



Northamptonshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

Full Partnership meeting 28 September 2023

Local Safeguarding Arrangements

Jenny Coles, NSCP Independent Chair



West
Northamptonshire
Council



Northamptonshire
Integrated Care Board



University Hospitals
of Northamptonshire
NHS Group



North
Northamptonshire
Council



Delivering children's early
help and social care services
across Northamptonshire

Northamptonshire Healthcare 
NHS Foundation Trust

Full Partnership meetings

Welcome to our second Full Partnership meeting.

Our first Full Partnership meeting, since Covid-19, took place earlier this year in March.

Since then, our arrangements have continued to strengthen which we would like to reflect on with you today and share our forward plans.

Our mission statement is:

*'For the Children and Young people of Northamptonshire
to be as safe as they can from harm, exploitation and neglect'*

...with a sprinkling of fun and life remembering experiences!!

So we are starting today's meeting with an amazing celebration..



We are delighted to welcome Alan Russell, Team Manager for The Virtual School, North Northamptonshire Council.

Alan told the story of how some of our Looked After Young People had an amazing opportunity to attend the British Formula One Grand Prix at Silverstone earlier this year.

The young people had a wonderful day meeting some of the Formula One Drivers and some of the celebrities who were attending the event and the day was captured with some lovely photographs to help remember the day

Photographs removed for public dissemination to protect the identity of the young people

Our Governance

In line with Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 (published June 2018), the framework for the four local safeguarding partners (North Northants Council, West Northants Council, Northamptonshire Integrated Care Board and Northamptonshire Police), along with Northamptonshire Children's Trust, sets out arrangements to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of local children including identifying and responding to their needs.



[NSCP BusinessPlan 2023-25](#)

To follow is a reminder of our structure in addressing our safeguarding arrangements – with the addition of an exciting new Sub Group

Structure reminder

Strategic Assurance Board, who meet on a quarterly basis, are:

- Chief Executive, North Northants Council
- Chief Executive, West Northants County Council
- Chief Executive, Northamptonshire Integrated Care Board
- Chief Constable, Northamptonshire Police
- Chief Executive, Northamptonshire Children's Trust
- Elected members

Strategic Leads Group consists of:

- Director of Children's Services, North Northants Council
- Director of Children's Services, West Northants Council
- Chief Nurse, Northamptonshire Integrated Care Board
- Assistant Chief Constable, Northamptonshire Police
- Chief Executive, Northamptonshire Children's Trust
- Director for Safeguarding, Northamptonshire Children's Trust

And various representatives: Deputy Leads, Schools representatives, Office for Police Fire and Crime Commissioner and David Goosey, Independent Scrutineer

David provides scrutiny and challenge to our safeguarding arrangements as part of a positive role which the partnership embraces.

Structure

Under our Strategic Leads Group, we have a range of Sub Groups, who meet on a bi-monthly basis, to manage the activity of the partnership:

- **Quality & Governance;** analysis of data, partner agency reports, multi-agency case reviews, partner (S11) and schools (S175) audits.
- **Local Learning Review;** manage the Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews* (including Rapid Review process) and associated action plans that monitor learning and improvements in practice.
- **Training & Development;** manages on line training (the link to this is at the end of this presentation) and a suite of face-to-face learning opportunities.
- **Comms;** whilst focusing on managing the publication of CSPRs*, also oversees the NSCP website and the development of NSCP newsletters and campaigns.
- **Child Exploitation;** a key priority for the partnership looking at all types of child exploitation and our processes and responses monitored through a comprehensive Child Exploitation Strategy.
- **Neglect;** a key priority for the partnership is looking early intervention and preventative measures. A Neglect Strategy is in place with a detailed action plan to monitor services and improvements in practice.
- **CDOP (Child Death Overview Panel);** all children who die under the age of 18, are all required to have their deaths reviewed.
- **Safeguarding in Education;** engage education providers in the business of the NSCP and build a shared understanding of priorities to support schools and colleges in promoting the welfare of their pupils. The group aims to help Schools manage the fine balance between the need to educate children whilst meeting the requirement to safeguard pupils and promote their welfare.

Our priorities

The Key Priority Themes are:

1. Neglect: Taking positive action early enough to protect children and young people
2. Exploitation: Ensure those children, young people and families who are most at risk are supported through robust multi-agency co-ordination and assessment support
3. Domestic Abuse: Promote and Implement a joined up multi-agency approach to protecting children and young people at risk of domestic abuse and violence



Some of our achievements this year..

In our presentation to you earlier in the year, we highlighted some key areas we were working towards:

- We sponsored Brook Weston's Safeguarding Conference in recognition of the importance of the role the education sector has to play in safeguarding partnerships. To add further strength to this, the partnership has set up a Safeguarding in Education Sub Group with a balanced, encompassing representation of all sectors in education across the whole county.
- Our ambitious two-year delivery plan to address Child Exploitation is firmly embedded; we have launched the multi-agency CE Toolkit.
- We are delighted to announce we have launched the NSCP CE film (took place on 14 September). This two-minute film is aimed at parents and professionals highlighting the signs and symptoms to look out for.

We would like to thank all our colleagues involved in the creation of this thought-provoking video and in particular, Nicky Mawer, Senior Communications Officer, Corporate Communications Dept, Northamptonshire Police for her dedication and drive.

We would like to take this opportunity to show you our NSCP CE film.....

I'm Being Exploited - Full Video – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lpqgqEyR>

GggA

Some of our achievements this year..

- Our response to Neglect and the creation of the Neglect Sub Group back in January is now well underway with a comprehensive two-year delivery plan. The Neglect campaign is on track to be launched by the end of this year and is in association with the NSPCC.
- GCP2 Training is being rolled out across the county and we have already had over 150 attendees. *If you have not yet attended, please review our website for details of forthcoming dates.*
- Our Partner Section 11 audit will be circulated to partners by the end of October and is taking a different format this year. *See the slide later on in this presentation.*
- Our online training offer has taken an exciting step as we are now able to create our own bespoke training, which is being launched with a training course on one of our recently published Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPRs). This is a fantastic opportunity for practitioners to sit down with a cuppa and watch this course, with a short workbook at the end and will us, as a partnership, to have a greater understanding of the reach of our learning and mostly importantly start to understand the impact of our learning. *Course details can be found on our website on of online training page (the link is at the end of this presentation).*

Any questions or comments?

We want to hear from you and we want to listen to you....

- Do you have any questions or comments relating to the Governance or Business Plan?
- Do you have any comments on how we can further strengthen our arrangements / structure?
- Do you have any achievements you would like to tell us about that we can celebrate?



What are our plans ...

As we reflect on the first half of this financial year and head into the second half of the financial year, we are looking to continue to strengthen our processes as the partnership matures, to ensure we work more collaboratively in safeguarding our children and young people.



- Whilst we have created our Safeguarding in Education Sub Group, we are also strengthening our education representation on our Strategic Leads Group – with Primary and Secondary representation.
- As we have already described in some of our achievements, we have the opportunity to create bespoke training for our practitioners. We have so far launched one course regarding a recently published CSPR and we will be creating courses for all CSPRs as they are published. In addition, we will be looking to partners for additional subjects and content to work with our Training & Development Sub Group to create further courses. *Please contact the Business Office with your ideas – let's get creative and informative and support our practitioners!*

What are our plans cont'd...

- We want to introduce children and young people's voices, experiences and celebrations directly into our partnership working, as you have seen our meeting start today. We would like to get to the stage where each partnership meeting starts with an item about a child/ren and/or young people.
- Ultimately, we want to broaden this and, through working with schools and partners, directly hear the voices of our children and young people – perhaps discussing something that concerns them and how they have worked through that. Make this available as a short recording available on our NSCP YouTube for schools to access and also make available on our online training platform for practitioners to access and enhance their knowledge of what our children and young people are feeling.

National considerations

Working Together 2023 consultation

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 is the multi-agency statutory guidance that sets out expectations for the system that provides help, support and protection for children and their families. Working Together applies at every level from senior leaders to those in direct practice with families, and across all agencies and organisations that come into contact with children. It gives practitioners clarity about what is required of them individually and how they need to work in partnership with each other to deliver effective services. It was last revised in 2018, with a limited factual update in 2020.

In February 2023, the government published Stable Homes, Built on Love in response to The Care Review, which set out an ambitious plan to transform children's social care, committing to support every child to grow up in a safe, stable and loving home. Updating Working Together is central to delivering on the first phase of this transformation journey, implementing strengthened multi-agency working across the whole system of help, support and protection for children and their families, re-balancing the system towards help at an early point, and ensuring strong, effective and consistent child protection practice.

The NSCP has considered and submitted a partnership response to this consultation which closed on 6 September 2023.


Any questions or comments?

We want to hear from you and we want to listen to you....

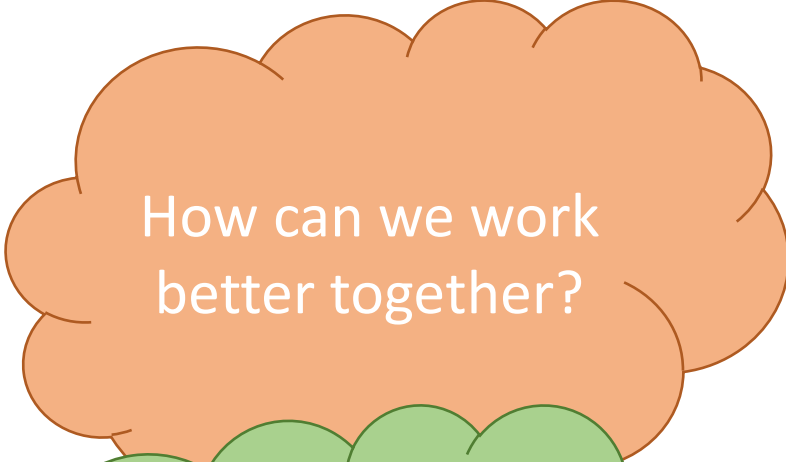
- Do you have any questions or comments relating to the future plans?
- Does your agency have any future plans that you can share with us?




Areas for Improvement




What do you
feel are our
Areas for
Improvement?



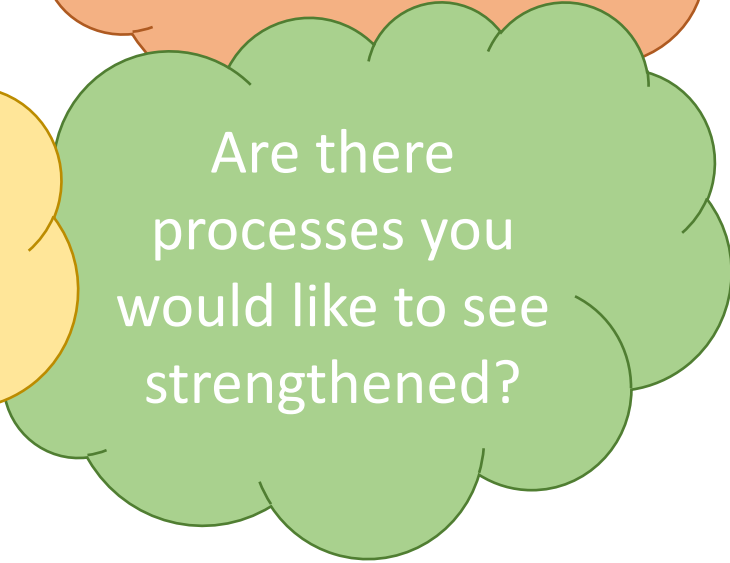
How can we work
better together?



Do you feel there are
any national areas
for improvement
that impact here?



Are there
themes you feel
need exploring?



Are there
processes you
would like to see
strengthened?

Anything else to share...

- Partner updates
- Changes and improvements in Services
- Good Practice



***Thank you for attending today and sharing your thoughts and views
The next Full Partnership meeting will be scheduled for March 2024***

Section 11 Partner audit



The next Section 11 Partner Audit is due to be circulated, but this years format is going to be a little different and below sets out the four stages. Phase 1 is critical to this process being effective and we ask for your efforts in making this successful:

Phase 1 – The Audit questionnaire – due to be circulated 30 October 2023

An online questionnaire will be circulated, with each agency receiving their own unique link. Please ensure you disseminate broadly across your organisation and encourage staff to complete – will take 5-15 minutes to complete.

Phase 2 – Analysis of returns and self-assessment – due to be circulated 4 December 2023, with deadline for self assessment of 15 January 2024

You will receive your collated staff responses to you to complete your self assessment based on the results of your agency questionnaire.

Phase 3 – Action plans / reporting – each agency is requested to complete an action plan and return with your self assessment by 15 January 2024

Phase 4 – Interviews and feedback – during February 2024

Agencies will be interviewed to identify strengths, weaknesses and gaps.

Please keep a look out for this audit request in your inboxes as your prompt responses - enable us to analyse learning and provide feedback

Useful information

- To support our professionals in their roles, we have a comprehensive suite of FREE e-learning courses. To find out more, please register here: <https://northamptonshirescp.vc-enable.co.uk/Register>
- We offer a range of virtual / face-to-face training courses on themes identifiable in Northamptonshire. To find out more and book on courses, please register here: <https://northamptonshirescp.vc-enable.co.uk/Register>
- We publish quarterly newsletters, keeping you up-to-date on local news, initiatives and campaigns. Please sign up for our newsletter: <https://forms.office.com/r/qakbVeA3cx>
- Take a look at our website for up-to-date information: www.northamptonshire.scb.org.uk
- Keep up-to-date with local and national policies and procedures: <http://northamptonshirescb.proceduresonline.com/>

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