

Annual Report

2015 / 2016

Safeguarding Children in County Durham



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1. Foreword by Independent Chair

This is the second Annual Report published since I became the Independent Chair of Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). The role of the Chair is to bring independent scrutiny and challenge to the work of the LSCB. Since being appointed I have immersed myself in scrutinising the work and development of the Durham LSCB and I am continually encouraged by the good work of our partners in County Durham.

2015/16 has been a year of huge progress for Durham LSCB. Following the peer review in October 2014 we have embarked on a journey of self-improvement which culminated in a rigorous and successful Ofsted inspection in February 2016.

Whilst the inspection by Ofsted rated Durham LSCB as 'Good' there is no room for complacency and I will continue to scrutinise, challenge and ask the difficult questions of partner organisations. I will do this constructively and will always seek continued improvement in services. The recommendations made by Ofsted will be implemented as part of our Business Plan for 2016/17.

The LSCB Annual Report 2015/16 provides local people with an account of the Board's work over the past year to improve the safety and wellbeing of children and young people across County Durham. The report reflects the activity of Durham LSCB and its sub-groups against its priorities for 2015/16.

Over the last year we have improved performance in key areas and responded to continued reforms and changes to public services in a way that strengthens our partnership working.

The annual report covers the major changes and improvements of our partners' service delivery, where they link with the Board's overall strategies and the impact we have had. It also reports on the Serious Case Reviews and Child Death Reviews undertaken and identifies the priorities we will take forward into 2016/17.

As always, the children and young people of County Durham are at the heart of all we do and our vision of **'Every child and young person in County Durham feels safe and grows up safe from harm'** continues to drive us forward.

We will continue to increase the 'voice of the child' in our plans and actions and to understanding more fully the experience of the child or young person receiving help and support.

My thanks go to the many partner agencies for their hard work and dedication during a time of huge demand and whose commitment and motivation helps deliver our shared priorities.

I would also like to welcome two new lay members; Elaine Trotter and Amanda Taylor-Saunders to the Durham LSCB Board along with NHS England, Harrogate & District NHS Foundation Trust and City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust as new member organisations.

Jane Geraghty
Independent Chair



2. Introduction

Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board has a statutory duty to prepare and publish an Annual Report which describes how our partners safeguard vulnerable children and young people in County Durham. Our primary responsibility is to provide a way for the local organisations that have a responsibility in respect of child welfare, to agree how they will work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in County Durham and to ensure that they do so effectively.

[Section 3](#) of the report highlights some statistical information about County Durham and provides a local context for our work. It provides information on our local challenges that drive local work and innovation.

In [Section 4](#) we describe the local governance arrangements and structure of Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board, the linkages to other strategic partnerships across County Durham and working with other LSCBs.

In [Section 5](#) we highlight some of the achievements and the progress that has been made in the last year as well as reporting on the work undertaken against the 2015/16 priorities.

[Section 6](#) covers our Performance Monitoring Framework and Quality Assurance Plan. It describes the multi-agency audits we have undertaken. It also provides an overview of safeguarding privately fostered children, the use of restraint in Aycliffe Secure Services Centre, Serious Case Reviews and Child Death Reviews.

[Section 7](#) outlines our single and multi-agency training provision. It describes the work we have undertaken to strengthen and enhance the quality of training while avoiding duplication and promoting the importance of inter-agency working. This section also describes the marketing and communication activity of the LSCB.

Lastly, [Section 8](#) provides the priorities Durham LSCB will take forward into 2016/17.

The Annual Report 2015/16 demonstrates the extent to which the functions of the Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board, as set out in the national statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (March 2015) are being effectively discharged.



The information presented in this Annual Report is drawn from a wide range of sources from across the County Durham Partnership. These include the County Durham Integrated Needs Assessment (INA); Lessons Learned from local Serious Case Reviews; the Local Child Sexual Exploitation Profile; the Child Death Review Annual Report; the Safe Durham Partnership Strategic Assessment; Durham Constabulary Threat and Tactical Assessment; and a range of Durham LSCB strategy documents and action plans.

Ofsted Inspection of Durham LSCB

Ofsted carried out an inspection of Durham County Council's Children's Services and a review of Durham LSCB over a four-week period in February and March 2016. The inspection is part of a Single Inspection Framework (SIF) introduced by Ofsted in 2013.

Ofsted rated the effectiveness of Durham LSCB as '**Good**'. In their inspection document Ofsted reported that:

- Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board is an ambitious and reflective Board whose effectiveness and functioning has significantly improved since the peer review of October 2014
- There is a culture of openness and challenge
- Durham LSCB has clear governance arrangements with partner Boards, with whom there are aligned priorities
- An appropriately resourced and well-managed business unit provides good support to the Board
- A timely and thorough Section 11 audit and challenge process ensures that safeguarding is a priority
- The Early Help offer is well resourced and embedded, with clear strategic direction
- Responses to child sexual exploitation are well coordinated at both a strategic and operational level
- Effective processes are in place for reviewing and disseminating learning from serious, child death and other case reviews

- The Board has effective systems for the planning, monitoring and oversight of training activity, clearly linked to Board priorities, and training requirements arising from Serious Case Reviews

Following the Ofsted review an action plan was put in place to address the recommendations, this includes:

- Ensuring that quality assurance and performance management processes are further developed to offer a detailed and comprehensive picture of the quality and impact of frontline practice in all service areas to underpin strategic understanding, challenge and development
- Ensuring that quality assurance and audit work contribute to understanding the impact of training and the embedding of lessons learned from case reviews
- Developing more effective feedback processes from children, young people and families who have received child protection services to support ongoing service improvement



 **Download:** [Ofsted Inspection of Durham LSCB 2016.](#)

3. Local Data

In 2015, there were an estimated 519,695 people living in County Durham. The county stretches from the rural North Pennine Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the West to the Heritage Coastline in the East and is the home to a range of treasures including Durham Cathedral and Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The County has 12 major centres of population including Durham City, Chester-le-Street, Newton Aycliffe, Consett and Peterlee.

Between 2001 and 2015, the 0-17 population in County Durham has fallen by 5.9% compared to a national increase of 4.2% over the same period.

The fall in the 10 to 14 age group is due to low birth rates in the period 2000/2002. However, an increase in births since 2008 has meant a rise in the number of children aged under 10 years.

These changes will have future implications with regards to school place provision which is mapped through the work of Durham County Council in its pupil projection work.

Projections for the county indicate that the number of children and young people will grow, increasing from 5.6% growth by 2024 to 7.6% growth by 2039. Growth across England will continue to rise over this period, with 8.6% growth by 2024 and 10.6% growth by 2039.

Data source: Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Child poverty in County Durham is higher than the England average, with 22.5% of children under 16 years living in poverty. Growing up in poverty has a significant impact on the development of children and young people both during their childhood and beyond. Work is being undertaken to address child poverty through a Poverty Action Group chaired by Durham County Council.



Children on a Child Protection Plan

Provisional data at 31 March 2016 indicates that 350 children were subject to a Child Protection Plan (34.9 per 10,000 population aged 0-18).



were subject to a **Child Protection Plan** down 3% on last year

The percentage of Child Protection Plans that lasted two years or more is **provisionally** 2.7%.

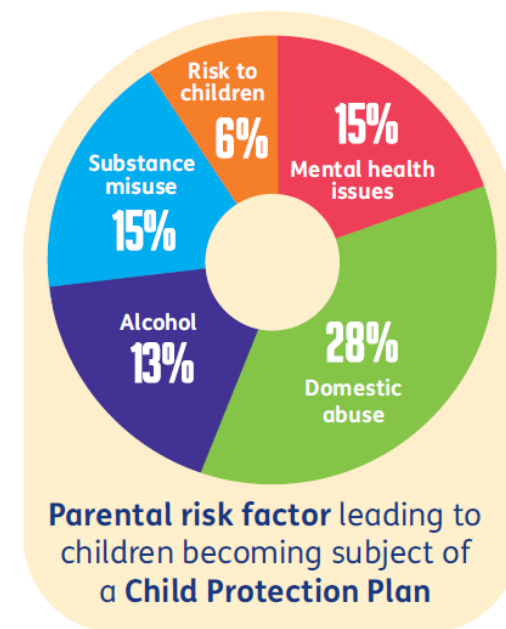
The figures for children on a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time, within two years of the previous plan have fallen to 7.6%. This is a reduction of 2.5% on 2014/15 figures.

Provisional figures for the most frequent reason for children being placed on a Child Protection Plan in 2015/16 was Neglect (301/466).

Provisional figures show that **61.7% of children** who were made subject of a Child Protection Plan under five years old, (2015-16) were made so due to Neglect.

Provisional figures shows that domestic abuse continues to be the main parental risk factor leading to children becoming subject of a Child Protection Plan, accounting for **28% of child protection conferences** recorded for 2015/16.

Parental mental health, substance misuse and alcohol misuse, are the next most common.



Looked After Children

When children become Looked After it is important to provide them with placement stability and provide opportunities to improve outcomes and equip them for life beyond the care system. We know that by understanding the reasons why children become Looked After enables agencies to target their early help and family support services.

Provisional figures state that the number of Looked After children at 31 March 2016 was 680. This is 67.8 per 10,000 of the population aged 0-18.



4. Governance and Structure

Local Safeguarding Children Board

Each local area is required by Law to have a Local Safeguarding Children Board. The LSCB is a statutory body established in legislation (Children Act 2004) and works according to national guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015'.

Our primary responsibility is to provide a way for the local organisations that have a responsibility in respect of child welfare, to agree how they will work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the locality, and to ensure that they will do so effectively.

The functions of the LSCB are:

- **To develop policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area**

This includes:

- the action to be taken where there are concerns about a child's safety or welfare, including thresholds for intervention
- training of persons who work with children or in services affecting the safety and welfare of children
- recruitment and supervision of persons who work with children
- investigation of allegations concerning persons who work with children
- safety and welfare of children who are privately fostered

- investigation of allegations concerning persons who work with children
- co-operating with neighbouring children's services authorities and their Board partners
- **To communicate and raise awareness of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children**
- **To monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of what is done by the local authority and their Board partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and advise them on ways to improve**
- **To participate in the planning of services for children in the area of the authority**
- **To undertake reviews of serious cases and advising the authority and their Board partners on lessons to be learned**

To fulfil this role, Durham LSCB uses data to:

- assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including Early Help
- assess whether LSCB partners are fulfilling their statutory safeguarding obligations
- quality assure practice, including through joint audits of case files involving practitioners and identifying lessons to be learned
- monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of training, including multi-agency training to safeguard and promote the welfare of children

LSCB Membership and Governance

Local Safeguarding Children Boards are a statutory partnership made up of local agencies. In County Durham there is a longstanding and a high level of commitment amongst partner agencies to develop and improve arrangements to protect and safeguard children from harm and to share responsibility and accountability for those services.

In 2015/16 NHS England, Harrogate & District NHS Foundation Trust and City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust have been added as new member organisations.

A full membership list is available in this annual report at [Appendix 1](#).

Over the last year Durham LSCB has undertaken a governance review, this included refreshing the Terms of Reference; reviewing and widening the Lay Member role; identifying gaps in membership and refreshing the local safeguarding framework.

The governance and effectiveness arrangements form the formal agreement between the Board and all partner agencies. It outlines accountability; key purposes; functions and tasks; membership; and agreed standards and expectations of LSCB members.

A Safeguarding Framework has been agreed jointly with Durham LSCB; Durham Safeguarding Adults Board; the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Children and Families Partnership and the Safe Durham Partnership and details how the partnerships work together to protect vulnerable children and adults from harm.

Durham LSCB continues to be chaired by an independent person, an arrangement that has been in place since 2011. Jane Geraghty became the Independent Chair of the Board in October 2014, and is supported by the Vice Chair Gill Findley, Director of Nursing, Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and North Durham CCG.

The Chair has a crucial role ensuring the Board operates independently, to challenge senior representatives and agencies whilst scrutinising services to seek continued improvement.

The Board is supported by the LSCB Business Unit which sits in Planning and Service Strategy within the Local Authority. This has improved the links with other partnership structures and strengthened the joint working on a range of strategies such as the County Durham Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy, the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy, the Honour Based Violence, Forced Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation Practice Guidance and the Early Help and Neglect Strategy.

LSCB Board Meetings and Attendance

The Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board meets bi-monthly and attendance is monitored and reported annually as part of the Board's governance and effectiveness arrangements.

The Board continue to experience good attendance with new members adding value.

Learning and Improvement

Durham LSCB continually monitors the quality, timeliness and effectiveness of multi-agency practice through the Performance Management Framework.

Where gaps are identified, implications for the LSCB are considered and progressed through business planning arrangements and the work of the LSCB sub-groups.

LSCB action plans against priorities and performance are reported, monitored and challenged.

We will continue to:

- monitor partner compliance with the statutory requirement to have effective safeguarding arrangements in place (Section 11)
- carry out multi-agency audits and identify lessons to be learned and make recommendations for future improvement
- produce a series of multi-agency audit reports to inform the LSCB Board of the quality of work being undertaken and its impact on outcomes for individual children and young people
- develop a series of performance scorecards for priority areas

We continue to implement the recommendations from Serious Case Reviews and host learning events where key messages and the lessons learned from the published Serious Case Reviews we have undertaken are shared with practitioners and agencies.

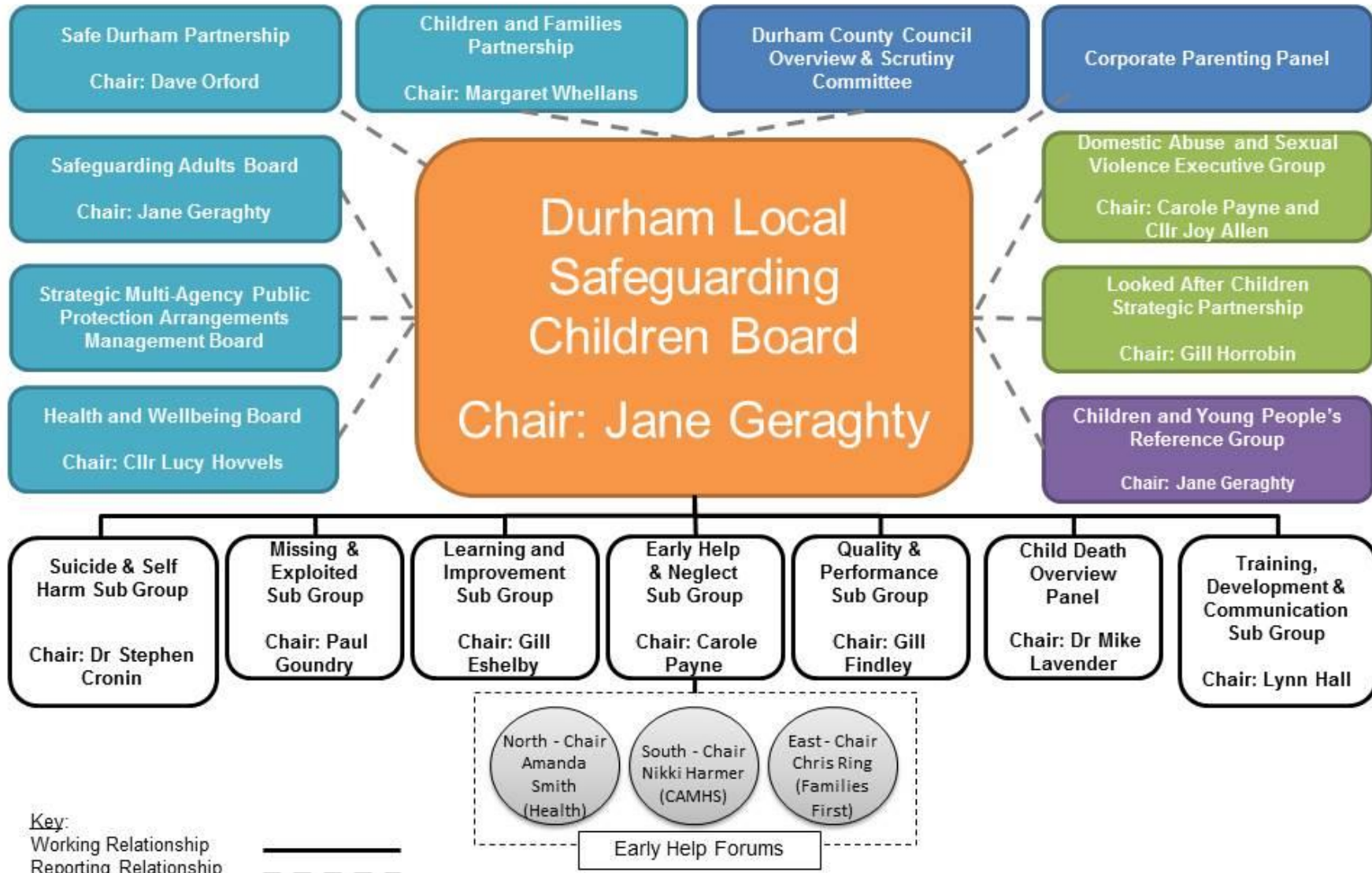
Serious Case Reviews are published on the Durham LSCB website for a period of 12 months.

Outcomes and findings feed into our learning and improvement structures to promote a culture of continuous improvement across the LSCB.

The Child Death Overview Panel for Durham and Darlington share key learning from child deaths. Action plans are implemented and reviewed by the Child Death Overview Panel at each meeting.



Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board Structure



Sub Groups

Durham LSCB has in place a number of sub-groups, taking forward the priorities of the Board. Each group delivers on identified actions, projects and initiatives. Regular updates and performance are reported into the LSCB.

Suicide and Self Harm Sub-group – This group is developing a support pathway for practitioners and tackles the causal factors for suicide, attempted suicide and self-harm issues for young people.

Missing and Exploited Sub-group – This group focusses on monitoring activity and improving services and responses to reported missing and absent children and Child Sexual Exploitation.

Learning and Improvement Sub-group – This group considers serious incidents, commissions Serious Case Reviews (SCR), oversees and monitors progress on agreed actions from SCRs.

Early Help and Neglect Sub-group – This group reviews and improves the referral pathways and access to help and support for families at an earlier stage of need and thereby reduce the number of families entering the system in crisis. This group supports three Early Help Locality Forums for a range of multi-agency practitioners.

Quality and Performance Sub-group – This group oversees the quality and standards of safeguarding practice across the partnership to ensure that the LSCB fulfils its statutory function. Performance is monitored and analysis of the effectiveness of procedures is undertaken through LSCB audits. The group plans and monitors the LSCB audit programme.

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) – This is a joint group of both Durham and Darlington LSCBs. It has responsibility for reviewing the available information on all child deaths and ensures that a review of every death of a child normally resident in County Durham is undertaken.

Training, Development and Communications Sub-group – This group reviews, plans and develops the delivery of multi-agency training programmes using information from Learning Lessons Reviews, Serious Case Reviews as well as national and regional guidance. This group also has responsibility for the development and delivery of the LSCB Marketing and Communication Strategy.

Children and Young People's Reference Group – This group has been set up to actively engage with children and young people and seek their views on a range of safeguarding issues.

In addition the following groups have links to the LSCB Board.

Looked After Children Strategic Partnership – This group has a reporting relationship to the LSCB; it aims to improve educational achievements; to improve post-16 services and to improve the health and emotional well-being of Looked After children and young people.

Corporate Parenting Panel – The Corporate Parenting Panel monitors and ensures the well-being of children who are Looked After by the Council. The LSCB Annual Report is presented to this group.

Linkages across other partnerships and services

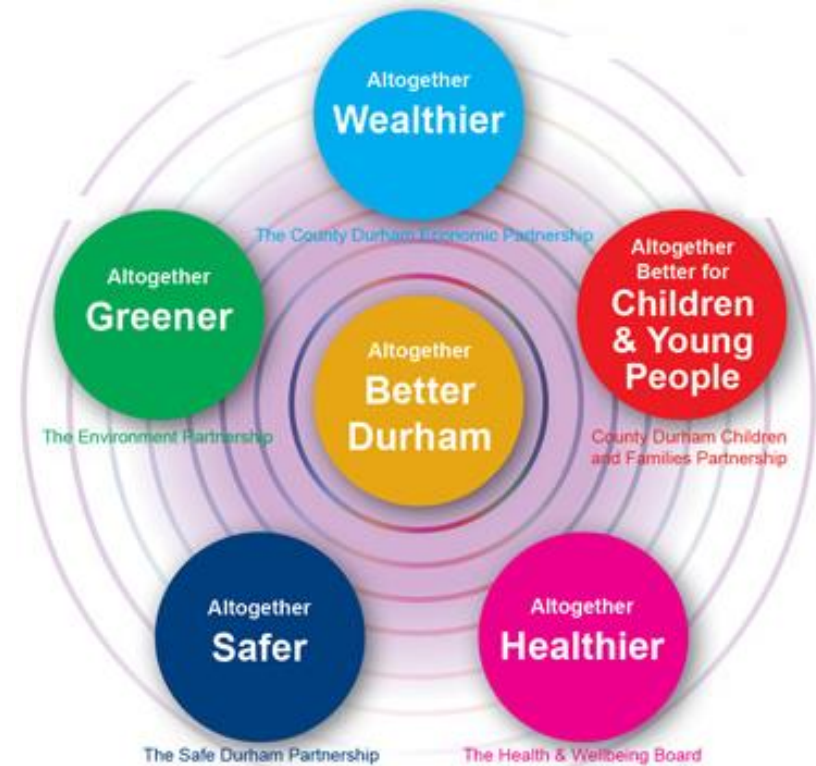
Durham LSCB works with a wide range of agencies from across the Children and Families Partnership, Health and Wellbeing Board and Safe Durham Partnership. Together these Partnerships, (along with Environmental and Economic themes), work under the County Durham Partnership towards the overarching vision of an 'Altogether Better Durham'.


Each of the five thematic partnerships has a specific focus:

- **The Children and Families Partnership** - Works to ensure effective services are delivered in the most efficient way to improve the lives of children, young people and families in County Durham
- **The Health and Wellbeing Board** - Promotes integrated working between commissioners of health services, public health and social care services, for the purposes of improving the health and wellbeing of the people in the area
- **The Safe Durham Partnership** - Tackles crime, disorder, substance misuse, anti-social behaviour and other behaviour adversely affecting the environment and seeks to reduce re-offending
- **The Environment Partnership** - Aims to transform and sustain the environment within County Durham, maximising partnership arrangements to support the economy and the wellbeing of local communities
- **The Economic Partnership** - Aims to make County Durham a place where people want to live, work, invest and visit whilst

enabling our residents and businesses to achieve their potential

We will continue to engage and challenge these partnerships where appropriate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in County Durham.



 **More Information:** Find out more information about the [County Durham Partnership](#).

Working with other LSCBs

Durham LSCB works collaboratively with other Local Safeguarding Children Boards to share learning and agree safeguarding policies and procedures which impact on children and families and cross our Local Authority boundaries.

There is work across the region promoting good practice in areas such as Child Sexual Exploitation, training, policies and procedures and lessons learned. We are an active member of the LSCB Regional Business Managers Group.

The regional priorities identified focus on the key issues of Child Sexual Exploitation and neglect.

Information Sharing

This remains an important issue highlighted in learning from Serious Case Reviews both nationally and in County Durham.

We will continue to keep a focus on information sharing supporting and promoting good practice across multi-agency teams.

We continue to maintain and promote the local 'Collaborative Working and Information Sharing between Professionals to protect Vulnerable Adults, Young People and Children' protocol. This provides guidance for professionals on sharing information with others, both within and outside of their organisation.

Wood review of the role and functions of Local Safeguarding Children Boards


In December 2015 the Prime Minister announced a review of Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs), in England.

The review sets out a new framework for improving the organisation and delivery of multi-agency arrangements to protect and safeguard children. The review argues that *'on a scale of prescriptive to permissive arrangements, the pendulum has locked itself too close to a belief that we should say how things should be done as opposed to what outcomes we want for children and young people'*.

The review also covers the role and function of LSCBs within the context of local strategic multi-agency working, including the Child Death Review process and a proposed centralisation of Serious Case Reviews.

Although there are potential implications to consider from both the Wood review and the Government's response, the Durham LSCB Board will wait for further information to become available.

The arrangements set out in the Children and Social Work Bill do not at present cover the reviews or any provisions relating to LSCBs.

 **Download:** [Wood report: review of the role and functions of local safeguarding children boards](#)

 **Download:** [The government's response to the Wood's review](#)

5. Achievements and progress against 2015/16 Priorities

LSCB Priorities 2015/16

The Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board agreed the following priorities for 2015/16:

- Reducing Child Sexual Exploitation
- Improving Early Help
- Reducing Neglect (contributory factors are domestic abuse; alcohol misuse; substance misuse; parental mental health)
- Reducing self-harm and improving young people's self-esteem
- Increase the voice of the child
- Ensuring that each agency is accountable for delivery of its own safeguarding responsibilities

Working together to keep children and young people safe

Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board

If you are concerned that a child is being harmed or neglected call

First Contact 03000 26 79 79 24 hours a day

www.durham-lscb.org.uk

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Achievements and Progress Highlights

- We have refreshed the Early Help and Neglect Strategy to include more focus on Hidden Harm (domestic abuse; alcohol misuse; substance misuse and parental mental health)
- We have developed the Early Help and Neglect Practice Guidance to provide updated toolkits and strategies for practitioners to use and implement
- The 0-19 Level of Need threshold document has been revised and provides a quick-reference guide to support professionals in their decision-making, including conducting further assessments, referring to other services and understanding the likely thresholds for higher levels of intervention
- We have reviewed the Single Assessment Procedures to reflect the added focus on Neglect and Hidden Harm
- The Home Environment Assessment Tool has been developed and piloted giving practitioners a better understanding of external influences on the family
- The development and launch of the ERASE website has increased our capability to raise awareness about CSE
- The creation of a multi-agency ERASE team to tackle CSE and disrupt offenders
- We have delivered taxi driver awareness training of CSE with over 1,000 trained to date
- We have worked with Durham Police to develop a proportionate response to issues of 'Sexting' and without criminalising children

- Intervene to Protect a Child training (identifying and targeting perpetrators of CSE) has been supported with over 1,000 trained so far
- Multi-agency inspections of Durham Police found (LSCB) partnership work in tackling CSE as 'excellent'
- The performance scorecard has been revamped to provide a realistic outcome measures that are aligned to our priorities
- A new risk register and a risk reporting methodology has been developed to support the use of a live risk register with effective controls and assurances
- We have completed the Section 11 audit and a number of multi-agency audits. We have followed this up with a number of challenge clinics to hold organisations to account
- We have robust planning and monitoring of Serious Case Reviews and sharing of learning. This has led to specific Learning Lessons events for GPs and Early Years services
- We have engaged with young people who want to share their first-hand experience. They have delivered sessions as part of our Lesson Learned events and other conferences
- Increased visibility and partnership working through the LSCB Marketing and Communication Strategy
- Thematic reviews are built into the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) process
- A child death review database has been developed and implemented. This allows us to identify and monitor developing trends through better analysis of data

Challenge and Impact

The LSCB has a role as a responsible authority for monitoring licence applications under the Licensing Act 2003. We challenge applicants on their actions to protect children and young people if they are not in line with our licensing objectives. The impact of this can be seen when the LSCB or its partners instigate a licensing review for failure to uphold licensing objectives. A licensing review may result in a licence being revoked or amended.

The LSCB Risk Register and Challenge Log has been established requiring partners to present mitigating actions to reduce risks and record challenges made to agencies. This is reviewed at each Durham LSCB Board meeting.

A challenge from the Chair of the LSCB was to improve the voice of the child. This has resulted in collaborative work with children's groups, voluntary and community sector, Area Action Partnerships, the Youth Offending Service and other services such as 'Investing in Children' with the development of the Children's and Young People's Reference Group for the LSCB as a central point of engagement.

These young people have met with members of the LSCB and their views have been taken into account in the LSCB work plan and our priority setting arrangements. An example of a direct impact of listening to these young people is the continued inclusion of the self-harm priority for the LSCB and the community visits undertaken.

The Children's and Young People's Reference Group works to establish and record young people's views. The LSCB then

challenged partners to include and use these views to develop and change services and practice.

The Early Help and Neglect Sub-Group continue to challenge partners to improve the Early Help responses; this has led to the introduction of domestic abuse workers based with One Point teams and drug and alcohol workers engaging in the Early Help Forums and within the Police Central Referral Unit.

The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) challenges agencies if agreed actions from recommendations are not progressed in time and escalation processes are in place. This includes convening an extraordinary meeting to address themes identified through the CDOP process.

Similarly, the Learning & Improvement Sub Group monitors actions for learning following a Serious Case Review– challenge letters are sent to Chief Officers to ensure actions are progressed in a timely way.

We monitor and challenge the use of restraint in secure settings and provide an update in this Annual Report.

We have introduced challenge clinics to hold organisations to account following the Section 11 audit and multi-agency audits in 2015/16.

Challenge also takes place at a senior level through a Chief Officers Safeguarding Group which includes the County Council's Chief Executive, Independent Chair of the LSCB, Corporate Director of

Children and Adults Services, Chief Officers of the Clinical Commissioning Groups, the local NHS Foundation Trust, Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust and Police Chief Constable as well as other senior managers.

This forum allows the opportunity to challenge and share information to ensure line of sight on safeguarding issues including:

- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Ensure training programmes are joined up with the LSCB's
- Ensure quality of frontline practice
- Share outcomes of multi-agency audits and action plans

We have strengthened our joint working with a range of partnerships on shared or similar priorities. Examples include:

- **The Safe Durham Partnership** – working together and contributing to the development of actions in respect of domestic abuse; alcohol misuse, substance misuse. Aligning and improving work within sexual violence, child sexual exploitation and female genital mutilation
- **The Children and Families Partnership** – working together to increase the voice of the child such as the student voice survey, young people who offend and Early Help provision
- **The Health and Wellbeing Board** – through greater integration of self-harm and suicide prevention agenda and contributing to the development of the self-harm and suicide pathway

Progress on LSCB priorities 2015/16

Priority 1 – Reducing Child Sexual Exploitation


Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) can have a serious long-term impact on every aspect of children's lives, health and education. It damages the lives of families and carers, which can lead to family break-ups.

Our 2015 analysis of CSE in County Durham found strong links between sexual exploitation and those young people who are reported missing from home. There are a range of risks associated with missing children including sexual exploitation, mental health, alcohol or drug misuse issues with the motivation for going missing including family conflict or relationship issues.

Online CSE continues as the most common model. The local offender profile is one of 'street grooming' and use of social media to exploit children.

The analysis suggested that community intelligence being gathered or submitted could be improved. In response we have begun to develop stronger relationships with communities through Area Action Partnerships (AAP), raising awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation and how to report concerns or intelligence of CSE.

All 14 AAPs have featured CSE in their newsletters which have a reach in excess of 12,600 people. We have planned to attend all 14 AAPs Board meetings throughout 2016 to deliver CSE messages to community leaders.

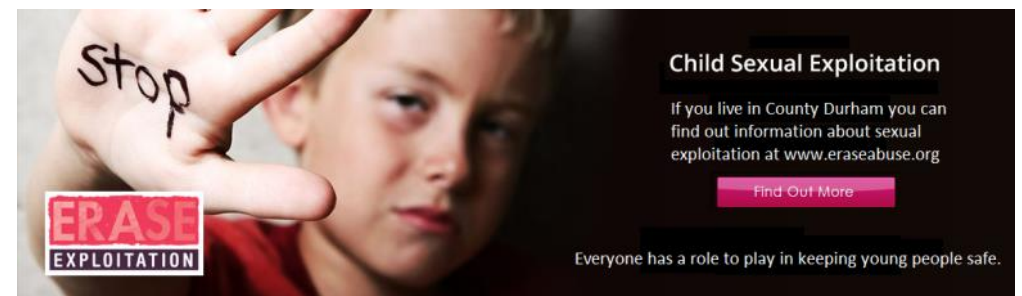
 **More Information:** Find out more information about [Area Action Partnerships](#).

We have carried out LSCB audits for both CSE incidents to assess child protection practice and improve outcomes for children who go missing. This has led to the introduction of a dedicated multi-agency ERASE team that focusses on early identification and support of young people at risk of CSE and tackles suspected offenders using problem solving tactics.

We continue to implement the County Durham Child Sexual Exploitation and Action Plan to prevent, protect and pursue all forms of CSE including online child abuse as well as contact offences.

As part of the CSE marketing plan we have created the 'ERASE' brand (Educate and Raise Awareness of Sexual Exploitation) to tackle Child Sexual Exploitation.

In January 2016 we launched the ERASE website and offers professionals, parents and carers advice on how to communicate with their children about who they speak to on and off-line.



Durham Constabulary became the first Force in the UK to adopt a new training package aimed at protecting children from abuse. 'Intervene to Protect a Child' (IPC) is a proactive training tactic which has had significant success in the United States. Over 1,000 police officers and other agency staff such as children and adult services, housing, neighbourhood wardens and probation officers have been trained in this innovative technique.

We have widened our CSE training and awareness to those services not traditionally associated with safeguarding. This has led to a programme of training for taxi drivers with over 1,000 trained to date. We contributed to a review of the taxi licensing conditions and in March 2016 safeguarding training was made a mandatory condition.

TAXI
OVER 1000

Taxi drivers have attended
CSE awareness training

The taxi driver CSE and safeguarding children training has had a positive impact and resulted in a taxi driver who attended the training taking action to prevent an 11 year old from being exploited.

The training will continue throughout 2016 and will extend the invitation to other external services such as hotels, take away outlets, off-licence trade and internally to staff such as Housing, Environmental Services and Neighbourhood Wardens.

**IF NOBODY KNOWS IT'S
HAPPENING,
NOBODY CAN HELP.**

 **Download:** [County Durham Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy](#).

Further activity includes:

- The Missing and Exploited Group has increased its membership to include a representative from the National Probation Service, County Durham Safeguarding Adults Board and DISC representing Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender young people
- Developed ERASE materials on the prevention and awareness of CSE
- Education Services and the Police have delivered joint training to secondary schools, further education colleges and a number of alternative providers to raise awareness of CSE
- Delivered an ERASE Young People's Conference in June 2015 in conjunction with Stanley AAP. The event saw Year 9 pupils attend workshop sessions based on CSE, grooming, online safety, and appropriate relationships. The young people then planned actions to provide feedback to their individual schools
- Delivered an ERASE practitioner problem solving conference with the voice of the child visible in the testimonies from victims of the Rotherham child abuse investigations
- Agreed key messages from the LSCB Communication Strategy on Missing Children and Child Sexual Exploitation
- CSE and online safety awareness sessions have been delivered with Out of School activity leaders

 **More Information:** Find out more information about Child Sexual Exploitation on the [ERASE website](#).

The region continues its commitment to addressing Child Sexual Exploitation and has established a North East Tackling Exploitation Board. It includes representatives from Local Authorities, the Police, NHS England and a local academic. Durham is represented by the Head of Children's Services and the Detective Superintendent Lead for Safeguarding.



The National Police Chief Council (formerly ACPO) has begun to develop a regional problem profile and Durham LSCB partners have contributed extensively to this.

In February 2016 the Government began a consultation exercise to update the definition of Child Sexual Exploitation. The proposed changes are intended to remove any ambiguity and ensure that across all sectors practitioners are working to the same definition. The proposed definition reflects the increased understanding of this form of abuse. Durham LSCB and its partners have contributed to this consultation and will adopt the final new statutory definition once it has been published.

Priority 2 – Improving Early Help

The majority of children and young people in County Durham will grow up and reach their potential in a supportive environment. However, some children, young people and their families face difficulties and problems. Additional help and support needs to be available at the earliest opportunity to stop these challenges from escalating and negatively impacting on their future.

Durham LSCB recognises Early Help as a key priority area for making significant impact on outcomes for children. Early Help has been embedded as a key principle in a broad range of partnership work and has many cross cutting themes and objectives promoted by the LSCB.

Early Help and Neglect Strategy

Over the last year we have refreshed and updated the Early Help and Neglect Strategy to reflect our ongoing progress and make the link between Neglect and Hidden Harm (e.g. substance misuse) more explicit.

The Early Help and Neglect Strategy provides an overarching framework for the work of all partners in County Durham. It links to a suite of more detailed practice tools to enable practitioners to respond effectively to identified need.


Children, young people and their families have different levels of need depending on their individual circumstances and quite often these change over time with some families moving between universal, targeted and specialist services.

Children can be helped in three broad ways:

1. **Prevention** → So that problems do not arise in the first place
2. **Early Intervention** → So that problems are cut off at an early stage
3. **Protection/ Targeted intervention / treatment** → So that something is in place for needs or problems that are serious or will endure.

At any of the three stages, there will be a need for some level of help which requires services to be equipped and able to respond to these changing needs and demands.

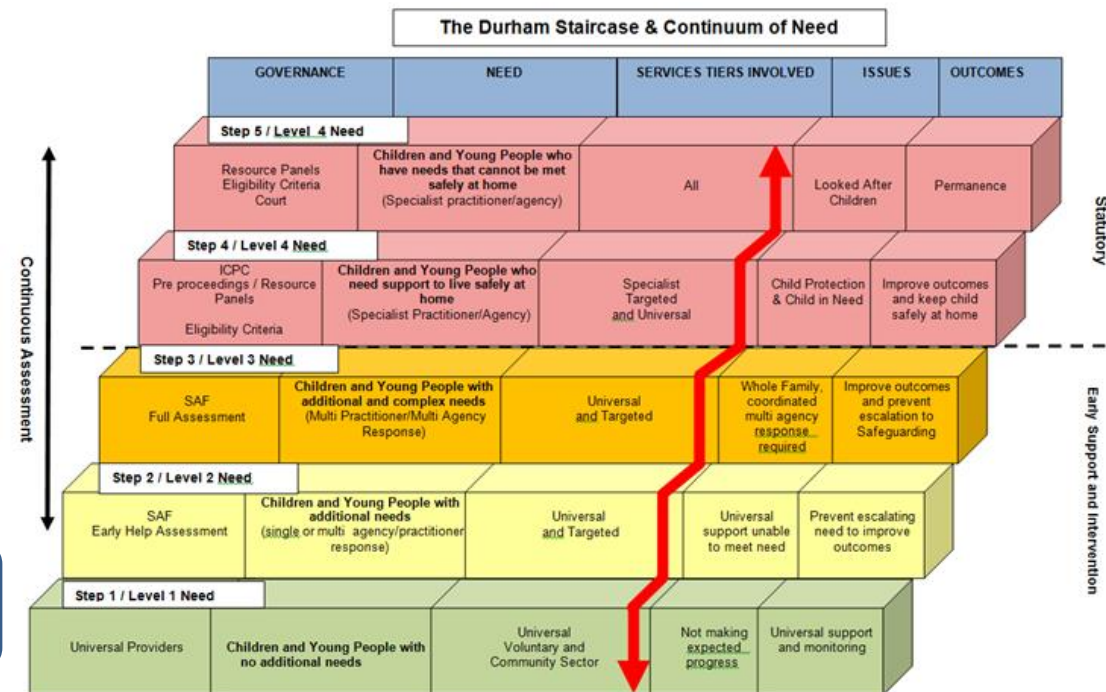
Central to this approach is a focus on increasing independence for families and communities, supporting and building resilience. It is a way of thinking and working that views children, young people and their families as equal partners with an emphasis on doing 'with' rather than doing 'to'.

 **Download:** [Early Help and Neglect Strategy](#).

Durham Continuum of Need and the 0-19 Level of Need

Following on from the refreshed strategy the Durham Continuum of Need and the 0-19 Level of Need have been extensively reworked and published.

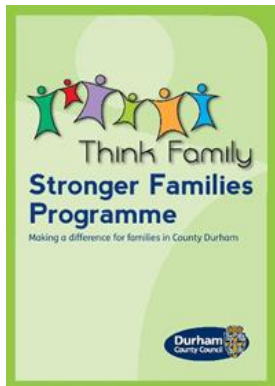
The continuum of need is designed to reflect the fact that children and young people's needs and those of their families may change over time. Regardless of which 'step' children, young people and families are identified on they will be supported at the earliest opportunity and continue to be supported by the relevant services as they move up and down the staircase.




The 0-19 threshold indicators are designed to provide practitioners with an overarching view on what level of support and intervention a family might need and provide a quick-reference guide to support professionals in their decision-making, including conducting further assessments, referring to other services and understanding the likely thresholds for higher levels of intervention.

The impact of the Early Help intervention can be seen through a range of activity in Children's Centres, One Point, Families First services and the continued development of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

The national Troubled Families Programme (known as Stronger Families in County Durham) has been extended for a further five years from 2015/16 and will reach an additional 400,000 families across England.



For Durham this means an additional 4,360 families will be supported. The expanded programme continues to reach out to families with a broad range of problems, including poor school attendance, unemployment, youth crime, domestic abuse, substance misuse and mental health problems. We know these are indicators of neglect and Durham LSCB will continue to support and challenge the work of the Stronger Families Programme.

 **More Information:** Find out more information on the [Stronger Families Programme](#).

Early Help Forums

The Early Help Forums are now well established across the County and is used as a line of communication between the LSCB and frontline practitioners. It has facilitated effective communication and collaborative working arrangements as well as identifying gaps in Early Help provision for children and families.

The forums highlight and problem solve ongoing challenges in the implementation and delivery of effective Early Help provision. All outstanding challenges which are not mitigated through the Early Help Forums are escalated for the attention of the Early Help and Neglect Sub Group. Ongoing challenges include engagement with schools and adult mental health services.

The forums have conducted three multi-agency audits covering attendance at Team Around the Family; chronologies; and school referrals in to First Contact.

Forums have also undertaken an annual joint development event focussed on Sandstories. (Sandstories bring insight and understanding on the impact of the neglect and maltreatment of children providing staff with a unique view of family lives which may be damaging to children).

Furthermore the forums show potential in addressing gaps in delivery by identifying services provided through the voluntary and community sector and facilitating access to these services.

 **Download:** [0-19 Level of Need](#).

Priority 3 – Reducing Neglect

The greatest single cause of children needing protection and care in County Durham is neglect. **Provisional figures** show that 466 children became subject to a Child Protection Plan in 2015/16 and 230 were under five years old when they became subject to a Child Protection Plan. Neglect is a long term, chronic form of harm to children, and services offering Early Help should be able to impact positively on outcomes for this group of children – either in reducing levels of neglect or in reducing delay that many children experience before decisions are made about ‘good enough’ parenting.

Parental issues of domestic abuse, mental health, alcohol misuse and substance misuse continue to be key issues which cause neglect in County Durham and are known collectively as Hidden Harm factors.

Durham LSCB continues to challenge partners to improve responses to Early Help and Neglect. In 2015 we have seen the introduction of domestic abuse outreach workers in the One Point and Families First teams and the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub. We have carried out an audit of agency cooperation where substance misuse is identified as a parental risk factor contributing to a Child Protection Plan. Drug and alcohol workers and domestic abuse outreach workers are now engaged in the Early Help Forums.

Plans for 2016 include the role out in October of Operation Encompass – to provide early sharing of information with schools to enable the provision of timely care and support for the child. If a domestic incident occurred the previous evening and a child was in the house, the police will contact a nominated key adult at the school


the child attends prior to the start of the school day. Appropriate support will then be available for that child.

We have implemented the provision of specialist training for multi-agency practitioners supporting children identified as at risk or subject to neglect by their parent/carers. We have used improved national guidance and lessons learned from Serious Case Reviews to develop this training further and cover Early Help, child development and the long term impact of Neglect on children.

To support the refreshed Early Help and Neglect Strategy we have developed a Neglect Practice Guidance to assist practitioners across services to identify early signs of neglect and develop more responsive and timely interventions to address concerns about neglect. The practice guidance seeks to ensure that practitioners focus their attention on:

- patterns of parental behaviour and the impact this behaviour may be having on the child’s physical, emotional, psychological and behavioural development and wellbeing
- reducing the effect of growing up in poverty and assessing a family’s economic wellbeing
- the impact on the child’s attachment behaviours
- the child’s day to day lived experience over time

To complete this work a new Home Environment Assessment Tool will be launched in 2016.

 **Download:** [Neglect Practice Guidance](#) and the [Single Assessment Procedures](#).

Contributory factors of neglect

Alcohol

Children and young people experience poor outcomes due to *parental alcohol misuse* including foetal alcohol syndrome, school attainment, inferior health and wellbeing, neglect, greater likelihood of exposure to crime and alcohol-related domestic violence. Balance (the North East Alcohol Office) estimate that the number of children living with a parent(s) who drink alcohol at high risk levels in County Durham is 49,353.




Alcohol is a common vulnerability factor in incidence of Child Sexual Exploitation and grooming.

The amount of young people drinking in the UK is reducing however, those young people who do drink alcohol are drinking more in volume and more frequently.

Durham LSCB has strong links to the Alcohol Harm Reduction Group and have contributed to the closer working of treatment services, Early Help and services to support children, young people and their families.

Over the last year a young people's worker has been integrated into the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

 **More Information:** Find out more information on [alcohol in County Durham](#).

Domestic Abuse


Domestic abuse is the main parental risk factor leading to a Child Protection Plan. In County Durham the levels of domestic abuse related incidents reported to the police have seen a continuous but small increase since 2009/10. Domestic abuse continues to be under-reported.



Harbour is commissioned by Durham County Council and provides a holistic service focussed on early intervention. In addition, domestic abuse support workers are integrated into Families First teams and the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

Durham LSCB has links to the County Durham Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group (DASVEG) and we will continue to promote the need for domestic abuse services to support children, young people and their families.

Our LSCB training programme in relation to domestic abuse focusses on improving the understanding of risk factors; equipping practitioners with knowledge and skills to undertake effective risk assessment and ensuring practitioners are clear about referral pathways and key points of contact. Durham LSCB and the Safe Durham Partnership domestic abuse training were aligned in 2015 with a multi-agency set of trainers now delivering the training.

 **More Information:** Find out more information on [domestic abuse services in County Durham](#).

Priority 4 – Reducing self-harm and improving young people’s self-esteem

HIGHER

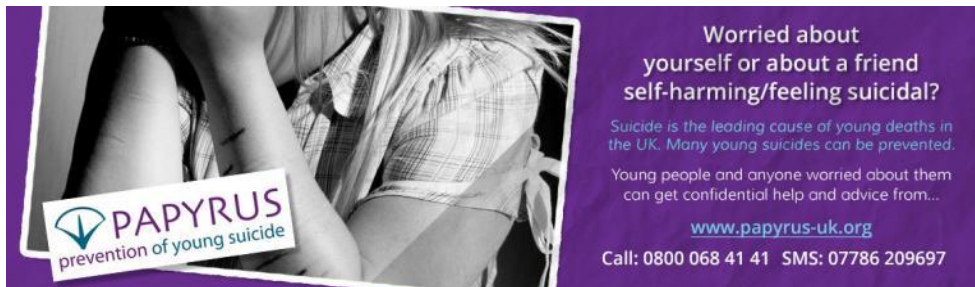
The number of 10-24 year olds admitted to hospital for self-harm is higher than England average

Self harm is a key issue for the county. The number of 10-24 year olds admitted to hospital due to self-harm (523.5 per 100,000 population) is higher than the England average (412.1 per 100,000).

In the 2014/15 Annual Report we reported as a direct impact of listening to these young people the inclusion of the self-harm priority for the LSCB. We made links with the County Durham Health and Wellbeing Board’s work to tackle the causal factors for suicide, attempted suicide and self-harm.

This resulted in some innovated work including young people speaking about their own personal experiences of self-harm at a Durham LSCB Lessons Learned event and the County Durham Suicide Prevention Conference.

A Self-Harm Sub Group has now been established to develop a self-harm support pathway, practice guidance and training package for




Worried about yourself or about a friend self-harming/feeling suicidal?

Suicide is the leading cause of young deaths in the UK. Many young suicides can be prevented.

Young people and anyone worried about them can get confidential help and advice from...

www.papyrus-uk.org

Call: 0800 068 41 41 SMS: 07786 209697

 PAPYRUS prevention of young suicide


practitioners in line with the level of need threshold work done for Early Help.

The pathway is aimed at practitioners and tackles the causal factors for suicide, attempted suicide and self-harm issues of children and young people.



The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) has reviewed service provision and will develop a Single Point of Access in 2016/17.

We will continue with partners and services to work with families on prevention and improving the quality of mental health care across the county. This will include involvement in the development of Children and Young People’s Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience transformation plan across partners.

 **More Information:** Find out more information about [County Durham Suicide Prevention](#).

Priority 5 – Increase the voice of the Child

Durham LSCB actively engages and seeks the views of children and young people on wider safeguarding issues.

We continued to improve the way we involve young people, throughout 2015/16 and worked collaboratively with 'Investing In Children' and the Children and Young People's Reference Group.

Members of the LSCB Board have conducted community visits alongside these young people to see first-hand their concerns. The young people meet with members of the LSCB on a regular basis and their views have been taken into account in the LSCB work plan and our priority setting arrangements such as the continued inclusion of the self-harm priority for the LSCB 2015-16. Durham LSCB is scheduled to receive Investing in Children status in June 2016.



The Student Voice survey was commissioned by the Children & Families Partnership and is undertaken with Secondary Schools to seek the views of children and young people in County Durham on a range of relevant issues to assist Partnerships and Schools create an evidence base to assist future planning, service development and performance activities.

The survey was undertaken electronically by students in Years 7, 9 and 11, and also Year 13 where schools have a sixth form, with responses received from 8,148 individual students in total.

The survey highlighted issues such as:

- Over 10% of students identified themselves as a Young Carer. This reinforces the importance of the Young Carers Charter in County Durham and the need for schools to safely identify and support young carers in their school.
- 33% of students stated they have been bullied. Public Health and Education are working closely on the resilience programme including working with schools to tackle bullying.
- Over half of the 369 students who responded that they are unhappy stated that they have no-one to talk to when feeling vulnerable. Schools are being supported to work on a whole school approach to mental wellbeing.
- 23.3% of Year 11 students responded that they drink 'during the week', 'most weekends', 'every weekend' or 'every day'. The Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy includes a focus on the Altogether Better for Children and Young People theme and

specific actions for the Drug and Alcohol Service to support schools in tackling drug and alcohol issues

We will continue to use the evidence base provided by the Student Voice survey to challenge partners and support the continuous improvement of services for children and young people.

We have engaged with young people who want to share their first-hand experience. They have delivered sessions as part of our Lesson Learned events, the County Durham Suicide Prevention Conference and the ERASE development and problem solving conference.



“I wanted to express my own heartfelt appreciation for the rare opportunity, as a professional, to hear the accounts of actual people whose lives have been so massively impacted upon.”


The result of this involvement by young people and their openness to share has been very effective. Feedback from practitioners has been very positive and has improved the learning of those involved.

“Both as a professional and a parent, their stories preyed on my mind for the rest of the day. They provided a more thought provoking human element and a deeper comprehension of their far reaching experiences and for that I feel very privileged.”

We have actively engaged young people from various backgrounds and abilities within identified vulnerable groups that face additional barriers for example, lesbian, gay, bisexual or transsexual, special educational needs and gypsy, roma traveller children. Durham Community Action has carried this engagement work and shared this with Durham LSCB.

Engagement activities were appropriate to the audience and included a mixture of interactive discussions, post-it note feedback, decision stickers, etc. The majority of the children and young people who took part feel safe most of the time and it is specific situations where they feel they need support either due to perceptions or due to incidents they or their peers have experienced.

This direct link to young people and understanding the ‘Voice of the Child’ has brought a positive and different perspective into the LSCB. It has directly shaped new actions across all LSCB sub groups and challenged the development of service provision such as the planned interventions of Early Help services.

 **More Information:** Find out more information about [Investing In Children](#).

Priority 6 – Ensuring each agency is accountable for delivery of its own safeguarding responsibilities

This priority is delivered through scrutinising the audit function of Durham LSCB and is covered in more detail in [Section 6 Performance Monitoring and Quality Assurance](#).

The LSCB Board recognises the importance of self-improvement, to be effective it needs to continuously learn from its own experiences and that of others. For example the LSCB Chair has met with a range of frontline staff to discuss issues, ideas and improvements.

Partners have undertaken a range of steps to develop joint practice and values to improve our effectiveness - keeping the child's journey at the forefront of what we do.

We have clarified our business objectives and aligned our LSCB operations against our objectives. Over the last year we have:

- improved our performance reports and implemented a new dataset to better reflect priorities
- strengthened the scrutiny and challenge role and have developed a framework for evidencing impact and difference
- strengthened the engagement and participation of children and young people in the work of the Board
- aligned the Board's activities with other partnerships
- improved the visibility and influence of the Board
- strengthened the engagement and participation of frontline staff including involvement in audit work

Emerging issues - Cyber Crime


Cyber Crime was highlighted as an emerging issue for the Safe Durham Partnership in 2015. There are strong links with Durham LSCB priorities in its work to prevent vulnerable young people being drawn into terrorism and sexual exploitation through the use of social media and the internet.


Representatives from Durham Constabulary Cyber Crime Team, Durham County Council Community Safety Team and the Local Safeguarding Children Board have delivered seminars covering Child Sexual Exploitation, Counter Terrorism and Cyber Crime. The seminars were attended by 120 professionals from the out-of-school sector.

A task and finish group is now in place and has developed a Cyber Crime Action Plan. The LSCB will contribute to this work in areas such as cyberbullying, grooming and other safeguarding issues.

The regional police forces have secured the services of Get Safe Online with the development of a 'Get Safe Online in Durham' website which has an extensive safeguarding section.



 **More Information:** Find out more information on [Get Safe Online in Durham](#).

 **More Information:** Find out more information on [Counter Terrorism and the Prevention of Violent Extremism](#)

6. Performance Monitoring and Quality Assurance

Section 11 Audit

The Section 11 Audit is Durham LSCB's primary audit to examine the safeguarding arrangements within agencies and provides the Board with assurance that agencies are doing what they can to ensure the safety and welfare of children and young people.

Agencies identified a total of 80 separate actions compiled into a Section 11 action plan to be monitored by the LSCB Board.

The responses received provide the LSCB with an overview of what the main issues and challenges are for agencies and also outlines key areas of service development. These responses will inform the questions to be included in the 2016/17 audit.

Section 11 Audit Findings

- Senior management commitment to safeguarding and promoting children's welfare is strong but further guidance on appropriate evidence should be included in future audits
- There is a clear commitment to communicate to staff and service users an agency's responsibilities towards children
- Agencies identified the need to the need to keep their policies up to date
- Good practice relating to structural awareness of safeguarding responsibilities within organisations was seen. Structure charts and named roles were consistently highlighted throughout the responses

- Activity to engage with children and young people in the development of safeguarding services was inconsistent and provides potential for further challenge
- There is strong commitment to ensuring staff maintain safeguarding knowledge and access to a broader range of development opportunities as well as mandatory safeguarding training
- Further evidence will be required in future Section 11 audits to show the level of understanding of the content of relevant policies / procedures
- There is a good level of compliance in effective inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- There is consistent awareness of the importance of information sharing



Multi-Agency Audits

We have developed a new audit toolkit, based on examples of good practice, to enable its use over a wide range of circumstances. Questions reflect the scope and the specific needs of the children, or processes being audited to meet the requirements of the planned audit.

In 2015/16 we carried out five multi-agency audits covering the following subjects

- Child Protection Strategy Meetings
- Agency cooperation where substance misuse is identified as a parental risk factor contributing to Child Protection Plan
- Team Around the Family Meetings
- Multi-Agency Chronologies
- School Referrals for Early Help

Child Protection Strategy Meeting Audit

The main findings from the child protection strategy meeting audit showed compliance with procedures has been subject to interpretation while IT systems can leave a gap in recording the progression to Initial Child Protection Conference if there is any variability in the lead-in to a conference.

A review of the procedures regarding Strategy Meetings will be undertaken in 2016/17 and a further audit will be planned for the end of 2016.

Agency Cooperation Audit

The audit of agency cooperation where substance misuse is identified as a parental risk factor contributing to a Child Protection Plan, found the majority of cases audited there was good evidence of proper and appropriate multi-agency co-operation. The audit also found variability in the IT systems used for recording client data across the different LSCB partner agencies.

The drug and alcohol service will undertake a review of their data systems as a wider review of their service in 2016. This audit will then be repeated following the review.

Audit of Team Around the Family Meetings

The audit of Team Around the Family (TAF) meetings found strong evidence that the child's needs had been identified appropriately and interventions were planned to improve things.

In all cases family improvement milestones were identified with good examples found such as a family agreement in place; improved attendance and behaviour in school; implemented daily routine; self-esteem and confidence building opportunities; parental skills training; financial and household management and improved home environment conditions.

However, these milestones did vary in quality and there was little evidence of comments from parents. Results of the audit were shared with the Early Help and Neglect Sub Group. An action plan was developed for those areas that required improvement with assigned managers and remedial action progressed within their service area.

Audit of Multi-Agency Chronologies

The audit of multi-agency chronologies found the general standard of completion was very high and all chronologies were up-to-date.

Not all chronologies audited showed that a chronology commenced when an agency first started their involvement with a child or family, however, all chronologies did begin when a first 'significant' event happened.

A best practice example was identified and circulated to all Early Help Forums and the Early Help and Neglect Sub Group.

Audit of School Referrals for Early Help

The audit of school referrals for Early Help found that each referral made by the school was appropriate. The cases examined highlighted the complexity of cases with clear evidence that convening of a Team Around the Family (TAF) as early as possible when concerns arise, is beneficial.

It noted that identifying a TAF Lead Professional through the school holidays should be highlighted in the LSCB and school safeguarding training so that a Lead Professional is clearly identified and a handover planned.

Since the audit the LSCB and school safeguarding training has been reviewed to cover the requirement of an identified TAF Lead Professional through the school holidays.

Safeguarding Privately Fostered Children

The Durham LSCB Board monitors the local arrangements for safeguarding children who are privately fostered.

On an annual basis the Board is provided with a full report setting out Durham County Council's strategy and specific arrangements to raise awareness in the community monitor and support children who are in such placements.


The main considerations of the report identify that notifications remain low and these children remain a hidden and possibly vulnerable population. Durham LSCB has challenged the Local Authority and partners to increase the number of new notifications through targeting of awareness raising in key agencies who are most likely to become aware of the changing nature of households.

Other actions include:

- monitoring of compliance with visiting to be incorporated into monthly performance clinics
- improving compliance with the statutory responsibilities on visiting
- gathering the views of parents / carers / children and young people in relation to their private fostering arrangement



 **Download:** [Annual Private Fostering Report.](#)

 **More Information:** Find out more about [Private Fostering.](#)

The Use of Restraint – Safeguarding Young People in Secure Settings

County Durham is among a small number of Local Authorities who have secure services within its boundaries.

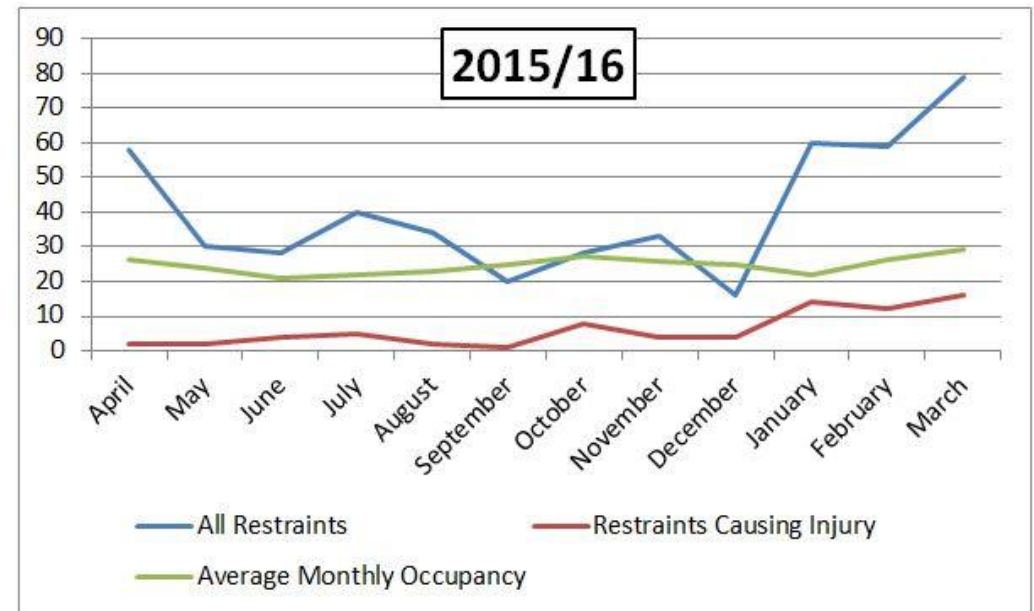
In conjunction with Durham County Council, Durham LSCB monitors the use of restraint at Aycliffe Secure Services Centre. Many of the children are placed by Local Authorities outside the area and by the criminal courts. Since 2011 and in line with Working Together guidance we have reported on the use of restraint within County Durham.

Aycliffe Secure Services Centre houses a changing population of young people aged between 11 and 17, both male and female, who have been referred through the courts because they are a risk to themselves or others, or because there is a concern about their involvement with criminal activities.

The centre has five children's homes and a 'step down' facility with an additional 24 beds commissioned by the Youth Justice Board.

Local Authorities from outside of the area can also commission places for young people on welfare grounds if the courts decide that young people meet the legislative criteria required to place them in a secure setting.

Restraint incidents with all young people had seen an overall trend reduction throughout 2015. However, there was a sharp increase early in 2016.



This increase was largely due to changes in the resident population with several young people leaving and being replaced by young people new to Aycliffe Secure Services Centre.

This disruption to routine and group dynamics amongst young people within the centre can lead to an increase in incidents and the centre management constantly seek to identify in advance, events that might lead to unrest.

Due to the nature of secure settings, planned events are often subject to unexpected disruption relating to issues such as court proceedings and available resources within partner agencies.

Injuries as result of restraint are graded using the set criteria:

Level 1 – Minor Injury - no medical treatment such as red marks on the skin, welts, superficial cuts and scratches, bruises which do not require medical treatment, including first aid

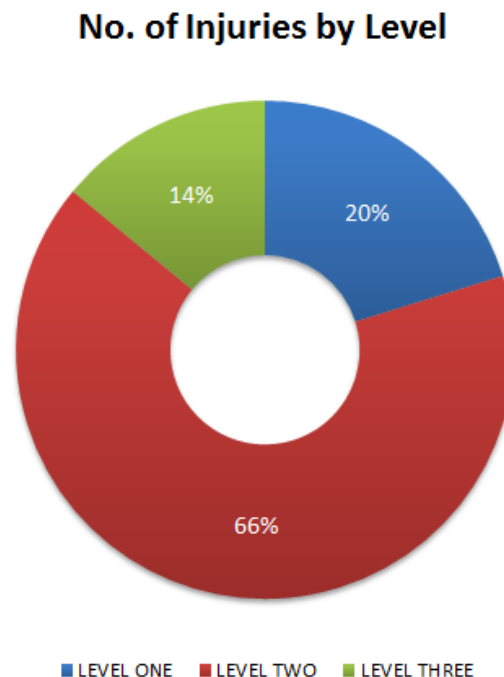
Level 2 – Minor Injury - requiring medical treatment such as significant cuts, scratches, grazes, bloody noses, concussion, serious bruising and sprains where medical treatment is given by staff/nurse

Level 3 – Serious Injury requiring hospital treatment - includes serious cuts, fractures, loss of consciousness and damage to internal organs.

There were a total of 485 incidents which required restraint during 2015-16; this is fewer than in 2014-15 (494).

These restraints led to 74 injuries to young people, more than the previous year with a ratio of three injuries to every 17 restraints.

57% of all injuries occurred between January and March 2016 when the spike of restraint incidents were recorded.



Throughout 2015/16 Aycliffe Secure Services Centre staff have been implementing alternative approaches to practice to try and minimise the use of restraint overall.


This includes positive reinforcement techniques with staff and key-workers specific targeted work to develop positive working relationships with young people.

Staff, key-workers and managers of the centre work with young people to understand the causes and effect of their challenging behaviour and work together to develop strategies designed to prevent restraint.

Working together, the staff and young people have focused on effective communication, coping mechanisms, likes and dislikes and de-escalation techniques that the young person feels will work.

In addition, all young people who are placed on behaviour support plans or are at a higher risk of forcing a restraint is put on an engagement and activity / development plan.

This clearly identifies the activities on offer to the young person and is used as incentives to re-engage and re-integrate them back into the group.

 **More Information:** Find out more information about [Aycliffe Secure Centre](#).

Serious Case Review Function

We have instigated one Serious Case Review in 2015/16 and one Learning Lessons Review.

We have also delivered eight Learning Lessons events in 2015/16 for practitioners and agencies with two specific events for Early Years staff and GPs.

These have provided time for professional reflection of key messages and recurrent themes running through the published Serious Case Reviews.


These are:

- the role of males within a family setting / household who have contact with children and young people
- multi-agency engagement with safeguarding processes
- information sharing and professionals working in silo
- increasing the voice of the child
- over reliance upon the social worker - lack of professional challenge
- the importance of cross-referencing, checking previous records, and taking account of historical information in making decisions

We continue to implement the recommendations from Serious Case Reviews both multi-agency and single agency recommendations. Action plans are reviewed by the Learning and Improvement Sub Group bi-monthly.

We will continue to host a range of learning lessons events following Serious Case Reviews publications.



 **More Information:** Find out more information about [Serious Case Reviews](#).

Child Death Overview Panel

It is the responsibility of Local Safeguarding Children Boards to ensure that a review of every death of a child normally resident in their area is undertaken by a Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP).

A joint CDOP has been agreed by Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board and Darlington Safeguarding Children Board. The Child Death Overview Panel is a sub-committee of both Durham and Darlington LSCBs. It is responsible for reviewing the available information on all child deaths and is accountable to the LSCB Chair.

There are two interrelated processes for reviewing child deaths:

- **Rapid Response** by a group of key professionals who come together for the purpose of enquiring into and evaluating each **unexpected death**; and
- An overview of **all deaths** up to the age of 18 years (excluding both those babies that are stillborn and planned terminations of pregnancy carried out within the law) in Durham and Darlington areas, undertaken by a panel

The Child Death Overview Panel continues to undertake its role with sensitivity and has identified and implemented a range of recommendations that are improving child safety and welfare.

There were 36 child death reviews in County Durham in 2015/16.

Of the 36 child deaths there were:

- 20 Rapid Responses (this is a process for gathering key professionals to enquire into and evaluate circumstances of a sudden and unexpected death)

- 26 deaths that have been or will be considered at a Local Case Discussion meeting (for most unexpected deaths a local case discussion takes place when all the information has been gathered and all agencies involved with the child and family before and at the time of their death are invited to the meeting.)

Analysis of Key Findings

The key findings of the Child Death Reviews are summarised below:

- Where cases were subject of a Serious Case Review and a robust action plan was developed which will be monitored by the Learning & Improvement Group. Key points include the relaunch of the Early Help & Neglect Strategy and the development of a suicide / self-harm pathway and education package
- Seven cases were subject of a Root Cause Analysis and an action plan developed which will be monitored by the Child Death Overview Panel until its completion. For example, management of discharge, monitoring of babies during labour and delivery, and regular update of training around neonatal resuscitation
- One review identified the need to formalise the information sharing process for children who are expected to die at home prior to discharge to ensure that there are no safeguarding issues. A multi-agency working group has been formed to progress this and Durham Constabulary has formulated draft guidance for expected deaths. New guidance will be finalised in 2016/17

Areas of Good Practice

Example 1. County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust were inspected by the Human Tissue Authority in 2015. This successful inspection noted the dialogue / inspection of child death processes which involved the Rapid Response team.

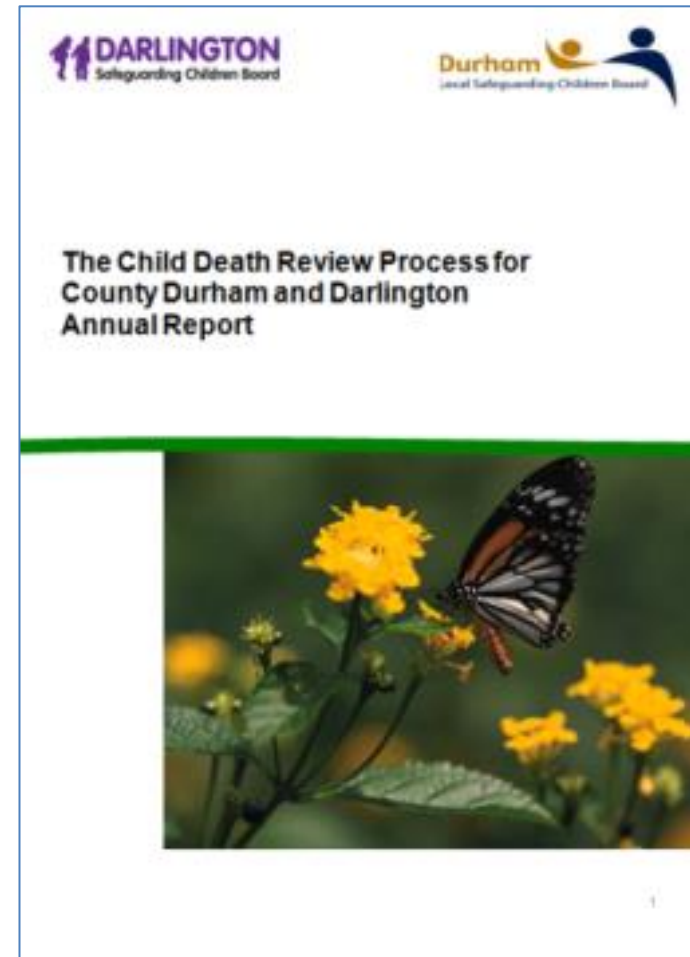
Example 2. Following a tragic accident, Durham County Council commissioned an assessment of water safety in the river (and all water ways in County Durham) in keeping with the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents guidelines. This information has been shared with colleagues from the Environmental Agency and Fire & Rescue Service to ensure awareness of the areas in relation to the topography.

A range of safety measures have been put in place; signs have been installed at both entrances to the site of the incident; information leaflets have been sent to all local residents about water safety awareness; and regular inspections of drainage/safety pathways at the site are carried out.

Water safety education for schools was provided in advance of Water Safety Week in targeted areas.

The Child Death Overview Panel considered it commendable that the Local Authority promptly took appropriate measures to ensure the protection of children and young people in the area with regards to water safety.

The Child Death Review Annual Report is published each year and is available on both LSCB websites.



 **Download:** [Child Death Review Annual Report 2015-16.](#)

Policy and Procedures

Durham LSCB proactively reviews policies and procedures as systems change and are developed. A range of procedures and practice guidance have been updated in 2015/16. These include:

- Updated Single Assessment Framework and referral form
- Refreshed Early Help and Neglect Strategy
- New Neglect Practice Guidance
- New 0-19 Level of Need thresholds document
- New Home Environment Risk Assessment Tool
- Updated CSE intelligence information submission form
- Updated Missing Children Procedures
- New Marketing and Communication Strategy
- New Multi-agency Audit Tool

We will also implement the recommendations of the Ofsted inspection for example a time limited task and finish group has been established in 2016 for the procurement of new online child protection procedures.

Performance Monitoring Quality Assurance Forward Plan

The multi-agency audit and quality assurance forward plan lays out the planned work to be undertaken and its impact on outcomes for individual children and young people. In 2016/17 we will:

- develop an on-line version of Section 11 audits
- undertake an annual governance review of the LSCB
- maintain consistent use of auditing tools and processes
- identify and develop areas for auditing
- develop reporting formats to include case studies and make the voice of the child more visible
- refine the scorecard and reporting arrangements
- maintain the risk register and the risk reporting methodology with effective controls and assurances
- carry out challenge clinics to hold organisations to account
- develop additional 'Quality' reporting to include areas such as complaints, Serious Case Reviews and child death overview monitoring

7. Training and Communication

Single and Multi-Agency Training Provision

All agencies working with children either directly or indirectly are required to provide training in order to carry out their own roles and responsibilities. This includes being able to recognise and raise concerns about children's safety and welfare.

During the year the LSCB training programme has seen an increased collaboration with a range of organisations; most notably the County Council's Learning and Development Team; County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust; Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust, Durham Constabulary, Harbour and Barnardos; in the planning, design and delivery of training.

This has strengthened and enhanced the quality of training while avoiding duplication and promoting the importance of inter-agency working.

Durham LSCB continues to support the private, voluntary and community sector through the provision of targeted safeguarding training for example Early Year's providers. We have also incorporated lessons learned from Serious Case Reviews into our training in order to support practitioners and managers to improve their learning, understanding and assessment skills.

All new and existing courses have been updated to reflect the refreshed policy and procedural work undertaken over the last year.

Courses delivered in 2015/16

The LSCB currently offer 13 core courses including Safeguarding Processes and Intervention, Engaging with Families, Child Sexual Exploitation and Neglect.

In addition to the core courses training sessions were also delivered on Honour Based Violence, Forced Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation, in collaboration with HALO and County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (CDDFT).



The LSCB has also hosted three training sessions on Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), delivered by the National Probation Service; two sessions on Hidden Sentence which were delivered by NEPACS and funded by Think Family and one training event on 'Think Family' delivered in collaboration with Think Family Mentors.

A total of **88 courses** were delivered in 2015-2016. The courses were attended by a total of **1,637 staff and volunteers**.

Impact and Evaluation



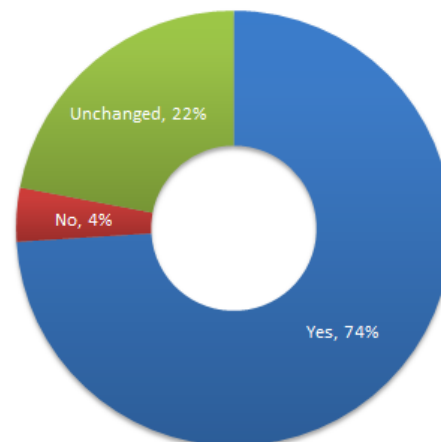
The training courses received very positive feedback with 71% of attendees marking the training they received as excellent.

“I now feel confident in asking challenging questions at home visits. In a recent referral following this course, I have no doubt I made the right judgement call”

Follow up evaluations are carried with staff in the three months after attending a training session to assess the longer term impact of training. 98% of those surveyed stated that the training had fulfilled their personal objectives set out within the training.

When asked the question ‘Has the learning impacted on your practice?’ 74% said yes, 4% said no and 22% were unchanged.

“Explaining to parents involved in separation or child/parent/school related issues that their children have a voice...providing time and space so the child can be heard”



e-Learning

There are a range of e-learning courses available on the Durham LSCB website including; Awareness of Child Abuse and Neglect, Safeguarding Children from Abuse by Child Sexual Exploitation and PREVENT – Counter Terrorism awareness.

Since the e-learning courses became available:

- **3,352 people** have completed the Awareness of Child Abuse and Neglect
- **2,537 people** have completed the Safeguarding Children from Abuse by Child Sexual Exploitation
- **Over 6,000 people** have completed the PREVENT – Counter Terrorism e-learning

“I have been able to engage and respond to my service users more effectively”

“It has enabled me to support clients to access the correct level of support for their family”

Durham LSCB has purchased a ‘total package’ of e-learning from Virtual College for 2016/17.

This offers a wide variety of safeguarding courses available to staff and volunteers with an unlimited licence available on each course.

📄 **More Information:** Find out more information about [LSCB Training Programme](#).

Marketing and Communications Activity

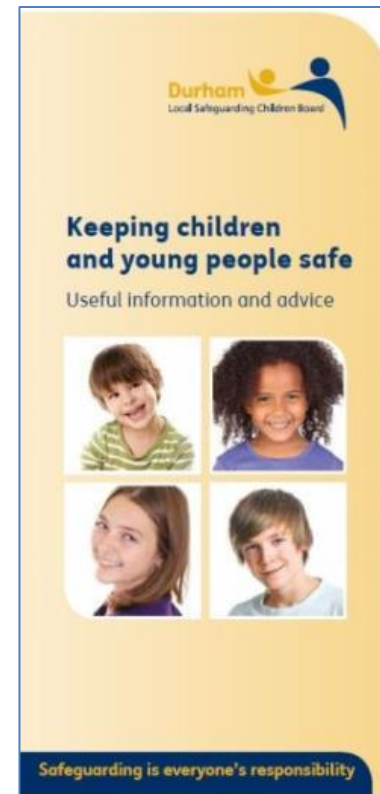
In 2015 the Training, Development and Communications Sub Group was tasked with developing a Marketing and Communications Strategy.


The aim of the strategy is to raise the awareness and increase knowledge and understanding of safeguarding across the LSCB agencies; wider partnership structures in County Durham and the general public.

In developing the refreshed Marketing and Communications Strategy the Training, Development and Communications Sub Group has undertaken a range of actions in 2015/16 including:

- refreshing the LSCB brand and styling
- producing and disseminating safeguarding printed materials (leaflet posters, etc.) for use by all partners (over 6,786 leaflets distributed to venues including One Point Hubs, libraries, GP surgeries, Health Centres and Customer Access Points)
- identifying key communication pathways and themes based on the LSCB priorities (use of appropriate social media to raise awareness and articles in newsletters and publications, etc.)
- uplift of Department for Education 'Together we can tackle child abuse' campaign
- the promotion of ERASE Child Sexual Exploitation website
- developing 'key messages' for use by partners

- developing standard templates to enable consistent branding and messages
- updating LSCB website content (188,582 page views in 2015/16)



 **More Information:** Find out more information about [LSCB Leaflets and Posters](#)

8. Future Priorities

LSCB Priorities 2016/17

The Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board agreed and retained the following priorities for 2016/17:

- Reducing Child Sexual Exploitation
- Improving Early Help
- Reducing Neglect (contributory factors are domestic abuse; alcohol misuse; substance misuse; parental mental health)
- Reducing self-harm and improving young people's self-esteem
- Increase the voice of the child
- Ensuring that each agency is accountable for delivery of its own safeguarding responsibilities

Priority areas of work

Alongside the identified priorities above the LSCB has highlighted priority areas of work for 2016/17:

Leadership

- Benchmark ourselves against 'outstanding' and continue to seek improvements in practice and outcomes
- Expand the voice of the child to show how we listen and respect the views of children
- Update the child protection procedures

- Deliver and support communication campaigns / learning events / factsheets and publications

Challenge

- Undertake Section 11 audits to ensure agencies have processes and procedures in place to the required standard
- Undertake multi-agency audits to ensure partners are fulfilling their statutory obligations including auditing of Early Help
- Record and report single agency audits to the LSCB Board
- Refine and embed the Performance Management Framework to show how children's lives have been improved
- Focus our self-harm work on secondary school support
- Provide more local narrative in the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) Annual Report

Learning

- Publish Serious Case Reviews and continue to disseminate and implement learning providing evidence of the impact / change in practice due to Serious Case Review learning
- Continue to develop, deliver and refine the training plan
- Understand the impact of training on practice by developing an impact analysis of training
- Improve the learning and effect of child poverty and neglect
- Conduct an academic seminar to inform practice

These priorities reflect a number of drivers including the 2016 Ofsted inspection of Durham LSCB, Learning Lessons and Serious Case Reviews and the LSCB annual development session.

Plan on Page

Our 'Plan on a Page' identifies actions for 2016-17

Outcome and Business Priorities	Objectives for 2016-19	Actions in 2016-17
Reducing Child Sexual Exploitation	Ensure services are targeted, responsive and effective Embed the prevent, protect and pursue agenda into practice and service	1) Complete the delivery of CSE taxi driver awareness sessions in County Durham 2) Deliver CSE awareness sessions to licence premises and fast food outlets 3) Develop an agreed protocol to ensure young people's (up to 23 years of age) needs are met in relation to CSE 4) Develop an escalation process for out of area children at risk 5) Implement Operation Encompass to support children and young people at school who witness domestic abuse and consider links with self-harm 6) Update online safety awareness – including Prevent principles 7) Educate and support schools in relation to CSE 8) Secure funding for the ERASE team
Improving Early Help	Ensure services support families at an earlier stage to prevent child protection intervention Reduce the number of young people subject to child protection plans	9) Continue to address the Early Help action plan 10) Develop staff to ensure the outcomes framework is embedded into practice
Reducing Neglect (contributory factors are domestic abuse; alcohol misuse; substance misuse; parental mental health)	Ensure that services are targeted, responsive and efficient for children suffering from neglect Reduce the impact of neglect contributory factors on the outcomes of children and young people suffering from neglect	11) Ensure that young people (aged 16+ years of age) are incorporated into the Early Help and Neglect Strategy 12) Audit the outcome of the implementation of the home environment risk assessment
Reducing self-harm and improving young people's self-esteem	Ensure services are targeted, responsive and effective	13) Complete the Self Harm/Suicide pathway 14) Implement an agreed education package 15) Audit the implementation and impact of the education package 16) Develop an online communication tool
Increase the voice of the child	Views of children and young people are used to inform services and best practice	17) Obtain Investing in Children status 18) Review Cafcass Young People's Charter 19) Broaden the voice of the child and harder to reach 20) Employ an apprentice 21) Children and Young People's Reference Group to be expanded 22) Voice of the Child to be evident across all priority areas 23) Improve the Voice of the Child within the child protection process
Ensuring that each agency is accountable for delivery of its own safeguarding responsibilities	Continued development of Leadership, Challenge and Learning (as below)	24) Audit the information sharing protocol 25) Improve Information sharing across all priority areas
Leadership	Ensure collective leadership across all agencies Increase access of data and analysis and improve understanding Expand collective learning and improvement Develop effective policies and procedures across all agencies	26) Deliver refreshed LSCB business plan 27) Deliver a set of SCR themed Lessons Learned events for 2016/17 28) Update the child protection procedures 29) Deliver and support communications, factsheets and publications 30) Ensure Annual Report provides a rigorous assessment of local services.
Challenge	Develop effective systems, processes and policies through audits Use evidence of impact to challenge Ensure audits of practice	31) Develop an escalation process of themes and concerns for CDOP 32) Develop an escalation process for the CDOP Action Plan 33) Undertake multi-agency audits to ensure that partners are fulfilling their statutory obligations including auditing of Early Help 34) Record and report single agency audits to the LSCB Board 35) Refine and embed the Performance Management Framework / Scorecard including performance reporting of Early Help 36) Provide more local narrative in the Child Death Overview Annual Report
Learning	Ensure that the skills and knowledge of practitioners is effective, using learning from Serious Case Reviews (SCR)	37) Publish Serious Case Reviews and continue to disseminate and implement learning 38) Evidence the impact within Serious Case Review learning 39) Progress the thematic tool for Serious Case Reviews 40) Continue to develop, deliver and refine the Training Plan 41) Understand the impact of training on practice by developing an impact analysis 42) Link in with school communication and consultation meetings with young people

LSCB messages to Professionals and Community Children and Young People

- Nothing is more important than making sure you are safe and well cared for. This is about you and we want to know more about how you think young people can be better protected
- If you are worried about your own safety or that of a friend, speak to a professional you trust or speak to ChildLine on 0800 1111

Parents and Carers

- Public agencies are there to support you; getting early help before things get worse really does help
- Tell us what works and what doesn't when professionals are trying to help you and your children
- Make sure you know about the best way to protect your child and take time to understand some of the risks they can face

The Community

- You are in the best place to look out for children and young people if you have a concern call First Contact on **03000 267979** or the NSPCC helpline on **0808 800 5000**
- We all share responsibility for protecting children - if you see something, say something

Frontline Staff and Volunteers working with Children

- Make sure children and young people are seen, heard and helped, whatever your role
- Your professional judgement is what ultimately makes a difference and you must invest in developing the knowledge, skills and experiences needed to effectively safeguard children and young people
- Attend all training required for your role
- Be familiar with, and use when necessary, Child Protection Procedures and the Single Assessment Framework
- Understand the importance of talking with colleagues and sharing information. If in doubt, speak to your manager

Local Politicians

- You are leaders in your local area. You can be the eyes and ears of vulnerable children and families. Keep the protection of children at the front of your mind

Chief Executives and Directors

- You set the tone for the culture of your organisation. When you talk, people listen – talk about children and young people
- Ensure your workforce attend relevant LSCB training courses and learning events
- Ensure your agency contributes to the work of Durham LSCB and be Section 11 compliant

The Police

- Robustly pursue offenders and disrupt their attempts to abuse children
- Ensure officers and police staff have the opportunity to train with their colleagues in partner agencies
- Ensure that the voices of all child victims are heard, particularly in relation to listening to evidence where children disclose abuse

NHS Trusts and Clinical Commissioning Groups

- Health services have a key role in scrutinising the governance and planning for safeguarding across a range of services. Ensure that the voice of the child is heard
- Discharge your safeguarding duties effectively and ensure that services are commissioned for the most vulnerable children

Head Teachers and Governors of Schools

- Ensure that your school / academy / educational establishment is compliant with 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (DfE, 2015)
- You see children more than any other profession and develop some of the most meaningful relationships with them
- Keep engaged with the safeguarding process and continue to identify children who need early help and protection

The Local Media

- Communicating the message that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility is crucial - you can help do this positively



Appendix 1 – LSCB Membership and Staffing

Durham LSCB Membership

- The Board is chaired by an independent person commissioned by the Durham County Council Chief Executive
- National Probation Services – represented by the Head of Durham
- Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company – represented by Head of Services County Durham and Darlington
- North Durham, Dales, Easington & Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Groups – represented by:
 - Director of Nursing (Vice-Chair of Durham LSCB)
- Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children and Looked After Children
- Designated Paediatrician
- NHS England – represented by the Deputy Director of Nursing
- Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust – represented by the Associate Director of Nursing (Safeguarding)
- County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust – represented by:
 - Associate Director of Patient Experience & Safeguarding
 - Head of Children and Families
- North Tees & Hartlepool Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust – represented by the Deputy Director of Nursing
- Harrogate & District NHS Foundation Trust – represented by the Deputy Director of Nursing
- City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust
- Cafcass (County Durham) – represented by the Service Manager
- County Durham Council represented by:
 - Corporate Director, Children & Adults Services
 - Head of Children’s Services
 - Head of Adults Care
 - Head of Education
 - Strategic Manager - Youth Offending Service
 - Director of Public Health County Durham
 - Housing Solutions Manager
- National Offender Management Service – represented by Public Protection Manager
- Durham Constabulary – represented by the Force Lead for Safeguarding (Superintendent Level)
- The Voluntary & Community Sector – represented by the Voluntary Sector Representative
- Schools represented by:
 - Durham Association of Secondary Heads

- Durham Association of Primary Heads
- Durham Association of Special Schools
- Further Education – represented by the Head of Student Services, Bishop Auckland College
- Lay Members – represented by three members of the community whose role is to support stronger public engagement in local child safety issues and to challenge the LSCB on the accessibility by the public and children and young people of its plans and procedures
- Lead Member – represented by the Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People Services (participant observer)
- Faith Communities – represented by the Safeguarding Lead for Durham Diocese

LSCB Advisors

The Board is advised by:

- A member of Durham County Council Corporate & Legal Services nominated as the Board's legal advisor
- The Durham LSCB Business Manager
- Head of Planning and Service Strategy, Children and Adult Services, Durham County Council
- Strategic Manager Policy Planning and Partnerships, Children and Adult Services, Durham County Council

Appendix 2 – LSCB Staffing and Budget

Staffing

The LSCB is supported by the following officers:

- LSCB Business Manager
- LSCB Quality & Performance Co-ordinator (deputises for Business Manager)
- LSCB Strategy and Development Officer
- LSCB Training Co-ordinator
- LSCB Admin Co-ordinator
- LSCB Administrator
- LSCB Admin Apprentice

LSCB Budget

The financial contributions from partner agencies are as follows:

Partner	2015/16 Contribution	2016/17 Contribution
Durham County Council	£171,604	£171,604
Clinical Commissioning Groups	£95,097	£95,097
Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust	£2,680	£2,680
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust	£2,680	£2,680
North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust	£2,680	£2,680
Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust	-	£2,680
Durham Constabulary	£29,285	£29,285
Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company	£1,340	£1,340
National Probation Service	£1,340	£2,032
Further Education Colleges	£2,100	£2,100
Cafcass	£550	£550
Total	£309,356	£312,728

Durham LSCB Annual Report 2015 / 2016 - Safeguarding Children in County Durham

The Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board has a statutory duty to prepare and publish an Annual Report which describes how our partners safeguard vulnerable children and young people in County Durham. Our primary responsibility is to provide a way for the local organisations that have a responsibility in respect of child welfare, to agree how they will work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in County Durham and to ensure that they do so effectively.

The children and young people of County Durham are at the heart of all we do and our vision of **'Every child and young person in County Durham feels safe and grows up safe from harm'** continues to drive us forward.

This Annual Report gives an account of the Board's work over the past year to improve the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. The report reflects the activity of the LSCB and its sub-groups against its priorities for 2015/16. It covers the major changes and improvements of our partners' service delivery, where they link with the Board's overall strategies and the impact we have had. It also reports on the Serious Case Reviews and Child Death Reviews undertaken and identifies the priorities we will take forward into 2016/17.

Equality and Diversity

Durham LSCB strives to promote equal access to safeguarding services, particularly for those children who are unable to communicate, due to their age, disability or first language, with those people or services that are able to protect them.

Please ask us if you would like this document summarised in another language or format.

 Braille  Audio  Large print

العربية Arabic	(中文 (繁體字)) Chinese	اردو Urdu
polski Polish	ਪੰਜਾਬੀ Punjabi	Español Spanish
বাংলা Bengali	हिन्दी Hindi	Deutsch German
Français French	Türkçe Turkish	Melayu Malay

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A copy of this report is available on www.durham-lscb.org.uk



Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility