide support to the Harmful Sexual Behaviour practitioners
- A learning culture was evident in that both practitioners and supervisors demonstrated that they utilise national guidance and seek further support from wider national experts as appropriate
- Practitioners were aware of the nuances in Harmful Sexual Behaviour assessment where children have additional needs such as Special Educational Needs/Disabilities or where children have witnessed domestic abuse
- The values and principals of the One Family Approach was evident in that support to the wider family and siblings is considered. Practice is strengths based, solution focused and child centred
- There was evidence of positive work being done in schools to strengthen the approach to Harmful Sexual Behaviour including a specific example of a young person being safely managed in school without being excluded from 'normal' school life

A 7 minute briefing on the learning from the event has been circulated to practitioners and managers across the partnership and made available on the Children's MARS website.

# Risk Outside the Home: Response to Sexual Abuse in Schools and Colleges

## Support to schools and colleges in their response to sexual abuse in schools and colleges

Ofsted published its '[Review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges](#)' on 10 June 2021. This was followed up by a letter from Ministers at the Department for Education, Home Office and Department of Health and Social Care, which called for safeguarding partners to review work to improve engagement with schools and tailor their approach to what the analysis indicates are the risks to children and young people in the local area. The letter also called for safeguarding partners to set out what the local offer to schools and colleges was.

In North Lincolnshire, we have established mechanisms in place as part of our local arrangements to support schools, including academies, colleges and alternative providers, which has also been further strengthened as part of our local response to the Ofsted report. Our offer to schools and colleges was disseminated and published on the [Designated Safeguarding Leads page](#) of the Children's MARS website.

After the publication of the above report, a bespoke sexual abuse audit tool for schools and colleges was created, utilising the recommendations, to enable schools to self-evaluate their current position in light of the findings of the report.

Initial responses to the audit tool were shared at a leadership briefing for Headteachers and Chairs of Governors in September 2021, as well as a briefing for Designated Safeguarding Leads. The findings have been incorporated into bespoke safeguarding training for school governors. As part of the September Designated Safeguarding Leads termly briefing, staff reflected on a case study and the related process about how a school might respond following a disclosure of historic sexual violence.

During the summer, all schools and alternative providers were provided with training resources to use in their September inset day. This included peer on peer abuse, sexual violence and sexual harassment updates from Keeping Children Safe In Education 2021, which can be adapted to meet the needs of their staff, children and community.

Based on the feedback, schools used an 'assume it is happening here' ethos to reflect on their approach to sexual abuse and harassment. Safeguarding reviews of schools include a sharp focus on sexual violence and sexual harassment including the voice of the child, staff and senior leadership.

The sexual harassment and sexual violence section within the Children's MARS annual schools safeguarding audit has been extended to include the questions within the audit tool, thus embedding the research into current safeguarding processes. Further information on the annual school safeguarding audit is included in the 'scrutiny and assurance' section of this report.

## Risk Outside the Home: Other Key Developments

### North Lincolnshire Risk Outside the Home Approach

The North Lincolnshire Risk Outside the Home (ROTH) Approach has been developed taking into account our local work with children, young people, their families and communities.

The One Family Approach provides the framework for how we respond to the needs of all children and families in North Lincolnshire. It is founded upon our North Lincolnshire culture, values and beliefs, providing a vision for a system that sees children, young people, and families as experts within their own lives. It provides a model for innovative, integrated working which builds upon strengths, finds solutions in families and communities, builds resilience and confidence, and enables independence. We have developed the ROTH Approach within this context, and by building upon the robust multi-agency arrangements already in place for tackling sexual and criminal exploitation, and other forms of risk that children may experience in the community such as when missing, or from radicalisation, or being drawn into modern day slavery.

The North Lincolnshire ROTH Approach is comprised of 3 elements:

1. Practice Principles – Empowering families, taking a One Family Approach
2. Identifying and Helping – Using skills and resources to identify, assess, and intervene
3. Managing Risk – Working together to reduce risk and improve outcomes

For further information, the [North Lincolnshire ROTH Approach](#) is available on the Children's MARS website.

A key aspect of the ROTH Approach was the development of a model and format for risk outside the home meetings, for children at risk of or experiencing exploitation who may be subject to a child in need or child protection plan. Drawing upon research and shaped by local learning and consultation with practitioners, children, and families, it aims to empower families as safeguarding partners, place the lived experience of the child at the centre and strengthen information sharing around place, context, and vulnerability.

The new risk outside the home meetings model was trialled as part of a pilot where child protection conference officers facilitated bespoke meetings for 4 children in 4 families who were subject to child in need plans but where the risk was on the edge of 'significant harm'.

A partnership development session considered the learning from the pilot and the model was embedded into practice for children where there are risks outside the home to maximise relational and co-producing practice across existing early help and safeguarding frameworks and processes. A new Child Exploitation Lead Officers Group will also be established in 2022/23 to consider the cohort of children who are vulnerable to or are being exploited, and to consider themes, trends and issues that may require an additional tactical or operational response.

## Risk Outside the Home: Other Key Developments

### **North Lincolnshire Risk Outside the Home Strategy 2022/25 and delivery plan**

In light of the local developments relating to Risk Outside the Home and the establishment of the Risk Outside the Home Strategy Group replacing the previous Child Exploitation and Missing Strategy Group, a redeveloped Risk Outside the Home Strategy 2022/25 has been agreed.

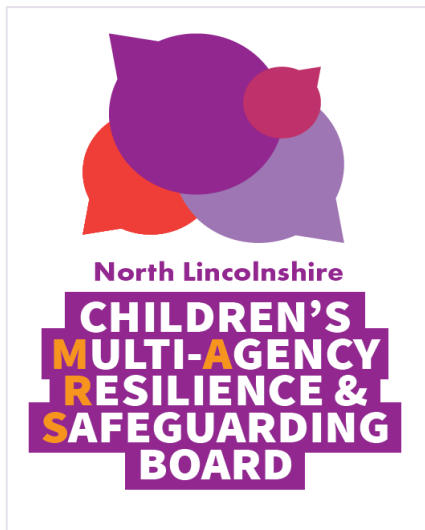
North Lincolnshire's Risk Outside the Home Strategy sits under the auspices of the Children's MARS Board and is jointly owned by the Community Safety Partnership Board and is supported by the Youth Justice Partnership. Together, we continue to work collaboratively to reduce the harm from risk outside the home and the strategy sets out the priorities for partnership action to drive forward system change.

An underpinning delivery plan has been developed to orientate partnership action articulated in the strategy. The implementation of the delivery plan is led through the Risk Outside the Home Strategy Group and associated groups and workstreams. The Risk Outside the Home Strategy Group monitors progress against the delivery plan, including the effectiveness of multi-agency work in respect of safeguarding children and young people who may be at risk from outside their families or who have suffered harm as a result. The Risk Outside the Home Strategy Group provides partnership challenge and support as required.

For further information, the [Risk Outside the Home Strategy 2022/25 is available on the Children's MARS website](#).

### **Next steps:**

Due to the large amount of development work that has taken place over the past year and the ongoing need to focus on identifying and responding to children at risk of or experiencing child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation, the Children's MARS Board have recognised the need to 'Shine a Light' on child exploitation in 2022/23. In selecting child exploitation as an area of focus, further assurance can be sought around the impact that the development work has had on children and families. The national learning from the new Joint Targeted Area Inspection framework focussing on child criminal exploitation (also featuring child sexual exploitation) may also provide additional opportunities to strengthen practice in this area.



Shine a Light Area of Focus

## Child Sexual Abuse in the Family Environment

We said we would further develop the multi-agency approach to child sexual abuse in the family environment

# Child Sexual Abuse in the Family Environment

## What have we done?

- We progressed our proposal to hold a development session, the outcomes of which helped to shape and drive partnership action. As part of this, a position statement was developed to better understand our local profile and levels of need
- In May 2021, the Multi-Agency Audit Group (now MARPF) reflected on practice in children's cases relating to child sexual abuse in the family environment
- Through the SPLIG, we have acknowledged the Joint Targeted Area Inspection 'The multi-agency response to child sexual abuse in the family environment' published in 2020 and have undertaken a benchmarking exercise
- New resources from the Child Sexual Abuse Centre of Expertise including a guide for communicating with children who have been sexually abused and a guide for supporting parents and carers was disseminated through the Children's MARS communications list and included in the refresh of the Children's MARS child sexual abuse in the family environment toolkit
- Information and resources for children, young people and parents was strengthened on the Children's MARS website
- Safe North Lincs supported national Safer Internet Day and shared a range of associated resources including advice guides for parents and carers relating to online grooming
- Achieving Best Evidence refresher training has taken place across Children's Services and Humberside Police
- A Humberside Police leaflet which sets out what staff should be doing at each stage of the Achieving Best Evidence process was disseminated widely
- The Lucy Faithful Foundation Stop it Now campaign helping prevent child sexual abuse has been promoted via Safe North Lincs
- A Children's MARS Spotlight on child sexual abuse in the family environment was developed and disseminated
- Child sexual abuse in the family environment was a focus at a GP Practice Teaching and Learning Event with 105 primary care staff in attendance
- Bespoke training was commissioned from the Child Sexual Abuse Centre of Expertise including Intra-Familial Child Sexual Abuse
- Data from the Child Sexual Assault Assessment Service relating to the attendance of North Lincolnshire children at the Anlaby Suite has been strengthened in the partnership performance report. Work has also taken place to involve the Child Sexual Assault Assessment Service in strategy discussions where appropriate

# Child Sexual Abuse in the Family Environment

## Outcomes and Impact:

- Children and families have access to advice, guidance and resources specifically aimed at children and parents/carers on the Children's MARS website
- Through the Child Sexual Abuse in the Family Environment Toolkit, practitioners have access to advice and recommended tools to use in practice and to signpost to children and families

## Independent Scrutiny

Under the Children's MARS local arrangements, there has been a multi-agency case audit practice learning line of sight event on children's cases relating to child sexual abuse in the family environment.

This event was led by Dave Basker, Independent Scrutiny Officer.

Through the multi-agency case audit practice learning line of sight event on the theme of child sexual abuse in the family environment, there is evidence of quality of practice, e.g

- Cases involving child sexual abuse are complex, however the values and principals of the One Family Approach are being demonstrated within practice. There was evidence of relational working and the practitioners supporting the family were the best persons to do the work. In both cases, the children were supported to remain in their home, in their school and in their community
- There were examples of practitioners using research, evidence-based tools and learning from past cases to inform assessments and planning
- There is evidence of strong leadership oversight from a multi-agency perspective. Where there were challenges, senior leaders came together to consider what else could be done
- The use of family solutions was evident in that wider family members were involved in the plan
- Children's identity and self-esteem were considered and work around this was built into the help and support being provided

A 7 minute briefing on the learning from the event has been circulated to practitioners and managers across the partnership and made available on the Children's MARS website





# Learning and Improvement

## Multi-Agency Education and Training

Children's MARS Education and Training has continued to be offered virtually across the partnership. Child Protection training has continued to be offered as a priority course throughout the year and is well attended and in high demand. The Child Protection training has been a key mechanism to embed the One Family Approach and to raise awareness of key strategic documents with new staff, such as the North Lincolnshire Risk Outside the Home Approach. There has also been an increased focus on activity to communicate key tools, resources and learning from national reports and local independent scrutiny work.

Key highlights include:

- 135 practitioners trained in child protection
- A significant increase in the number of e-workbooks completed across a range of awareness topics including safeguarding, child criminal and child sexual exploitation and female genital mutilation. 567 e-workbooks were completed during the year compared to 139 which were completed the previous year
- 289 Designated Safeguarding Leads and school pastoral staff have attended the quarterly Designated Safeguarding Leads briefings and have been trained in risk outside the home, managing allegations and harmful sexual behaviour. Presentations have been given on a key national reports such as the Ofsted review into sexual abuse in schools and colleges
- 194 staff from early years settings and childminders have undertaken safeguarding awareness training
- Over 200 practitioners across the partnership have been trained in recognising and responding to family conflict. This includes the training of almost 100 childminders and early years providers
- 7 minute briefings, special edition newsletters and briefings have been used to communicate learning to frontline practitioners
- National and regional online webinars and training courses have been promoted through the Children's MARS communications channels on a range of subjects including domestic abuse, child exploitation and trafficking, suicide prevention and harm from gambling

We have also commissioned bespoke training from a range of national experts and organisations throughout the year. Some examples include:

- Working with women and girls affected by gangs and county lines was commissioned via the Risk Outside the Home Strategy group
- Working collaboratively with colleagues across the region via the Yorkshire and Humber Multi-Agency Safeguarding Trainers group, a series of webinars on the theme of domestic abuse and the impact on children were commissioned with some sessions being made available on YouTube
- Karma Nirvana facilitated bespoke Honour Based Abuse and Forced Marriage training
- Training on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Cultural and Economic Diversity and Safeguarding Children was commissioned via the National FGM Centre

## Multi-Agency Education and Training

In their report on the effectiveness of the Children's MARS Arrangements, the Independent Scrutiny Officers highlighted that:

*Effective mechanisms are in place for disseminating key messages to the front line. The importance of supporting practitioners in the difficult work they have to do is understood. A comprehensive training programme is in place and is well used.*

*The quality of the Children's MARS training offer was viewed as helpful and informative.*

The quarterly training evaluation reports presented to the SPLIG have highlighted that there has been an overall improvement on practitioners' confidence in the subject matter after all Children's MARS training courses. Based on feedback and evaluation, training remained of a high quality, delivered by knowledgeable and engaging trainers with examples of positive impacts on practice such as enhanced knowledge and skills to engage, assess, plan and work directly with children, young people and families.

### Feedback from practitioners

An electronic feedback survey is distributed after each training course delivered as part of the Children's MARS Education and Training Programme. Practitioners have provided the examples below of how training has improved their knowledge and will impact on their practice:

- *Prior to the training, I thought that Honour Based Abuse was limited to certain backgrounds (religions etc.), however this training helped me understand that this isn't the case*
- *With the age of students we work with, knowing about drugs and drug trends is really relevant. I am going to pass on all the information learnt to the team in college*
- *This training will empower me to be extra vigilant in my role as designated safeguarding lead and will allow me to cascade up to date information to all stakeholders and thereby keep pupils and staff safe*
- *It has helped to understand the 4 main types of Female Genital Mutilation, the health implications, the terminology. The use of the interactive map to support risk assessments is really useful as is the access to resources. Listening to the survivors account videos really brought the training home*
- *The training gave me a deeper understanding of the levels of need which will enable me to support the children and provide support if needed within my setting. The training also enabled me to be aware of the procedures and timelines of child protection conferences and the importance of recording and reporting any concerns/risks of harm*
- *The training has made me think about my approaches and how I can make them more strengths based and solution focused when talking to young people I work with*
- *This training has provided me with an overview of missing children and how a child or young person may become vulnerable to going missing. Whilst I work with families with children aged 0-5, they often have older children thus I can now be more aware of family dynamics and be more aware of what parents and/or older children say and I now know how to report any concerns or who to contact to discuss any concerns*

# Communications

There is a commitment to communicating across the safeguarding partner organisations and other agencies. The Children's MARS website is central to our communications strategy and is regularly refreshed to include a variety of resources, tools and learning from local and national reviews for professionals to access.

Children's MARS news updates continue to be used to communicate information and messages relating to the Local Arrangements to key stakeholders. Messages also continued to be shared through our social media channels, Safe North Lincs.

Regular email communications via the Children's MARS communications list alert practitioners to what is new and available both locally and nationally. This has been an important mechanism to increase the reach of key messages across the partnership and there continues to be high levels of engagement with the information circulated. There are further opportunities to target communications i.e. with the voluntary community and social enterprise sector to raise awareness of and engagement in our Local Arrangements.



The Children's MARS Spotlight has been developed as a way of coordinating key messages for practice, training opportunities and key tools and resources around a specific topic. The Spotlights have been disseminated via our communications list and published on the Children's MARS website. Staff are encouraged to circulate the Spotlights across their teams and discuss them as part of team meetings.

Some examples of communication activity includes:

- There has been a gradual increase in followers on Safe North Lincs Facebook and Twitter profiles throughout the year which enables us to reach a wider audience
- In both July 2021 and October 2021, posts on Facebook and Twitter reached over 3800 people
- We supported the Humberside Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Domestic Abuse campaigns in which posters and resources were promoted throughout key points in the year, such as Valentines Day and over the Christmas period
- Leaflets and information for parents and carers around the use and effects of specific drugs were circulated after a recent trend was identified by the local A&E
- Bespoke communications were shared in response to the high profile children's cases in the media. Information was circulated to promote good practice and local learning, available training and resources and the promotion of key policies and procedures
- The #LookCloser 'Spotting the signs of child exploitation' posters reached over 1100 people on Facebook and Twitter during child exploitation awareness week and resources from the Act Early radicalisation campaign featured in the top 3 posts on social media during the month they were released

# Voice and Stakeholder Engagement

Across the Children's MARS arrangements, there is a commitment to **listening, learning, reviewing and adapting** from views and experiences and ensuring people are involved in decisions that affect their lives. To contribute to this, there is a range of opportunities for children, young people, parents, families and communities to have their say at an individual, service and strategic level and evidence of engagement and co-production.

## Engagement activity, impact and outcomes

Examples include:

- Outcomes of consultation with children and young people relating to Risk Outside the Home helped to shape and influence the Risk Outside the Home Strategy and underpinning delivery plan
- Young people have continued to be involved in co-producing Not In Our Community resources, e.g. young people wrote, acted in and recorded a film aimed at raising awareness of vulnerability to exploitation and which will be used as a tool for children in schools and settings
- 407 children, young people and families have engaged in thematic consultation regarding emotional wellbeing and how this is supported. There were some positive messages and examples of good practice, though having taken account of areas for further learning and consideration, we have:
  - Continued to raised awareness of resources, tools and apps to help with emotional wellbeing
  - Continued to develop and implement the local offer across a range of mechanisms to meet children, parents and carers needs
  - Continued to engage with children, parents and carers in ways that best meet their needs and preferences
- 4112 children, parents and foster carers responded to the child and family feedback framework and feedback consistently shows that:
  - 99% of respondents understand why Children Services are involved.
  - 99% believe they have the chance to have their say
  - 99% believe the work we are doing is making them/their children feel safer
  - 99% fully understand the child's plan

## Involving wider family members

There has been a strengthened focus on engagement with fathers, male carers and wider family networks to ensure sustainable family solutions. A thematic consultation activity was undertaken with 200 children, young people, parents and carers who have experienced social care services to consider the involvement of fathers and wider family members in the plan and work with children and young people. We asked if we had helped important family members to be included, how their views had been gained and if they felt that these had been considered appropriately. Overall, the feedback gained was extremely positive, for example:

- families were clear that their views had been listened to, that relevant family members have been included within conversations and plans relating to them and their children
- wider family members also indicated that they felt listened and informed through the work that has taken place
- children highlighted that they had a trusted person involved who was important to them

Areas for further consideration were to ensure contact details for all key family members are maintained to support regular contact; and that families fully understand the roles of different practitioners working with them and that they have an identified worker who will lead in communications.

Whilst there is evidence of strength in our practice, this will continue to be a focus in the year ahead.

# Voice and Stakeholder Engagement

## Experts by Experience

Funded through the Children's MARS Local Arrangements, we are developing dedicated, paid roles for people with experiences of services to support and challenge us to make sure our information, support and services for children and families are co-produced, leading to better outcomes.

A job description has been developed for new 'Supporting Families in Partnership Assistant' posts and recruitment processes are underway. Plans are also developing regarding induction, support and infrastructure arrangements including the interface across wider Children and Families and to embed these roles, their functions and activity, impacts and outcomes in the Local Arrangements.

## Voice and stakeholder engagement - pending opportunities

Arrangements are ongoing in preparation for the Children's MARS Conference which is scheduled to take place on 5 May 2022. The conference is an opportunity to bring together practitioners and local leaders at all levels who have responsibilities to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. As well as having a focus on our local arrangements, there will be input from a national speaker who will help us to reflect upon local practice.

Other pending opportunities include:

- Stay Safe Conference for schools which will take place on 23 and 24 June 2022
- Designated Safeguarding Leads Conference is due to take place on 6 July 2022
- Democracy Day for children and young people on 8 August 2022

In the year ahead, we will continue to focus on and further build our opportunities to engage directly with children, young people and families to understand their views and experiences and empower them to shape and influence our local arrangements, including through co-production.

# Funding

Safeguarding partners have a shared ownership of funding responsibilities and they have agreed equitable and proportionate contributions to ensure the implementation of the Local Arrangements. These consist of actual funding and in-kind resources, for example representatives from safeguarding partner organisations contribute to the development and delivery of the education and training programme. In addition, each of the safeguarding partners have agreed that key subject matter experts from their organisations will lead specific pieces of work to progress the areas of focus, strategies and delivery plans.

In the event of a safeguarding practice review, it has been agreed that funding will be met by the three safeguarding partners and where necessary, each partner will contribute equitable and proportionate funding over and above the normal allocation in order to fulfil the costs of any review.

Funding from wider individual agencies has continued for 2020/21 as indicated in the tables below.

Contributions	2021/22 (£)
North Lincolnshire Council	50,000
North Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group	38,241
Humberside Police	13,000
National Probation Service	692
Community Rehabilitation Company <i>Contribution for quarter one only due to merge with the National Probation Service</i>	275
John Leggott College	1,140
North Lindsey College	1,140
Education	38,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>142,488</b>

In relation to expenditure for 2021/22, the safeguarding partners agreed the funding allocation inclusive of a Lead Officer, Partnerships and Policy Officer, Independent Scrutiny Officer(s), training and subscriptions and memberships.

Costs relating to room bookings, equipment and publications have not specifically been accounted for as monetary contributions in the safeguarding partner's funding agreement however these costs can be met using the remainder of the budget.

Budget allocation	2021/22 (£)
Staffing costs	106,991
Independent scrutiny	20,000
Training	10,000
Subscriptions and memberships	1,044
<b>Total</b>	<b>138,035</b>

## Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

The Children's MARS Board/safeguarding partners have not been notified of any serious child safeguarding incidents during the period of this annual report.

Independent scrutiny of the identification and notification process that was implemented as a result of our Local Arrangements took place in 2020. This included independent scrutiny of cases considered by North Lincolnshire Children's Services as potentially meeting the criteria for serious child safeguarding incidents. A recommendation from the report was that Independent Scrutiny is undertaken annually or as appropriate depending on the numbers involved. Therefore, the exercise was repeated in May 2021.

The 2021 Independent Scrutiny report highlights: *In 2020, I concluded that the decision making was robust. My independent scrutiny this year suggests that the process and the learning from the serious cases has been further strengthened. Given that this has been an extraordinarily difficult year for families and for those working in safeguarding this is an even more significant achievement.*

We have also continued to seek assurance through the SPLIG that partner agencies and key relevant agencies:

- have internal processes in place for identifying potential serious child safeguarding cases
- are aware of the criteria for a serious child safeguarding case and how to notify the safeguarding partners for them to consider whether the criteria are met and whether a rapid review is undertaken to determine if a child safeguarding practice review is required
- have internal processes in place and are aware of/know how to request that the safeguarding partners or their representatives consider undertaking a child safeguarding practice review if the criteria are not met, yet the case may raise issues of importance to the local area and there has been the identification of good practice, poor practice or 'near miss' events
- have or have not discussed and considered one or more potential serious child safeguarding cases yet concluded that they do not meet the criteria for notification

This was completed to assure ourselves that there had been no serious cases that were not notified to the safeguarding partners.

Key staff were knowledgeable about the process and Children's MARS policies and procedures. The Children's MARS Board were subsequently assured that agencies know how to identify and notify the safeguarding partners of a serious child safeguarding case.



## Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel: National Reviews

Through the SPLIG, we have taken account of learning from review activity led by the national Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel including the learning points in their report **'The Myth of Invisible Men: Safeguarding children under one from non-accidental injury caused by male carers'**, September 2021.

Following on from the thematic assurance event in relation to babies and young children held in 2020/21, a multi-agency case audit practice learning line of sight event on children's cases relating to babies and young children was held in September 2021 to provide further assurance of local practice. The event evidenced that practice is of a high quality and safeguarding partner representatives were assured that babies and young children are receiving the right support and care at the right time and level.

A collaborative benchmarking exercise was undertaken and North Lincolnshire partners agreed that there is a strong partnership approach to safeguarding children from non-accidental injury and there were many examples of positive local practice. Some examples include:

- The Children's MARS Protocol for the assessment of injuries to babies and children is available on the Children's MARS website and has been refreshed and disseminated several times through briefings and communications to members of the Children's MARS communications list
- There has been an increased focus on considering the involvement of fathers and male carers through Children's MARS scrutiny and assurance activity and specific questions have been added into the multi-agency audit template to aid reflection
- Children's Services have amended their child and family feedback forms to allow us to more accurately collate the views of fathers
- Stay and play sessions and young parents groups facilitated via the children's centres and local authority nurseries have been targeted at fathers. Taking account of feedback from fathers in that they indicated they were more comfortable participating as couples/parents, there has been a focus on ensuring fathers are aware of the offer and are encouraged to attend
- The 0-19 (25 SEND) Health and Wellbeing Service have had an increased focus on whole family working and including fathers. During the pandemic, there was an increase in fathers attending support groups due to the sessions being held virtually. Feedback indicates that in addition to it being easier to access, some fathers felt more comfortable in a virtual environment. Taking account of this feedback, the service has continued to hold virtual groups aimed at fathers. Work has also been completed through the school nursing team with young males to include them in conversations around understanding pregnancy and relationships
- It was recognised that there needs to be a level of flexibility to ensure meetings fit around father's work commitments and there is ongoing work to ensure that fathers can attend key meetings such as Child in Need meetings

### Next Steps:

- It is acknowledged that there remains a need to retain the involvement of fathers and male carers as one of our shine a light areas of focus for 2022/23. This will ensure that we progress our proposal to hold a development session, the outcomes of which will help to shape and drive partnership action. We also propose to undertake further scrutiny and assurance activity around the involvement of fathers and male carers.

## Scrutiny and Assurance

The Children's MARS Scrutiny and Assurance Framework was published alongside the Local Arrangements. In addition to scrutiny and assurance activity already referenced, there has been additional activity, including independent scrutiny, through thematic and multi-agency case audit practice learning line of sight events leading to local learning, partnership action, changes in practice and outcomes.

### **Thematic assurance event – 'Front door' including contacts, referrals and strategy discussions**

Following the Ofsted focussed visit in March 2019 and additional independent scrutiny of strategy discussions that took place in November 2020, a thematic assurance event focussing on the 'front door' of Children's Services took place in October 2021. The event was held to assure lead officers that the areas for development previously identified have been implemented and embedded and that strategy discussions remain of high quality.

### **Agency specific assurance event – Humberside Police**

An agency specific assurance event took place in June 2021 which focussed on key units across Humberside Police including the Protecting Vulnerable People Unit, the Child Exploitation and Missing Team, Neighbourhood Policing (Early intervention) and the Safeguarding Governance Unit. An outcome letter detailing the findings from the event was presented to key leads and to the Children's MARS Board for consideration. Overall, a good level of assurance was provided that Humberside Police were fulfilling their safeguarding responsibilities and examples of good practice were identified.

### **Impact and outcomes**

Scrutiny and assurance events continue to generate an evidence base of effective local practice and learning which the Children's MARS Board has utilised strategically to further develop and improve multi-agency practice. A summary of learning and key themes are provided to those involved and disseminated widely through the Children's MARS news updates and 7 minute briefings that are available on the Children's MARS website.

Scrutiny and assurance events that have taken place within 2021/22 have highlighted key themes relating to areas of good practice and assurance:

- There is a strong focus on the child, their safety and family history
- The values and principles of the One Family Approach are being demonstrated within practice to enable children to be in their families, in their schools and in their communities
- A learning culture is evident in that both practitioners and supervisors demonstrate that they utilise national guidance and seek further support from wider national experts where appropriate. The use of evidence-based tools and research in assessment and planning was also demonstrated
- There are positive examples of professional debate and challenge when dealing with complex children's cases and willingness to learn across agencies to further strengthen practice with children and families
- The workforce is strong, consistent, flexible and skilled. There were positive examples of professionals working according to the needs of the child and family and relational practice was evident
- Overall, decision making within strategy discussions was appropriate, proportionate and the rationale was clearly recorded, and partnership contribution is strong

# Scrutiny and Assurance

## **Section 11 (Joint Safeguarding Self Assessment)**

The Section 11 process places a duty on specific organisations and agencies to ensure they fulfil their responsibilities to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Together with the Local Safeguarding Adults Board, a joint safeguarding self-assessment audit was disseminated to agencies to complete in December 2020 and submitted early 2021. Overall, the self-assessments provided assurance that the agencies subject to Section 11 are fulfilling their responsibilities to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Updates were requested in May 2021 for agencies to address any identified areas for development.

## **Annual safeguarding audits**

Under Section 175 of the Children Act 2004, the 2021/22 safeguarding audit for schools and colleges overseen by governors measured compliance with the statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' and enabled the Children's MARS Board to receive assurance about essential safeguarding practice across all schools, colleges and settings. The outcomes of the audit highlighted consistently good practice in relation to safeguarding across schools, academies and colleges and strong partnership working.

Additionally, a bespoke sexual abuse audit tool was created utilising the recommendations from the Ofsted report '[Review of Sexual Abuse in Schools and Colleges](#)' to enable schools to self-evaluate their current position in light of the findings of the report. Findings from this audit have been incorporated into bespoke safeguarding training for school governors and are a focus of school safeguarding reviews. The sexual harassment and sexual violence section within the annual safeguarding audit has been extended to include the questions within the bespoke audit tool, thus embedding the research into current safeguarding processes. In addition, all independent, alternative and specialist provision, including those out of area who support North Lincolnshire children, were asked to complete the safeguarding audit to ensure that there is oversight and assurance of all settings who support children living in our local area.

In addition to this all Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) Childcare Providers complete the safeguarding audit. Nurseries and pre-schools complete it on an annual basis and childminders on a bi-annual basis. Analysis of the data takes place that informs the Early Years training calendar. Bespoke safeguarding training is offered to providers alongside refresher and awareness training. Good practice is shared via workshops and information updates that are communicated through a monthly e-newsletter to all providers. The PVI Childcare providers safeguarding audit for 2021 demonstrates that the childcare sector has continued to offer exceptional care and safeguarding support for the most vulnerable children within North Lincolnshire, ensuring all children and families have been offered additional timely support as required.

Findings from the audits are analysed and shared with the Children's MARS Board and action plans are put in place to monitor further improvements.

## Independent Scrutiny of the Children's MARS Local Arrangements

As part of our commitment to listen, learn, review and adapt and to ensure that we are fulfilling our responsibilities under Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, our Local Arrangements are independently scrutinised on an annual basis by an independent scrutiny officer.

Following the high profile children's cases in the media, including the tragic deaths of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes, Star Hobson, Ruby and Logan Monaghan, and as part of our ongoing process of assurance, it was agreed by safeguarding partners that there would be an enhanced programme of independent scrutiny activity to seek assurance of the Children's MARS local arrangements.

A programme of independent scrutiny activity, involving four independent scrutiny officers with backgrounds in children's social care, health and the police, was devised that broadly covered scrutiny in relation to the safeguarding partners and the Children's MARS arrangements:

- meeting their statutory duties
- having strong multi-agency arrangements in place to protect and safeguard children in their local area, and
- supporting frontline practitioners to continue to do the difficult and important work they do every day

The review comprised of:

- desktop research/prior reading of Children's MARS Board, subgroups and other records
- facilitation of multi-agency strategic leaders and practitioners forums
- meeting with key officers who manage and support the Children's MARS Board
- single agency and multi agency audit processes
- engagement with safeguarding partners and system leaders
- observation at child protection review conference and direct engagement with a father whose child was subject to a child protection plan
- direct engagement with care leavers

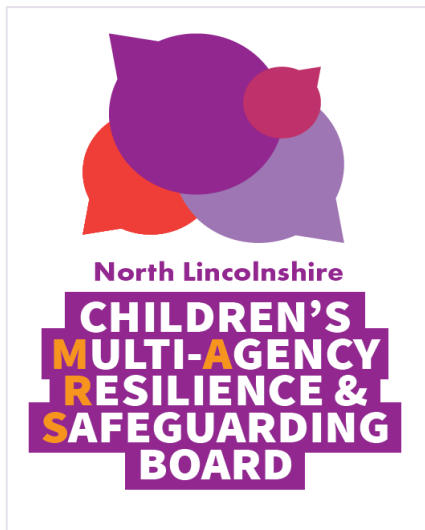
A full report, along with the addendum outlining the findings from the CHaPP and SPLIG observations have been shared with the Children's MARS Board.

# Independent Scrutiny of the Children's MARS Local Arrangements

## Summary of strengths

- The recommendations from the previous independent scrutiny of local arrangements have been enacted
- Multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in North Lincolnshire are strong and partnership working is valued at all levels
- Statutory requirements are met and are regarded as a minimum
- The key partners work well together and demonstrate respect and understanding for the contribution their agencies make towards keeping children safe
- There is a culture of high challenge and high support which is evident throughout the partnership
- The One Family Approach is articulated with ease by practitioners and the Helping Children and Families in North Lincolnshire document assists with the process of achieving a shared awareness of risk and resilience across agencies
- The voice of the child was evident throughout where meaningful engagement with children and young people influenced decisions made and actions taken
- The business of the Children's MARS Board is conducted with efficiency taking into account learning from local and national issues and effective mechanisms are in place for disseminating key messages to the front line
- The importance of supporting practitioners in the difficult work they have to do is understood and a comprehensive training programme is in place and is well used
- At no point has the pandemic been seen as a barrier to keeping children safe. There was a swift adaptation to the new environment and the benefits of technology to engage previously reluctant family members has been articulated
- Independent scrutiny is one of a number of methods which the key partners use to maintain a clear line of sight to the multi-agency front line in their desire for continuous improvement
- The CHaPP and the SPLIG meetings are undertaking their roles as set out in the Children's MARS Memorandum of Understanding and seek to meet the challenges of a 'seemingly never ending list of safeguarding issues' that require attention with 'determination and a calm, measured and supportive approach'

Overall, 18 recommendations were made to further strengthen our local arrangements. These are all weaved into our development plan below and will be overseen via the SPLIG, Children's MARS Board and co-ordinated via the Children's MARS Team



## Children's MARS Local Arrangements

# What Next?

## Shine a Light Areas of Focus for 2022/23

In order to define our **Shine a Light** areas of focus for 2022/23, we have taken account of emerging national themes, outcomes of research, local learning, performance data and analysis, practice wisdom, voice and experiences. Key areas of influence include:

- An ongoing need to focus on identifying and responding to children at risk or experiencing child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation
- Emerging increase in prevalence relating to teenage relationship abuse and online abuse has been seen across the early help and safeguarding system
- Feedback from the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector regarding opportunities to enhance engagement and contributions to the Children's MARS local arrangements and our recognition of the need for an amplified focus on utilising their assets and strengths in creating the conditions to engage with children, young people and families to build their resilience and find resolutions for themselves
- Publication of 'The Myth of Invisible Men' Safeguarding children under 1 from non accidental injury caused by male carers and through multi agency practice learning line of sight events, we reflected that there were further opportunities to engage at the earliest point and more consistently with fathers, male carers and men in the wider family network across the partnership

As such, our **Shine a Light** areas of focus for 2022/23 are as follows:

'Shine a Light' Areas of Focus	Lead Partnership	Anticipated Partnership Action and System Change
Further develop the multi-agency approach to Risk Outside the Home, specifically in relation to <b>Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Criminal Exploitation</b>	Risk Outside The Home Strategy Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold multi-agency case audit practice learning line of sight event pertaining Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Criminal Exploitation</li> <li>• Hold a thematic event pertaining Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Criminal Exploitation, to explore opportunities across the system to identify at the earliest point and prevent young people becoming at risk, being at risk or experiencing child exploitation, for example by linking into:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• schools in areas where there is high prevalence and liaise with Designated Safeguarding Leads regarding their cohort</li> <li>• police systems to review safe and well checks for children who have been missing</li> <li>• the Child Exploitation Intervention Team's prevention and intervention work</li> <li>• the Children's Advocacy Team to review missing children independent return interviews</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Explore further opportunities to utilise 'experts by experience' to develop resources to raise awareness and mitigate risk factors</li> </ul>
Further develop the multi-agency approach to Risk Outside the Home, specifically in relation to <b>Teenage Relationship Abuse</b>	Risk Outside The Home Strategy Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold a multi-agency case audit practice learning line of sight event on Teenage Relationship Abuse</li> <li>• Further explore local prevalence relating to teenage relationship abuse to develop a local position statement</li> <li>• Undertake engagement activity with children, young people and families in relation to healthy relationships and teenage relationship abuse</li> </ul>

'Shine a Light' Areas of Focus	Lead Partnership	Anticipated Partnership Action and System Change
Further develop our approach to preventing and reducing the impact from online abuse	Risk Outside the Home Strategy Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further explore local prevalence relating to online abuse as a factor in referrals and assessments and gain a better understanding of the nature, type and trigger points</li> <li>• Review, refresh and co-produce information and resources to raise awareness of online safety for children, young people, parents and professionals</li> </ul>
Further develop the interface and relationships between the Children's MARS Local Arrangements and the <b>Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector</b>	Children's Help and Protection Pathway Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further develop bespoke VCSE web based communications on the Children's MARS website</li> <li>• Work collaboratively with Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire (VANL) to develop a bespoke certified safeguarding training package and build in monitoring arrangements</li> <li>• Led by VANL, contribute to the development of a VCSE conference and safeguarding forum</li> <li>• Target communications to VCSE regarding the Children's MARS local arrangements and practice developments</li> <li>• Hold bespoke information sessions for VCSE colleagues</li> <li>• Link into established VCSE groups and forums to share messages and raise awareness</li> </ul>
Further develop the multi-agency approach to <b>men including fathers, male carers and wider family members</b>	Children's Help and Protection Pathway Group	<p>Respond to the actions identified in the benchmarking exercise relating to the Myth of Invisible Men (MOIM), as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0-19 Service to undertake a quality audit to reflect on the key messages from the MOIM report</li> <li>• Collate feedback from single agencies audit and scrutiny arrangements regarding engagement with fathers, male carers and wider family members</li> <li>• Further develop practitioner confidence and competence in relation to the impact of ethnicity and culture and how they affect parenting and family life, including engaging and working with fathers/male carers through raising awareness. education and training so that these issues are mainstreamed into and improve practice</li> </ul>
Further raise awareness and develop our practice to prevent and reduce the harm from neglect	Safeguarding Practice Learning and Improvement Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop neglect and quality of care toolkit (as part of family help toolkit suite of documents)</li> <li>• Develop neglect Spotlight</li> <li>• Scope, refresh and roll out neglect education and training offer, including Graded Care Profile 2 training, general neglect training (via internal and/or external facilitators) and practice in action session(s) as a mechanism for rolling out the toolkit</li> </ul>

Communications via the Children's MARS Spotlight methodology will be developed for each shine a light area of focus across the year

As well as our specific 'shine a light' areas of focus, the Children's MARS Board adopts a 'right to roam' approach and as such, will maintain a **line of sight** across the early help and safeguarding pathway in order to seek assurance, challenge, shape and influence partnership action and system change, some of which are the responsibility of other partnership and planning frameworks. As part of this, to orientate 'line of sight' activity, the Children's MARS Board will take account of local learning, performance, practice wisdom and voice and experiences on wider emerging need and harm.



# Development Plan

As safeguarding partners and relevant agencies, we will continue to listen, learn, review and adapt in order to ensure our Local Arrangements best meet the needs of the children, young people and families in North Lincolnshire, so they are resilient and safeguarded to enable them to be in their families, in their schools and in their communities.

As well as the actions associated with the 'shine a light' areas of focus, our Local Arrangements are underpinned by a strategic development plan, which is built around the following areas:

- Key actions pertaining the safeguarding partner's portfolio areas
- Recommendations from the Independent Scrutiny Review of the Children's MARS Local Arrangements
- Actions associated with key policy drivers

Portfolio Areas	Development Plan Action	Safeguarding Partner lead
Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revisit the independent scrutiny of the identification and notification process for serious child safeguarding cases to seek assurance of our local decision making</li> </ul>	Director of Children and Families
Stakeholder Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop further opportunities for engagement and co-production to enhance the voice and influence of those with lived experiences</li> </ul>	Director of Children and Families
Stakeholder Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore opportunities to shape and influence the Designated Safeguarding Lead Conference and Stay Safe Conference for schools in 2023 and enhance support arrangements</li> </ul>	Director of Children and Families
Data Intelligence and Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further develop the performance framework across the partnership to underpin our Local Arrangements</li> </ul>	Chief Superintendent and South Bank Divisional Commander
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review funding contributions and identify future priorities for expenditure to innovate and to develop evidence informed approaches to practice in order to continue to deliver our Local Arrangements</li> </ul>	Chief Superintendent and South Bank Divisional Commander
Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scope, develop and implement arrangements for the Children's MARS Conference 2023</li> </ul>	Interim Director of Quality and Nursing
Scrutiny and Assurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further explore, evaluate and develop our scrutiny and assurance framework, including independent scrutiny arrangements</li> </ul>	Interim Director of Quality and Nursing

# Development Plan continued

Area	Development Plan Action	Safeguarding Partner lead
Scrutiny and Assurance (actions from Independent review of Children's MARS Local Arrangements)	<p>Recommendations from main report (relating to the breadth of the local arrangements)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In view of widespread national concern about the impact of national/international events on the availability of skilled workers, workforce/caseload information to be included in the performance framework</li> <li>Health commissioners must ensure through their contractual arrangements with health providers that there is appropriate attendance at the PIT Stop meetings, to enable appropriate contributions to be made from a health perspective to inform the decisions and actions taken</li> <li>Seek assurance from Children's Services that a clear rationale is recorded of why an initial child protection conference is not required following a section 47 enquiry, which would help to strengthen a small number of assessments</li> <li>Continue to seek assurance that strategy discussions are convened when the police receive information that gives reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm</li> <li>Given the changes within the three statutory partnerships at strategic level and the pace of change within the Children's MARS Arrangements, they should instigate an annual meeting of the local authority Chief Executive, the Accountable Officer of the Clinical Commissioning Group (equivalent in the Integrated Care System), the Chief Officer of the police and the Police and Crime Commissioner</li> <li>The Children's MARS Board to seek assurance around the effectiveness of the Escalation and Resolution policy and procedure and the outcomes for children. It is recommended that implementation of the escalation policy in practice is tested through a multi-agency audit</li> <li>Seek assurance from the National Probation Service and Humberside Police around the safeguarding training that is provided to new recruits</li> <li>Seek assurance that managerial oversight and case supervision is effective and robust across the partnership in keeping children safe</li> </ul>	<p>Chief Superintendent and South Bank Divisional Commander</p> <p>Interim Director of Quality and Nursing</p> <p>Director of Children and Families</p> <p>Director of Children and Families/Chief Superintendent and South Bank Divisional Commander</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>Chief Superintendent and South Bank Divisional Commander</p> <p>ALL</p>

## Development Plan continued

Area	Development Plan Action	Action Lead
Scrutiny and Assurance (actions from Independent review of Children's MARS Local Arrangements)	<p>Things to consider from the addendum (relating to observations of the CHaPP and SPLIG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The actions from the previous meeting could be followed up to completion in advance of the meeting so that they are complete as far as possible, thus allowing more time in the meeting for discussion</li> <li>• In addition to identifying issues to bring to the meeting, members could be asked to show how they take the learning from the meeting into their own agency</li> <li>• Enhance the understanding of the impact of diversity within the meetings</li> <li>• Some of the reports are less comprehensive which may reflect the nature of the organisation or their direct involvement with safeguarding on a day to day basis. If assistance could be given in the preparation of the reports for the next meeting, they could provide a more accurate picture of the contribution which the agency makes to early help/safeguarding. This could also include ensuring that the 'voice' section demonstrates what has changed as a result of the consultation/feedback</li> <li>• Maintain an ongoing review of the membership of both groups, particularly in view of the success of the PIT Stop and consider whether/how the voice of faith and community groups could be stronger</li> </ul>	CHaPP and SPLIG chairs

We are committed to independent scrutiny, which contributes to our annual report and refresh of our Local Arrangements.

## Development Plan continued

Area	Development Plan Action	Safeguarding Partner lead
Responding to key policy drivers: Child Protection in England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multi agency training pertaining strategy discussions to be held; and further scrutiny and assurance activity pertaining strategy discussions as part of independent annual review programme</li> <li>Opportunities to build in experiential learning pertaining strategy discussions within induction processes (for relevant staff across the partnership workforce)</li> <li>Opportunities to further enhance and embed health engagement in child protection processes (i.e. health representation in PIT Stop, GP attendance at and/or reporting into child protection conferences)</li> <li>Review and refresh information sharing agreements associated with the Children’s MARS Arrangements; and develop a bespoke information sharing 7 minute briefing</li> <li>Explore opportunities to further develop multi agency reflective supervision across the wider partnership workforce, which will enhance mechanisms for inter professional high support and high challenge</li> <li>Explore opportunities to engage with practitioners to understand their levels of skills, knowledge and confidence and to ascertain the impact of training on practice (and review/refresh education and training offer to take account of feedback)</li> <li>Further develop our understanding of diversity and our associated practice (and refresh education and training offer as appropriate)</li> <li>Consider practitioners understanding of the impact of abusive relationships on parenting capacity; and explore opportunities to engage with children and young people to understand their perspectives of domestic abuse</li> </ul>	All
Responding to key policy drivers: Independent review of children’s social care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scope opportunities for a multi agency/multi disciplinary approach to family help across localities (to be considered as part of the Family and Community Hub developments)</li> <li>Redefine the offer across the family help and protection system and develop people’s understanding of this</li> <li>Consider implications for and review/refresh of the Helping Children in North Lincolnshire document</li> <li>Explore opportunities to encourage and support local assets/resources to become connected persons (and foster carers)</li> <li>Explore opportunities arising from the extension of the Virtual Head Teacher role</li> <li>Explore opportunities to ensure transparency of the Children’s MARS Arrangements i.e. publishing minutes and financial contributions</li> <li>Consider the implications for the Children’s MARS Arrangements of schools becoming an additional safeguarding partner</li> </ul>	All

- This is an indicative plan and a working document which will updated in year to reflect other emerging development opportunities.

# Glossary

A	<p><b>Ask Jan Membership</b> assists care experienced people of all ages to access comprehensive, practical advice and support and additional benefits such as counselling, wellbeing advice and financial advice</p> <p><b>Achieving Best Evidence (ABE)</b> is guidance set out by the Ministry of Justice which shares best practice around the interview process for child and adult victims and witnesses during a criminal investigation. It includes guidance on video-recorded interviews with vulnerable and intimidated witnesses where the recording is intended to be played as evidence in court. ABE promotes a strong victim-centred and trauma-informed approach throughout the guidance</p> <p>The <b>AIM2 Assessment</b> is an evidence-based tool that can be used to begin to consider both the level of supervision that is required for young people who exhibit harmful sexual behaviours and their therapeutic needs</p>
C	<p><b>Child criminal exploitation (CCE)</b> involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where a child (or a third person or persons) receive ‘something’ (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them completing a task on behalf of another individual or group of individuals; this is often of a criminal nature</p> <p><b>Child Safeguarding Practice Review</b> may be undertaken following identification and agreement that a case meets the criteria of a serious child safeguarding case. It is for the safeguarding partners to determine whether the criteria are met and whether a local child safeguarding practice review is appropriate taking into account that the overall purpose of a review is to identify improvements to practice. In some cases where the definition of a serious child safeguarding case is not met yet there may be issues of importance to the local area, the safeguarding partners may choose to undertake a local child safeguarding practice review</p> <p><b>Child sexual exploitation (CSE)</b> is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator</p>
G	<p>The <b>Good Lives model</b> is a framework for intervention planning, informed by AIM2 problem formulation</p>
I	<p><b>Integrated Multi-Agency Partnership (IMAP)</b> is a partnership of co-located social work, police, health and education practitioners and supervisors who take contacts and referrals on children where there are safeguarding or protection concerns. They share and analyse information to inform decisions regarding whether a child is in need or in need of protection</p>
K	<p><b>Kooth</b> is an online emotional and mental health support service that young people in North Lincolnshire aged 11 – 24 can access</p>
L	<p><b>The Link Programme</b> is a national initiative that brings mental health and education professionals together to promote mental health and alleviate children and young people’s distress</p>
M	<p><b>Multi-Agency Looked After Partnership (MALAP)</b> is a multi-agency group who work together to improve outcomes for children and young people in care and care leavers</p> <p><b>Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) Meeting</b> is a partnership group who work together to improve outcomes for children and young people who are experiencing and/or at risk of child sexual or criminal exploitation</p> <p><b>Multi-Agency Pre-Birth Liaison and Consultation (MAPLAC) Meeting</b> is a partnership group who have oversight of cases of pregnancy where there may be identified additional vulnerabilities and the family would be likely to benefit from targeted early help at the earliest stage possible</p> <p><b>Missing Children’s Advocates</b> offer and complete independent return interviews with children who have been missing and share information so that children’s welfare is promoted and that they are safeguarded</p> <p><b>MIFI devices</b> are wireless routers that act as a mobile WiFi hotspot allowing those without a home broadband connection to access to the internet</p>

# Glossary

N	<p><b>Northern Lincolnshire and Goole (NLaG) NHS Foundation Trust</b> is the provider of NHS services through Scunthorpe General Hospital and community services in North Lincolnshire and two other neighbouring local areas</p> <p><b>Not In Our Community (NIOC)</b> is a campaign developed across the Humberside Police force area that helps young people protect themselves and their friends against grooming and child exploitation</p>
O	<p>The <b>One Family Approach (OFA)</b> aims to create a system that works for all children, young people and families in North Lincolnshire</p>
P	<p><b>Partnership Integrated Triage (PITSTOP) Meeting</b> is a multi-agency daily triage which considers police information and identifies and potential levels of need at the earliest level</p>
R	<p>A <b>Rapid Review</b> is undertaken when the safeguarding partners have agreed that the criteria for a serious child safeguarding case have been met. The Rapid Review enables facts to be gathered, any immediate action to ensure children's safety to be taken and considers the potential for identifying improvements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The Rapid Review assists the safeguarding partners to decide what steps they should take next, including whether or not to undertake a local child safeguarding practice review</p> <p><b>Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDaSH)</b> is the provider of NHS services and community services in North Lincolnshire</p> <p><b>Risk Outside the Home (ROTH)</b> As well as risks to the welfare of children from within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. These extra-familial risks might arise at school and other educational establishments, from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online. These risks can take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple risks, including exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines; trafficking, online abuse; sexual exploitation and the influences of extremism leading to radicalisation. Extremist groups make use of the internet to radicalise and recruit and to promote extremist materials. Any potential harmful effects to individuals identified as vulnerable to extremist ideologies or being drawn into terrorism should also be considered</p>
S	<p><b>Safe North Lincs</b> is a partnership social media presence joint between the Children's MARS Board, Local Safeguarding Adults Board and the Community Safety Partnership</p> <p><b>Section 11 (Children's Act 2004)</b> places duties on a range of organisations, agencies and individuals to ensure their functions, and any services that they contract out to others, are discharged having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children</p> <p><b>Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)</b> is used to describe a child or young person who has a learning difficulty and/or a disability that means they need special health and education support</p>
Y	<p><b>You Say Who</b> is a multi-agency practice framework that places sustainable relationships at the heart of planning for children which builds on the strengthened practice in relation to reunification of children in long term care to their family utilising the NSPCC Reunification Framework highlighted in the Care Crisis Review</p>
O	<p><b>0-19 health and wellbeing service</b> is the integrated health visiting and schools nursing service for North Lincolnshire. The team lead the Healthy Child Programme and provide a series of public health interventions from the antenatal period to age 19 and up to the age of 25 for young people with special educational needs. Locally, the service is delivered by Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber (RDaSH) NHS Foundation Trust</p>

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North Lincolnshire  
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