



Calderdale
Safeguarding
Children
Partnership

Annual Report 2021- 2022

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1. Foreword and Introduction

Message from Calderdale MBC Children and Young Peoples Services

Reading the Safeguarding Children Annual Report for the last year fills me with pride – it really is everyone’s business in Calderdale. Whoever you are and wherever you work in the Borough, we care about our children and families and keeping them safe.

This report sets out the incredible work in the last year as we came out of Covid and the take up of learning across the partnership. We are not defensive and always ready to identify gaps, new ways of working and change our practice for the better. This doesn’t happen on its own and we have a talented safeguarding unit that oversee the training offer, safeguarding week and other activity that gives us assurance every day.

A huge thank you all the subgroup chairs, who on top of their day job give the time and dedicated leadership to overseeing performance, audit, learning and serious incidents and the child death overview. It really is a Calderdale team effort.

The next year will bring change as we respond to the National Reviews that have been undertaken into children’s social care, and the review of national child deaths. I am confident we will work together to grasp the opportunity for change for our children and thanks for being a big part of what we do, wherever you work in the borough.



Julie Jenkins

Director of Children’s Services
Calderdale MBC

Message from the Calderdale Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

NHS Calderdale CCG is a membership organisation consisting of 23 general practices. Our purpose is to improve the health and lives of people living in Calderdale and/ or registered with a Calderdale GP practice. This is achieved by working collaboratively with our partners and stakeholders to:

- Ensure that healthcare is available for anyone who needs it.
- Keep people safe.
- Ensure continued improvements in the quality of care.
- Support people to maintain a healthy lifestyle.
- Address health inequalities locally, as well as ensuring financial sustainability.

Safeguarding is firmly embedded within the core duties of all organisations across the health system. It remains the responsibility of every NHS-funded organisation, and each healthcare professional working in the NHS, to ensure that the principles and duties of safeguarding children are holistically, consistently and conscientiously applied; the well-being of those children is at the heart of what we do.

Every NHS funded organisation needs to ensure that sufficient capacity is in place for them to fulfil their statutory duties; they should regularly review their arrangements to assure themselves that they are working effectively. Organisations need to co-operate and work together.

CCGs need to demonstrate that their designated experts (for children, children in care and adults), are embedded in the clinical decision-making of the organisation, with the authority to work within local

health economies to influence local thinking and practice and the capacity to do so. The CCG demonstrates its compliance through an annual report to its Governing Body [Safeguarding Adults & Children Annual Report April 2020 – March 2021 - NHS Calderdale Clinical Commissioning Group \(CCG\) \(calderdaleccg.nhs.uk\)](#). The CCG has continued to work with health partners in Calderdale to deliver the safeguarding requirements.

The **Health Assurance and Improvement Group (HAIG)** continues to develop and support the partnership. The HAIG is instrumental in supporting the CCG by working with a wide range of health providers operating in Calderdale. The group continues to provide strategic oversight, assurance, improvement and scrutiny of safeguarding children arrangements across the local health sector, to achieve a consistent and responsive approach to meeting the needs of children specifically those who require safeguarding interventions and support the CCG and CSCP in fulfilling their statutory duties.

These are a number of key highlights from across the health sector, it is by no means exhaustive but demonstrates the diversity in the work undertaken.

- Contributed to a Trauma Informed Pilot for Primary Care in Calderdale and influenced the establishment of a trauma navigator pilot with the local acute trust.
- Led on the 'Every Sleep a Safe Sleep' campaign instigated across West Yorkshire and at place to support in assessing risk and reducing Sudden Unexpected Infant Death.
- Completed an audit around the effectiveness of GP safeguarding documentation and engagement at the GP/Health Visitor Links meeting.
- Maintain regular oversight of GP Safeguarding Leads meetings facilitated by the Named Safeguarding GP's so that they continue to receive safeguarding updates and new learning on a regular basis
- Completed and audit on Children Looked After from Out of Area
- Continue to prepare for and support the implementation of the new Liberty Protections Safeguards including updating the CCG Mental Capacity Act policy (Children aged 16-17)
- Support and oversee the current review being undertaken around the health practitioner's role within MAST and DA Hub.

Moving forward, the 'Health and Care Act' April 2022 introduced significant reforms to both the organisation and delivery of health and care services in England. As we transition into the new West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership from the 1st July we will continue to work with patients, health and social care partners, such as local hospitals, local authorities and local community groups, to ensure services meet local needs and there are effective safeguarding arrangements in place.

We will continue to lead, engage and drive forward the safeguarding agenda at place ensuring the delivery of safeguarding requirements and establish and embed clear safeguarding structures whilst keeping CSCP abreast as this is progressed.

Penny Woodhead.

Penny Woodhead

Chief Quality and Nursing Officer/ Deputy Chief Officer
NHS Kirklees CCG
Chief Quality and Nursing Officer
NHS Calderdale CCG

Message from West Yorkshire Police: Calderdale District

Safeguarding children remains a priority for West Yorkshire Police and is at the forefront of operational activity at Calderdale District.

Since the publication of the last annual report the Police at Calderdale have increased the capacity and capability within our safeguarding departments and there are now more Police Officers and staff dedicated to investigative safeguarding roles. These teams address allegations of assault, abuse and neglect of children and we are proud of the results we achieve, protecting those most vulnerable within society.

We robustly pursue those who perpetrate such abuse through the criminal justice system and continue to drive and embrace innovation securing both criminal and civil orders against those who abuse children to make Calderdale a safer place for all.

We continue to develop early intervention strategies to ensure young people are diverted from criminality, utilising traditional criminal justice pathways whilst ensuring there are effective and supportive opportunities for children to learn and develop through education.

We work as part of a strategic partnership who all have the same aim to keep children and young people safe. There are strong and established multi-agency safeguarding arrangements that respond to the challenges of sexual and criminal exploitation, modern slavery, and trafficking of children. These multi-agency arrangements are at the core of the fantastic work undertaken across Calderdale District and we are committed to further developing and enhancing these arrangements.

The Annual Report outlines the excellent work undertaken by all key stakeholders who strive to make Calderdale safe for children and families and I am extremely proud to work as part of such a strong and effective partnership.

Michael Brown

Chief Superintendent

Calderdale District Commander

West Yorkshire Police

2. Context

The population of Calderdale according to the 2021 Census information is 206,600. This includes around 50,000 children, making up 25% of residents. National Census information on the ethnicity of the whole population is expected in autumn 2022. At the last published school census in January 2022 the largest ethnic groups for pupils were White: British (71.8%) followed by Asian / Asian British: Pakistani (15.1%) and White: Other (2.4%).

24.2% of children aged 0 to 15 live in poverty (compared to the England average of 18.5%), and in some areas rates are as high as 67.4%. (DWP / HMRC Children in low income families local area statistics 2020/21). 24.1% of children are eligible for free school meals with rates as high as 57.6% in some areas (Calderdale School Census May 2022).

25,611 households claim either Universal Credit or Housing Benefit. 9,321 (36%) of these households include dependent children (DWP Stat-xplore May 2022). The employment rate is 73.2% (ONS Annual population survey, 12 months ending March 2022). In 2019 65% of pupils achieved the Key stage 2 expected standard which is the same as the England average.

The number of children in care in Calderdale 2021 was 72 per 10,000, which was slightly higher than the England average of 67 per 10,000.

The figure below shows the distribution of the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 in Calderdale. The red and orange colours represent the most deprived areas, the blue represent the least areas of deprivation. The table on the next page gives the exact figures of IMD by ward area.

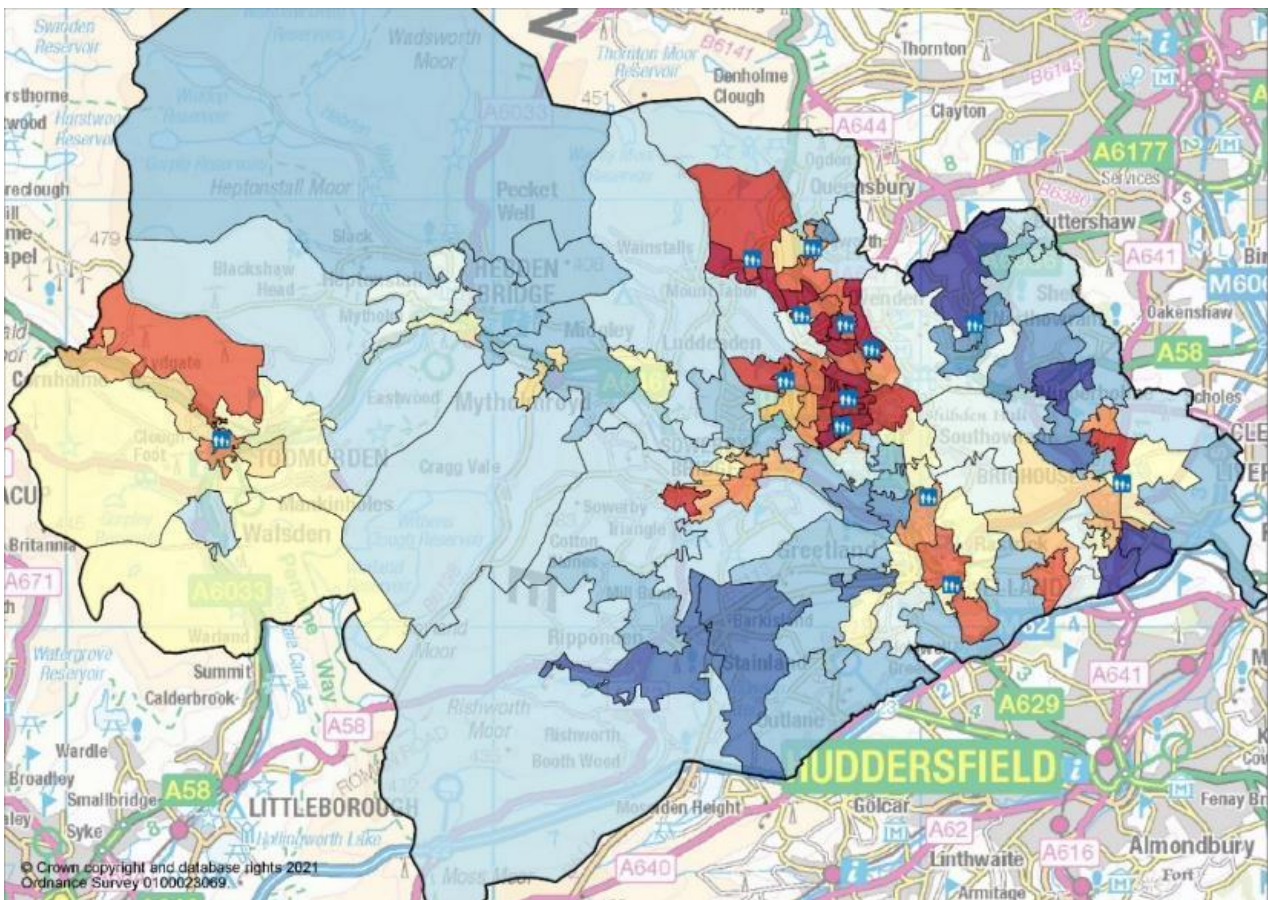
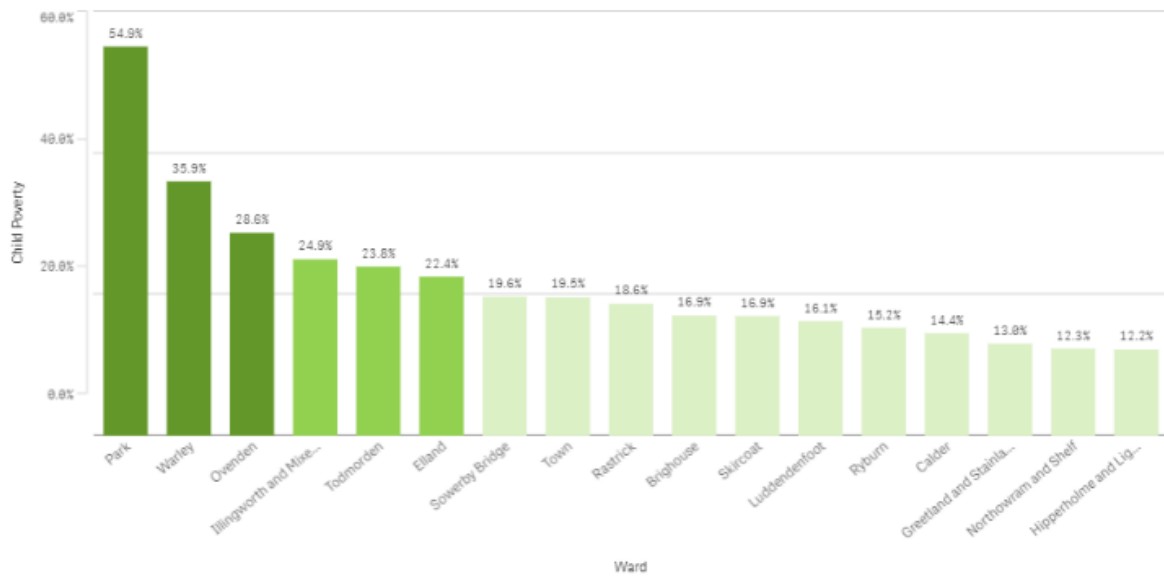


Figure 1 shows the distribution of the index of multiple deprivation in 2019

Ward	Service Area	IDM (2019)
Brighouse	Lower Valley	30.25%
Elland	Lower Valley	25.05%
Greetland and Stainland	Lower Valley	52.66%
Hipperholme and Lightcliffe	Lower Valley	57.92%
Rastrick	Lower Valley	32.26%
Illingworth and Mixenden	North & East	12.41%
Northowram and Shelf	North & East	62.84%
Ovenden	North & East	3.47%
Calder	Upper Valley	38.77%
Luddendenfoot	Upper Valley	42.12%
Ryburn	Upper Valley	41.95%
Sowerby Bridge	Upper Valley	30.01%
Todmorden	Upper Valley	18.41%
Park	West & Central	1.72%
Skircoat	West & Central	48.15%
Town	West & Central	11.90%
Warley	West & Central	16.91%

Figure 2 shows the levels of indices of multiple deprivation across the Calderdale wards

The figure below shows the % children living in poverty by ward. 40.4% of children live in poverty in Park, Warley, Ovenden, Illingworth and Mixenden.



Data source: HM Revenues and Customs (HMRC) and Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Children in Low Income Families Children in Low Income Families (Relative measure, before housing costs, children aged 0 to 15) 2020/21; stat-explorer.dwp.gov.uk, accessed 31 March 2022. Next update expected March 2023

Figure 3 shows the % of children living in poverty by ward area

3. Governance, Alignment and Accountability

The aims of the Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership (CSCP) are to support and enable local organisations and agencies to work together in a system where:

- children are safeguarded and their welfare promoted
- partner organisations and agencies collaborate, share, and co-own the vision for how to achieve improved outcomes for vulnerable children
- organisations challenge appropriately and hold one another to account effectively
- there is early identification and analysis of new safeguarding issues and emerging threats
- learning is promoted and embedded in a way that local services for children and families can become more reflective and implement changes to practice
- information is shared effectively to facilitate more accurate and timely decision making for children and families

The structure of the CSCP and its subgroups can be found in Appendix 1. The structure of the CSCP has been developed to optimize the delivery of the CSCP statutory functions and to deliver against the Business Plan which includes local ambitions for safeguarding in Calderdale.

The membership of the CSCP Executive and the subgroups is broad to include the wider safeguarding partnership, and to provide independence and challenge to the three statutory partners. Calderdale is a small authority in terms of population, so two of the subgroups are shared with the Safeguarding Adult Board which is beneficial for those service who work across both areas, and valuable for those who don't but can learn from each other's' expertise.

The three statutory partners chair the CSCP Executive in turn, and the chairs of the subgroups are representatives from each of the three statutory partners, the voluntary sector and adult services. Each of the Chairs of the subgroups sits on the Executive and provides exception reporting to advise strategic leads on the learning from each group.

The CSCP works across the West Yorkshire footprint to try to streamline operations with the Integrated Care System, the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, and through the other multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in Yorkshire and Humber. The CSCP also aligns itself and influences the strategies and priorities of other strategic partnerships:

- Safeguarding Adult Board (which is jointly staffed by the same Secretariat)
- Community Safety Partnership
- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Domestic Abuse Strategic Group

The CSCP Safeguarding Partnerships Manager is also an advisor for The Association of Safeguarding Partnerships (TASP), she chairs the national Children Business Manager Network, facilitates and co-chairs the Safeguarding Adult Board Business Manager Network and leads both the Yorkshire and Humber Children network with m=Managers and Scrutineers, and the West Yorkshire Business Manager network.

The CSCP Manager co-chairs the Child Death Overview Panel for Calderdale and Kirklees, and leads on Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) for the Community Safety Partnership. This ensures learning is from the broadest and most streamlined system. As part of her role in managing DHRs, the manager also matrix manages the Domestic Abuse Coordinator in Calderdale.

CSCP Business Plan Objectives for 2021-2022:

1. Engage, support, inform and develop services for service users, families, communities and professionals from across the wider partnership including pre-school, education, faith, sports, community and voluntary organisations.
2. Introduce, develop, and embed trauma informed systems and practice across the partnership.
3. Refine existing CSCP statutory processes including reviews and child death processes.
4. Streamline governance arrangements to improve how the CSCP is influencing, utilising resources effectively, eliminating gaps, reducing duplication, and holding services to account
5. Address new and emerging vulnerabilities / safeguarding issues

This report outlines the evidence of the impact of the work of the safeguarding partners and relevant partner agencies (See Appendix 2), including training, on outcomes for children and families from early help to looked-after children and care leavers. It also details an analysis of any areas where there has been little or no evidence of progress on agreed priorities. Finally, the report concludes and summarises the next steps for the CSCP and how it will be further developed in 2023.

4. Independent Scrutiny & Assurance

The CSCP approach to independent scrutiny of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements

The Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership (CSCP) [Independent Scrutiny and Assurance Framework](#) explains how we monitor joint working arrangements in Calderdale to assess whether they are working effectively to keep children safe. This framework is used so that we can independently scrutinise multi-agency safeguarding arrangements to:

- highlight areas of good practice and areas which require improvement.
- examine how effective arrangements are for practitioners.
- decide what we need to examine in more detail.
- determine what difference the CSCP has made to outcomes for children and to practice.
- support and challenge partners to improve practice; and
- inform standards and agreements for joint working.

The Five Elements of Independent Scrutiny and Assurance framework include:

1. **Quantitative data:** Performance management information including statistics, performance measures, outcomes, analysis, trends and comparator data.
2. **Qualitative evidence:** Independent Scrutiny from experts in the field, university research etc, Multi-Agency Audits, Section 11 self-assessments and challenge events, single agency case file audits, practice and partnership reviews, Child Death Overview Panel activity, Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews, Local Learning Lessons Reviews, Deep Dives and information from best practice and research elsewhere.
3. **Engagement with service users:** Feedback from children, young people, parents, carers and families which can confirm or challenge the position found through quantitative data and qualitative evidence. This helps to triangulate the information to reach accurate conclusions.
4. **Engagement with front line staff:** Feedback from practitioners and managers to triangulate and support or challenge the quantitative and qualitative evidence; practitioner focus groups, feedback from training events and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews capture evidence from front line staff of what is working well in practice and what areas need to be examined or changed.
5. **Independent Scrutiny:** The evidence gathered from the four other elements of this framework provides the structure by which CSCP scrutiny and challenge takes place. This can result in recommendations for changes to policies, procedures, guidance and joint working arrangements. It can also inform the CSCP training programme, communication messages and single agency practice changes.

The triangulation of these elements results in recommendations to change and develop practice through learning and improvement. This can include changes to procedures, training, guidance, tools, communications, and recommendations for single agency practice change. The process is cyclical and continuous.

Overview of Independent Scrutiny undertaken in 2021- 2022:

CSCP Independent Scrutiny follows the six steps identified by the University of Bedfordshire:

1. The three partner leads are actively involved in strategic planning and implementation
2. The wider safeguarding partners (including relevant agencies) are actively involved in safeguarding children
3. Children, young people, and families are aware of and involved with plans for safeguarding children
4. Appropriate quality assurance procedures are in place for data collection, audit, and information sharing
5. There is a process for identifying and investigating learning from local and national case reviews
6. There is an active program of multi-agency safeguarding children training

Independent Scrutiny of the CSCP 12 month report 2020-2021

Independent Scrutiny of 12-month report by Independent Scrutineer Chris Miller, Trustee for The Association of Safeguarding Partners (TASP) and Independent Scrutineer of Harrow Safeguarding Children Partnership.

The CSCP published the 12-month report for 2020-2021 in October 2021 and asked Chris Miller, who has no direct links with any Calderdale agencies, to independently scrutinise the report. To gain a more holistic view, the CSCP Position Statement about its work with the Education sector was also provided for examination.

The independent scrutiny found that the annual report was written in an accessible style, contain a lot of good evidence of practical arrangements, innovation, learning and independent scrutiny. The focus on how the Partners adapted to and delivered services during Covid provided strong evidence of a Partnership thinking on its feet and delivering for vulnerable children and families.

Overall, the conclusion of the Independent Scrutineer was that the Reports provided a good degree of reassurance that the multi-agency arrangements are making a difference to children and families. They provided evidence of a strong partnership, which is adaptable and focused on performance improvement. The Scrutineer found that the Reports meet statutory requirements, they demonstrate how the Partners have chosen to prioritise their work and they show the Partners keen to embed learning from reviews, audits and stakeholder feedback.

This model of independent scrutiny has been shared with The Association of Safeguarding Partners (TASP) for partnerships across the country to consider as a new example of how multi-agency partnerships could be externally reviewed.

Learning from Practice

The CSCP Executive acts on and prioritises work based on the bottom-up learning from the CSCP Subgroups and work streams. CSCP activity is based on the evidence from each subgroup, from reviews, audit findings, data, and intelligence from families and front-line practitioners. The CSCP has a holistic

approach to learning, which is based, not just on one case, but on how systems operate and how governance arrangements affect change and improvement.

The CSCP measures its effectiveness on how priorities are progressed, how actions are delivered and how change or improvement can be measured.

Priorities are determined using localised learning, national areas of scrutiny and horizon scanning. All decision making is made using evidence based on local or national learning, and all actions arising from this are based on best practice and up to date research.

The three partners agree a process for developing, reviewing, and funding a child centred strategic safeguarding children business plan: identifying agreed desired outcomes in line with national guidelines and recent research findings. These representatives are strategically placed on relevant partnership meetings and subgroups.

Children and young people are consulted - they input and influence the development, implementation, and review of the CSCP business plan and related activities through the Young Advisors. Opportunities are in place for children and young people to lead and coordinate safeguarding initiatives and attend relevant meetings, subgroups, and partnership conferences. There are mechanisms in place for the three core partners to collect and analyse relevant data pertaining to safeguarding children through the Performance Management Subgroup, agencies provide learning from single agency audit through the Quality Assurance subgroup, and these are used along with the CSCP multi-agency performance management and quality assurance to review the impact of safeguarding initiatives on outcomes for children.

The Learning & Improvement Subgroup identifies training needs, evaluates the uptake and effectiveness of it and commissions training, which is informed by the business plan, the learning from reviews, national policy, research, and legislative contexts.

All partners are aware of the criteria and process for referral of cases for consideration of meeting the threshold for local or national review and case reviews and are adequately resourced to enhance learning as is detailed in the Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) Framework. Learning from reviews is cascaded and used to improve outcomes for children, their families and community.

5. Independent Scrutiny: Child Safeguarding Practice Review

The partnership has agreed a new approach to decision making when a Serious Incident has been reported. This decision is reached between three key partners Children's Social Care, Police and Health (CCG) and has been reflected in the new Children Safeguarding Practice Review Framework. This framework includes Serious Incidents, Rapid Review and Child Death Review processes. The joint decision making has been successful in achieving effective collaboration and challenge in the process.

The first local Child Safeguarding Practice Review has been completed in line with new guidance. The report cannot be published due to criminal proceedings, but the learning and recommendations following the review are being acted upon. A briefing has been produced and the learning from the review has been taken forward through the priorities of the CSCP and focussed on in development sessions. There will be independent challenge events held to test whether the learning from this review has been executed and is effectively contributing to improved safeguarding practice.

The CSPR subgroup completed a Learning Lessons review as a result of a young baby presenting as severely underweight which involved health agencies. A robust action plan was formulated including all health agencies involved, to ensure the recommendations in this report were considered, new processes devised, and learning disseminated. There is to be a challenge event arranged later in the year to ensure the learning has been embedded in practice.

A number of themes have been evidenced by the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel Annual report (2020) and these have been reflected in Calderdale with incidences of Non Accidental Injury and concerns of hidden males. This subgroup has scrutinised the 3rd thematic review conducted by the panel in September 2021 'The Myth of Invisible Men' Safeguarding Children under 1 from non-accidental injury caused by male carers and the findings and recommendations are to be considered for learning in Calderdale and are to be a feature of Calderdale Safeguarding Children's Partnership's Development Day.

The CSPR subgroup has continued to conduct meetings virtually and has maintained quoracy throughout the reporting period. The group progressed learning from Safeguarding Practice Reviews, Learning Lessons Reviews and Thematic Reviews throughout the year and contributed to the Domestic Abuse Strategic Needs Assessment following the learning from a local review; this learning is now part of the improvement plans for domestic abuse services through the Community Safety Partnership.

6. Independent Scrutiny & Assurance: Child Death Overview Panel

All deaths of children (up to the age of 18 years, excluding still births and planned terminations) are reviewed by a Panel of people from a range of organisations and professional areas of expertise. This review is part of a national process called the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) which is outlined in national guidance (*Working Together to Safeguard Children*, 2018). In Calderdale this is managed and facilitated by the Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership secretariat staff.

The role of the Panel is to learn from the circumstances and factors present in each death in order to:

- Identify any changes that might help to prevent similar deaths in the future.
- Share learning with colleagues regionally and nationally so that findings will have wider impact.
- Analyse trends and targeted interventions delivered in response to these.

Kirklees, Calderdale and Wakefield share arrangements for reviewing the deaths of all children in these areas. During 2021/2022 there were 76 deaths across the footprint, of these 14 were children from Calderdale. There was a total of 101 cases reviewed across the three areas, 24 of those reviewed were Calderdale cases.

In 2021-2022, the Panel worked on *increasing professionals' awareness and understanding of their roles and responsibilities within child death processes and the eCDOP system to reduce timescales*. In reviewing 24 cases from Calderdale, this is a significant increase in numbers and testament to the effort and function of CDOP coordinator in Calderdale.

A second priority was to *work towards reducing smoking prevention in the population as a whole and recognising the impact on women in pregnant*. Work has been undertaken by professionals with parents to identify the risks of smoking during pregnancy and the effects it can have on babies and young children. Work at place is now captured in the CDOP modifiable factors document, highlighting the current provision, gaps and future work plans. This document provides assurance to CDOP that work is ongoing to prioritise reducing smoking rates across Kirklees, Calderdale and Wakefield.

The rates of co-sleeping and unsafe sleeping arrangements were highlighted both locally and nationally as an area of concern. Calderdale led and developed the *"Every Sleep a Safe Sleep"* multi-agency risk minimisation guidance for West Yorkshire. This has been launched and piloted by the Local Maternity System (LMS). This guidance incorporates both training and resources, the aim of which is to help reduce the risk of the sudden and unexpected death of an infant. The resources are designed for colleagues who work with pregnant women and families where there are babies aged up to 12 months.

Priorities for 2022-2023 include further rolling out of the safe sleep training to the wider workforce, evaluating the effectiveness of this and a public facing safe sleep campaign. Continued focus on reducing population level smoking rates with a particular emphasis on reducing smoking in pregnancy. Thirdly, the panel will be reviewing how modifiable factors are recorded and ensuring the local approach matches national principles.

The last priority has been stimulated due to the higher than national average rate of modifiable factors. Of the cases reviewed in Calderdale, 12 (50%) had modifiable factors. Low numbers do affect percentage rates, but this is significantly higher compared to national averages of 37%. Knowledge of other CDOP processes has provided a hypothesis that panels in different areas of England classify 'modifiable' quite differently to the local approach. This will be further explored in 2022-2023.

7. Independent Scrutiny & Assurance: Engagement -Seeking and using feedback from children, young people, and families



7.1 Young Advisors

There have been Young Advisors working in a paid role for the Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership for over five years. Young Advisors are a committed group of young people aged between 13 – 17 years from different schools and colleges who advise the partnership from a young person’s perspective. It’s important to the CSCP that young people have a voice and can influence the partnership.

From last year’s submission and due to COVID all Young Advisor meetings were held remotely which has continued throughout 2022.

During Q4 of 2022, the Young Advisors undertook a poll for a Young Person’s Manifesto. The poll received 2017 responses from young people aged 11 to 19. The manifesto poll results highlighted 3 key areas that were of concern to Young People, these were:

1. 65.0% Mental Health
2. 35.3% The impact of COVID
3. 35.3% Exploitation – Gangs, Violence, Knife Crime and Sexual Exploitation

(More than one answer could be given).

The Young Advisors chose to focus on Mental Health and the perception that support for young people suffering with mental ill health was seen as ineffective. The group met with representatives from OpenMinds and the South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust (SWYPFT) who presented the Thrive Model as part Safeguarding Week 2022. The concerns that young people had raised were recorded and submitted to the question and answer discussion. The feedback from both OpenMinds and the attending practitioners was that the questions were key to informing the Service that CAMHS could be improved. OpenMinds want their support services for Young People to be influenced by the needs of Young People and were grateful for the feedback from this poll and subsequent challenge.

As a result, CAMHS will be presenting publicly how services work and can be accessed in a format accessible to young people. The mental health service have also been involved in identifying young people who may want to join the Young Advisors team.

The CSCP will continue to listen to and be guided by the work of the Young Advisors. The next ambition for them is to write a Calderdale Young Persons Manifesto for a Calderdale they would like to be a citizen of, in the future.

7.2 Engagement with the Voluntary, Faith and Community Sector

In July 2021, the Partnership, together with the Safeguarding Adults Board, wrote to all sports organisations who have links with the local authority to offer support, promote the free safeguarding e-learning and face to face training, to raise awareness of whistleblowing and allegation management

procedures, and how to identify and report safeguarding concerns. The information, along with a safeguarding postcard was distributed through the Council's sports department.

Later in the year the Partnership was contacted to support the Healthy Holiday Schemes to provide safeguarding advice for organisations delivering activities during school holidays. Support and a quick information guide were provided to assist commissioning and delivery of activities in a safe and co-ordinated manner.

In early 2022, the Partnership initiated an approach to be adopted across West Yorkshire to develop a 'Safeguarding in Faith Based Establishments' toolkit following consultation with local partners in faith and community organisations. This will be developed in 2022-2023. This followed a letter which was delivered through the Inter-Faith council from the Partnership, detailing help, support, training and voluntary sector infrastructure provision available locally.

8. Independent Scrutiny and Assurance: Performance Management

The CSCP Performance Management Sub Group meets quarterly. This Multi-Agency partnership meeting where data and 'the story behind the data' gathers different strands of the safeguarding partnership and allows an understanding of how different agencies/services safeguard children and allows knowledge exchange as well as networking to take place.

There are 5 areas for which data is gathered that mirror the journey of the child / young person

1. Early Help
2. Child in Need
3. Child Protection
4. Children Looked After, Care Leavers and Adoption
5. Multi-Agency, Leadership and Governance

Theories and hypotheses are discussed and the areas that require further work are shared and reported to the CSCP Executive meetings to engender a strategic level of understanding.

The data shows that Early Intervention Panels (EIP) have had increased referrals by 28% in 2021/22 compared to 2020/21. This reflects the covid peak reduction in 2021 alongside an increased partnership awareness about Pathways and the new EIP referral process. This has also resulted in a lower number of Child protection Plans and Child in Need numbers.

The gathering of the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) has provided a new viewpoint during 2021/22 and 63% of cases are in the lowest 50% of IMD.

The CSCP have promoted and raised awareness of reviewing the language around 'was not brought' and pushed the terminology 'was not brought'. The end of year number of missed appointments in the local hospital trust is very much lower than in 2021/22 (8 cases) versus 20/21 (25 cases) which is about 70% lower. There were no missed appointments at all in Quarter 3 (October to December) and only 3 in Quarter 4 (January to March).

For the Openminds mental health referrals, there has been a positive reduction in the waiting lists and the time taken to reach triage outcomes, however in the same period an increase in number of referrals received by 50% which is reflective of the national position of the concerns about mental ill health following the covid pandemic.

The number of Key Stage 3 /4 students have increased for Fixed Term Exclusions and Permanent Exclusions. Due to the increased numbers, an Inclusion Group has been formed which is looking at the reasons for some schools having high numbers and looking at the preventative good practice in schools with low numbers that could be shared learning. At the end of 2021/22 there is a significant reduction in the number of moves to Elective Home Education (EHE); 364 EHEs in 2020/21 compared with 169 EHEs during 2021/22, a 54% reduction. Themes are tracked and followed up by the Elective Home Education team in the Local Authority.

The end of 2021/22 showed that the numbers of Child Protection (CP) plans continue to be static due to the work ongoing in the Lead Officer's team to reduce repeat CP. The impact of the Early Help Hub additional support earlier means that fewer cases are now reaching 24 months or above on CP Plans. The per 10,000 number is now below national average. Now that the IMD and ethnicity are collected, the number of CP cases in the bottom 50% of the indices of multiple deprivation is 80%, very similar to CiN numbers - and ethnicity data shows that 68% cases are white.

At the end of 2021/22 the changes made so that the 17 and 18 year olds were taken on by the CLA Team has seen great improvements and has allowed social workers and young people to stay in touch when the move to Pathways takes place after 18.

The end of 2021/22 shows an improving picture with a good coverage of Health Assessments on time with between 85% and 96% completed. The main area of concern continues to be dental appointments as there is still a waiting list. Post-covid only 26% of CLA have had dental check-ups mostly due to the backlog of appointments during and after covid; this is being worked on with NHS England.

The targets of Children Looked After, Care Leavers and Adoption for placements stability – the percentage of children who have been looked after for more than 2.5 years and been in the same placement for at least 2 years or placed for adoption have been reached during 2021/22 and by the end of 2021/22 the new GP liaison process seems to have had a positive effect because there has been an improvement in the number of GP reports received up to 58% which was an improvement during the second half of the year in comparison to the 38% at the end of Quarter 2 2021/22.

During the 2021/22 year there has been a significant increase in the number of presentations in the Emergency Department (ED) relating to substance misuse and alcohol misuse. In Quarter 4 2021/2022, a sharp increase can be seen in the number of presentations to ED of young people aged 16 to 17 with alcohol misuse; this data significantly shows that the number of young people of this age range nearly equates to the year-end figures for 2020/2021.

Referrals into Neuro Development Screening Pathway have increased from 56 in September to 167 in March (increase of just under 200% in 6 months), highlighting the increase in demand. There have been increases in referrals to the Getting Advice & Signposting (FPoC) service throughout 2021/22, with the 351 referrals in March is the highest number ever recorded adding further pressures particularly to FPoC. This indicator shows the pressures on all OMP services and staff.

During 2021/22 there has been a significant increase overall in the number of exclusions tracked from all 4 Key Stages – both Permanent (comparing 34 in 2019/2020 to 72 in 2021/2022) and Fixed Term (comparing 1052 in 2019/2020 to 2058 in 2021/2022) [*no data has been provided for 2020/2021 so 2019/2020 was the only comparator available.*] The largest increase seems to be Fixed Term Exclusions in Key Stage 3 (comparing 437 in 2019/2020 to 1194 in 2021/2022) which is 58% of all Fixed Term Exclusions.

At the end of 2021/22 85% of Children Looked After were registered with a dentist, and 74% of those children and young people were up to date with dental check-ups at the time their recent health assessments were completed. Analysis of the 26% of Children Looked After not up to date with dental check-ups the reasons were: 75% due to covid, 4% refused, 9% reason unknown and 2% too young. There is a backlog in dental practices because of covid. In addition there are difficulties with the high number of Children Looked After coming into Calderdale from other areas and work is being done between with both CSC and CHFT to analyse, understand and improve this situation.

9. Independent Scrutiny & Assurance: Quality Assurance

The objectives and priorities for the subgroup were agreed as part of the business plan for CSCP for 2021-2022. Meetings were held quarterly with good attendance and highlight reports submitted to the CSCP Executive at the quarterly meetings. The audit schedule was reviewed and updated at each meeting and audit reports shared. Learning Briefings are produced and disseminated following each audit.

Supervision

Supervision continues to be a theme through national and local case reviews, with the [National Panel](#) stating that 'Reflective supervision plays a key part in intra-agency challenge and requires leaders to create a learning culture within which supervision can take place and thrive... reflective supervision was superficial and not a constant feature of professional life. Yet the lack of meaningful and regular supervision in these cases reflects wider national issues (Page 97).

The Partnership focussed on Supervision through the audit programme and reports were received which gave feedback about the quality of supervision in Calderdale from across the different partners. The findings gave a mixed picture but positively 86% of respondents from over 100 managers and practitioners rated their supervision as either excellent or good. The comments from both Managers and Practitioners showed that supervision is a valued process that supports the practitioner's development and practice, in addition to building their resilience to their work.

The audit findings and subsequent work focussed on the result of some respondents, who said their organisation did not have a safeguarding supervision policy or were unsure how effectively they were supporting their staff to safeguard people. The Partnership and Safeguarding Adults Board generated the [Calderdale Multi-Agency Safeguarding Supervision Framework](#) in response. More positively though, over 95% of respondents said they were using reflection in their safeguarding supervision, and that their supervision offered support and the majority of participants said the impact of daily living experiences was considered in supervision – the child's voice and lived experience and that conversations were held about the child, rather than the parent.

Other findings included that 72% said learning from Statutory Reviews were discussed, tools and frameworks were discussed for 67% of participants with a list of examples provided.

Early Help Pathway

A new Early Help Pathway was launched in Calderdale in November 2020. The Early Help Pathway replaced the previous Early Intervention Single Assessment (EISA). The new process aimed to have a stronger focus on listening to children and families, building on families own strengths and support networks and enhancing the involvement of families in finding their own solutions. The Early Help Pathway aimed to bring Partners together, as early as possible, to combine resources to achieve greatest impact, reducing risk and vulnerability and meeting the needs of the family with the most appropriate and least intrusive level of intervention.

It was agreed in the Quality Assurance Subgroup in February 2021 that a survey should be completed with practitioners and managers in the Partnership to seek assurance that the process is working. It was agreed that it was too early to explore the impact of interventions as it was within 6 months of the launch and it would not allow enough time to embed the model, instead the feedback would be used to continue to develop the Pathway.

A total of 118 respondents responded to the survey which was conducted in April and May 2021. The responses were from a broad range of job roles from across the partnership, across different levels, including operational staff and management. Positively, even though the new pathway was launched during COVID-19, 86% of respondents were aware of the change to the new pathway. A report was produced in July 2021 which highlighted a desire for more information about the pathway but for those who had been involved in an Early Help case under the new pathway, the overwhelming majority thought the new pathway was better at capturing the child's voice as it is a focus point in the assessment, rather than a standalone question.

Following the audit and findings, the Early Help Team were given detailed feedback including a number of recommendations around training and potential gaps to further promote and improve the pathway. An update report in August 2021 was received regarding the connection between MAST Referrals and the Early Help Hub and a detailed presentation was shared in February 2022 about all elements of the Early Help pathway. This presentation has subsequently been promoted across all agencies.

Since the audit the Early Help team have reported a rise in the number of early help assessments being undertaken under the new Early Help Pathway (compared to the previous EISA pathway). The team are reporting back to the quality assurance group about changes made or any impact from the audit findings in 2022-2023.

Non-Accidental Injuries to Babies

Following national concerns about the increased number of non-accidental injuries to babies during the Covid-19 pandemic; Vicky Ford MP asked all Local Safeguarding Children Partnerships (LSCPs) to review the circumstances of families who had recently stepped down from child protection plans, but who were expecting a baby.

Multi-agency partners reviewed 14 cases to ascertain whether (due to the perceived increased risks linked with lockdown and social distancing) the current status and safeguarding of children was appropriate.

The 14 families included ALL families who had stepped down from a Child Protection plan and had a new baby in this period (7). The audit also included cases where a Single Assessment had resulted in either 'No Further Action', a 'Child In Need plan', or 'signposted to Early Help services'.

The audit included factual questions based on historical information known about the family; known referrals and interventions; subsequent concerns and referrals following step down and the existing statuses of the children and families.

The audit group were assured that in the majority of cases there was no further investigation or follow up required. In 3 of the cases the auditors agreed to undertake further checks to ascertain the safety and wellbeing of the children following intervention. Subsequent follow up actions concluded there was no escalation needed, visits had taken place from universal services, or further checks through children's social care provided assurance that no further work was required. In 1 case a family had been

referred to the Early Intervention Panel, but there was no assurance that this had been accepted. Auditors followed this up and since this, the new Early Help Pathway has introduced new processes which mean that this would not be missed in future.

The audit found that most of the cases had involved domestic abuse, in a number of cases the parents themselves were known to social care themselves as a child, and the majority of cases lived in the bottom 30% indices of multiple deprivation. This audit separately reinforced the perception from the partnership that the most deprived families are often those most in contact with services and that the Partnership needed to continue to track, monitor and assess how poverty and inequalities affects service need and demand.

Safeguarding newsletters were sent out across the partnership to ensure key updates were shared and visibility was maintained. The Pre-birth assessment was updated and reinforced in staff training.

Other audits

External audits were received. One from the Health Assurance and Improvement Group which feeds directly to the group at each meeting – the audit on Children Looked After (CLA) who are placed in Calderdale from Out of Area and the impact on services. The number of independent residential homes have continued to rise in the Calderdale area which means this is a prime area for children being placed locally. There are several placements in Calderdale which offer specialist services e.g., harmful sexual behaviour, Sexual Trauma placements, dedicated homes for victims of Child Sexual Exploitation. The audit found that there were discrepancies in how many notifications were made to health organisations, that there were children in the area who were not known to health services, and therefore not undergoing appropriate health checks.

Further work is being done to improve information sharing nationally as a result of the audit and it may result in a multi-agency audit as the impact of children being placed in the local authority also affects police and other organisations and the risk is that children are not supported as fully as they should be across the country.

Children’s Social Care have commenced sharing regular updates through an audit bulletin which features all the audits which have taken place in Children’s Services, their good practice findings, areas for improvement and any mitigating actions. The QA subgroup of the CSCP will continue to receive these reports and will consider wider multi-agency audits that may need to take place.

10. Learning & Improvement

Learning & Improvement: Multi-agency Safeguarding Training & e-learning

E-Learning:

Over the year, 4061 e-learning training courses were completed by professionals and volunteers working in Calderdale.

Course	Total 2021-22
Awareness of Domestic Violence and Abuse	174
An Introduction to FGM (FM & HBA)	140
Awareness of Forced Marriages	29
Radicalisation and Extremism	202
Child and Adult Sexual Exploitation	171

Child Poverty	81
Modern Slavery and Trafficking	56
Gang Related Issues and County Lines	111
Toxic Trio	94
Hate Crime	99
An Introduction to Infection Prevention and Control	57
E-safety	168
Level 1 Safeguarding Adults	34
Level 1 Safeguarding Children	343
Level 1 Safeguarding Everyone	430
Level 2 Safeguarding Adults	111
Level 2 Safeguarding Children	219
Level 2 Safeguarding Everyone	63
Level 3 Safeguarding Adults	41
Level 3 Safeguarding Children	191
Level 3 Safeguarding Everyone	50
Learning From Serious Case Reviews	70
Prevent COVID	58
Medication Awareness	231
Reducing Parental Conflict Module 1	12
Reducing Parental Conflict Module 2	6
Reducing Parental Conflict Module 3	7
Reducing Parental Conflict Module 4	11
Safeguarding Children Refresher	80
Safeguarding and Leadership	37
Safer Recruitment	67
Safer sleeping for Babies	46
Safer Working Practices	44
Self-neglect	22
Supporting Teenagers and Young People	43
Self Harm	130
Safeguarding in Education	109
Suicidal Thoughts	58
Working with Children with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities	75
Understanding the Importance of the Mental Capacity Act and Liberty Protection Safeguards	82
Understanding Animal Welfare in Violent Homes	9

Face to face training:

796 people attended virtual / face to face training 2021-22

Event name	2021-22
Alcohol Brief Interventions Training	21
Basic Drugs Awareness, Brief Interventions, Identifying and Supporting Young People who use Substances	17
Challenges Facing Children and Adults in an Online World	25
Child Mental health - Anxiety in Young People	43

Child Mental Health: Depression in Young People	10
Child Mental Health: Introduction	25
Child Mental Health: Young People and Self-Harm	16
Child Mental Health: Suicide Awareness	
Connections in the Brain that Shape Children and Young people	56
Cyber Security Awareness - Addressing Risk & Reducing Vulnerabilities	11
Domestic Abuse: Impact on Children and Young People Briefing	6
Domestic Abuse: Older People	5
Domestic Abuse Briefing: Recognising Coercive Control	8
Domestic Abuse: What's Risk Got To Do With It?	32
Early Help Pathway	76
Introduction to ACE, Trauma and Resilience	77
Liberty Protections Safeguards - formerly Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards	17
Mental Capacity – Manager and Professionals	17
Mental Capacity- Introduction for Frontline Staff	16
Forced Marriage/Honour Based Abuse	15
Safeguarding Supervision - Child	20
Safeguarding Supervision - Adult	13
Multiple Disadvantage and MEAM	15
Multi Agency Contribution to the Child Protection Conferences	4
Parental Mental Health – Impact on Children	31
Safeguarding Adults and Self-Neglect Awareness	16
Sexual and Criminal Exploitation including County Lines	96
Enhanced Child Exploitation Training	44
Trauma Informed Care -Raising Awareness- Workshop	16
The Role and Responsibilities of the Designated Safeguarding Lead	17
Working Together and Meet the Teams	31
Grand Total	796

Additional Training for 2022-23

The Domestic Abuse Strategic Board commissioned a comprehensive needs assessment as well as a review of the past Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) which will be used to identify learning for the 2022-23 period. Further learning will be developed from the current DHR and CSPRs.

Training on trauma informed practices will continue and gather strength, Calderdale is working with the WY & H Adversity, Trauma and Resilience Collaborative who have begun the roll out of single agency training in Calderdale, with a strategy for multi-agency training and train the trainer offers. They are developing the WY Trauma Informed kitemark and Fellowship programme. We will continue to work together to ensure the training offered across Calderdale is in line with these standards.

Working with Resistance and Professional Curiosity has been re-written to apply equally to adult and child safeguarding reflecting the learning from the Burnt Bridges thematic review and a local practice review.

A course looking at identifying abuse in non-verbal children is being designed, it was originally informed from a review into sexual abuse by a foster carer in a neighbouring authority, however has developed to cover wider abuse and also assessing and identifying offenders.

Summary of Learning and Improvement

The Safeguarding Supervision training was split to offer an adult session and a children session separately, however this resulted in cancelling the adult session due to low numbers and so they have been merged again for the 2022-23 programme. This year a more interactive brochure was produced to try and promote sessions as well as direct prompts through the Board members and the Learning and Improvement Subgroup membership. However, the numbers attending training are lower than expected. This is reportedly largely due to staff shortages from COVID which impacts on the ability for staff to be released. This is also reflected in the numbers booking onto courses and then having to cancel. It is hoped that this will improve over the coming months as the impacts of COVID diminish and staff availability to attend increases.

There is a duty in each agency, to ensure that staff are adequately trained and are supported to complete their roles and we know that much single agency and 'in-house' training takes place on top of the multi-agency offer.

This is the final year of the current contract with our e-learning and event management system so work will begin on reviewing the future needs for Calderdale.

A further priority will be reinstating the evidencing of impact of training through the Learning and Improvement Subgroup to establish how training is making an impact on practice and on outcomes for children and families.

Learning & Improvement: Safeguarding Week

Calderdale held its second virtual safeguarding week once again due to the Covid-19 outbreak. It was agreed to focus on a 'topic per day', which included:

- Monday: Safeguarding is everyone's business
- Tuesday: Mental Health, Substance Misuse, and Stress of Carers
- Wednesday: Domestic Abuse with a focus on hidden abuse
- Thursday: Trauma Informed Practice
- Friday: Online Safety, Exploitation, Scams and Radicalisation

The virtual programme included a launch event, over 40 online learning sessions, live chats, podcasts, research reports, academic articles, resources, useful links, and videos aimed at practitioners and managers and was available via Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership and Safeguarding Adult Board website. Contributions were received from across the multi-agency partnership and included a good mix of resources for practitioners who work with Children and/or Adults.

The launch event was well received with approximately 77 participants attending the introductory messages. The Marketplace stalls were not as well received and need to be done face to face in the future.

The CSCP/CSAB website was viewed 4845 times from the 'go live' date, to one week after the event; Monday 21st June was the most popular day to access the resources on offer with approximately 750 hits, and Tuesday's webpage was the most popular webpage with 710 hits. The most popular method of learning was the live sessions on offer. The videos and other resources were not as well accessed as last year.

From the 22 social media posts throughout the week, this generated a total of:

- 59,315 Impressions (*Impressions: The social media post has been delivered to someone's social media feed*)

- 481 Engagements (*Engagements: a measure of the number of public shares, likes and comments on the social media post*)

The total number of Twitter impressions was 42,076 and the total number of engagements was 287; the total number of Facebook impressions was 17,239 impressions, and the total number of engagements was 194.

Survey Monkey was used to gather evaluation from practitioners, about the live sessions, videos, and resources available and the virtual method of learning, receiving 102 responses in total. Overall, the virtual week was evaluated as very positive; practitioner knowledge increased because of accessing the live sessions, and practitioners said it would enhance their practice now, and in the future.

Evaluation has shown that virtual learning works well for those with busy schedules but does not offer personal interactions that face-to-face events offer. Suggestions of how to improve Safeguarding Week for 2022 included considering spreading the events out over a month period, having shorter, but more sessions, being more careful with the timing of the sessions to avoid overlap.

The plan for the 2022 Safeguarding week will include a combination of both face-to-face events, and the use of online resources.



Figure 4 is the Safeguarding Week logo

11. CSCP Focus on the Education and Early Years Sector.

In July 2021, Ofsted carried out a rapid review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges in response to testimonies of abuse and harassment in education settings on the website 'Everyone's Invited'. One recommendation from their report was for safeguarding partners: 'to review work to improve engagement with schools of all types in their local area, tailoring their approach to what their analysis (produced in partnership with schools/colleges and wider safeguarding partners) indicates are the risks to children and young people in their local area'.

The Tackling Violence against Women and Girls Strategy was published in July 2021, which gave responsibility to education settings to educate, to identify and challenge harmful attitude and behaviours and to support victims and raise awareness of healthy relationships.

In August 2021, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families; Vicky Ford, requested that safeguarding partners review how they work with schools and colleges locally and set out what their offer of support to schools and colleges is.

The Department for Education has subsequently updated the guidance on Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges in September 2021.

Local Position

Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership (CSCP) identified schools, colleges, and other educational providers as relevant agencies in 2019 when details of the Calderdale multi agency safeguarding arrangements were published. The CSCP recognised the importance of the distinct partners and therefore distinguished the different provision in Calderdale:

- Calderdale College
- Calderdale Primary and Secondary Schools (state, academies and independent)
- Calderdale Governors Association
- Early Years Providers

The CSCP understands the significance of this sector in the role of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Therefore, much activity, scrutiny, analysis and communication is directed at education organisations and professionals. Similarly, the CSCP targets school professionals offering professional development opportunities, providing tools and guidance to simplify and improve identification and response to safeguarding concerns, and consulting with education specialists when producing policy, procedure, and frameworks.

The CSCP Executive Group is a small group consisting of the three strategic leads, the Chairs of each subgroup and the two members from the voluntary sector. The Director of Children and Young People's Services is one of the CSCP strategic leads, and is responsible for Education and Inclusion, school effectiveness, vulnerable learners and SEND in Calderdale. The Director and Assistant Directors regularly meet with Head Teachers, hosting Safeguarding in Education Forums and enabling dialogue between schools and the CSCP.

The College Principal, School Head Teachers, the Chair of the Governors Association, the two Children's Centre providers in Calderdale, the Schools Safeguarding Advisor, and Early Years leaders (including the Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency team in the Local Authority who communicate to all childminders, nurseries, pre-school, and early education providers in Calderdale) are part of the wider CSCP membership. Being part of this wider membership means inclusion in two-way communication from the CSCP.

The School Effectiveness Service led on the Education Recovery Plan. This co-produced plan includes a strand on pupil wellbeing, including social, emotional, and mental health and is a working document managed by a steering group including school cluster and early years representatives. This includes the Mental Health Support Team based in Schools, and the DFE led Mental Health Training.

This section sets out in more detail how the CSCP includes, scrutinises, consults with, listens to, and actively engages with educational institutions. Further ambitions for meaningful engagement are included in the summary.

Collaboration between CSCP and Early Years / Education Sector

Two-way communication between the CSCP and the wider Education sector is imperative. The CSCP listens to the sector through their membership and attendance on subgroups, through proactive engagement on development days, through the Section 11 process, and through consultation of guidance, tools, policies, and procedures. A variety of conferences, development opportunities and workshops also invite discussion and views about specific topics. A recent experience was the CSCP development day where education sector colleagues from the College as well as early years and school settings, were involved in the dialogue about the actions of the CSCP.

School professionals are often involved in audit and quality assurance work, surveys of school staff and multi-agency case file audits are typical examples of this. There are three School representative an Early Years lead and a Children's Centre representative sitting on the strategic Quality Assurance subgroup which scrutinises the audit findings and reports to the CSCP.

The CSCP communicates to the sector in a number of ways too. A bi-monthly newsletter is sent to the early years sector, schools, colleges, and through the Calderdale Schools Safeguarding Advisor. During COVID, weekly safeguarding messages from the partnership were disseminated to the sector which detailed safeguarding service changes from across the partnership and highlighted national and local plans to mitigate any risks.

Nursery staff, teachers, and designated safeguarding leads get involved in Safeguarding Week every year; in 2021, the Early Years sector provided 4 live training sessions and a video produced by one Calderdale school on Operation Encompass (the Domestic Abuse notification process for all Calderdale Schools and Early Years providers) was well received. The Schools Safeguarding Advisor is part of the Safeguarding Week planning process to represent views of and engagement with schools in Calderdale. This year Evaluation has shown that a number of child minders, early year providers, primary schools and secondary schools took part in at least 1 session during Safeguarding Week.

The CSCP has links with secondary schools and colleges via the CSCP Young Advisors group (group of young people aged 13-17) who engage with school aged children on a number of projects they are completing, including Child Exploitation survey which received 412 student responses, School Transitions survey which received 210 responses, and their current Manifesto for local services leaders.

There are 'lead' Head Teachers who disseminate information and learning through Primary and Secondary Head Teacher networks – we also have used these leads to feedback how information has been disseminated. A good example was learning from a SCR which resulted in suggested changes to school exclusion procedures – the two lead Head Teachers provided minutes evidencing the distribution of learning and evidence of changed policies.

The Early Years Team provided evidence of sharing our event on Trauma to all Early Years contacts and through social media. In addition, the Early Years Team have developed their own trauma event in response to the 2021 CSCP priority. The CSCP Safeguarding Partnerships Manager has a good working relationship with the Schools Safeguarding Advisor. There are opportunities for the Advisor to raise concerns highlighted by schools, he attends a number of subgroups and is ably informed to support and deliver against the CSCP agenda.

Section 11 Safeguarding Audit

Nearly 100% of schools and a growing number of early years providers report annually for the completion of the Section 11 Audit. A specific approach to schools was made 6 years ago with schools (including private and independent) completing audits and attending cluster challenge and feedback events. As part of the Section 11 process - Practitioner Focus Groups are held with teachers, designated safeguarding leads and pastoral staff to triangulate the evidence provided in the Section 11 returns. This ensures we get a direct line of sight to front line activity in schools and not just a strategic view from education leaders.

Topics in these focussed events are driven by the CSCP priorities and have covered online safety, harmful sexual behaviour, and neglect in the past. Consultations with these front-line professionals is also concentrated on learning points raised in Serious Case Review and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (namely supervision, information sharing, training etc). Feedback is also sought about the use and effectiveness of CSCP tools and guidance. Feedback from these sessions has shown good levels of use and usefulness: 'the neglect toolkit helps me to show parents how harmful their behaviours can be' 'the toolkit helped me to escalate concerns to MAST' 'the harmful sexual behaviour toolkit really helped because instances of sexual abuse are so rare, it is not common knowledge or practice'.

In some instances, the triangulation with front line practitioners provided more evidence of activity than the strategic Section 11 responses, for example around children with disabilities the front-line professionals were able to evidence much more holistic and multi-agency support work than their audits reported. Learning from these events is fed back to the Partnership to act on – and briefings returned to schools to assist with safeguarding improvements – these consist of links to tools and guidance where it has been highlighted as needing improvement e.g., links to Mental Capacity Act for 16–17-year-olds, or where schools reported not knowing about specific SCR learning we provide the exact link to it.

In 2021 the CSCP developed a COVID specific audit focussing on safeguarding during lockdown. The CSCP wider membership each completed the audit, however the CSCP did not ask education providers because of the extra pressure each institution was under. Instead, the School Safeguarding Advisor, who had been the link between schools and safeguarding response throughout the pandemic, provided one response on behalf of the education sector. The response contained description and evidence of continued, preventative, and robust safeguarding action.

All schools incorporated a COVID addendum to their safeguarding policy and promoted the local mental health website to parents and pupils. Although the government offered a 6-month extension to DSL training requirements, this was not needed for any school in Calderdale, and in fact the number of education professionals attending virtual training far exceeded usual trends. This report can be supplied on request.

Training for College, Education, and Early Years Professionals

A snapshot of eLearning in Quarter 2 (July to September 2021) shows 229 school professionals undertook eLearning, as well as 33 early years professionals and 171 voluntary sector workers. In this same quarter 31 education professionals attended face to face training. A training session was held by the Schools Safeguarding Advisor and the Assistant Director for Education and Inclusion to look specifically at sexual abuse and peer on peer abuse based on the Ofsted review and Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021. This was attended by 91 school leaders and governors.

Performance Management Activity

The CSCP scrutinises performance activity from schools and early years data. Not surprisingly, COVID affected numbers of referrals to Children's Social Care with the reduction in referrals from schools predominantly being noted when they were had restricted attendance during lockdown. High referrals to mental health services were recorded when schools reopened and remained high during 2021. Positively, data shows that professionals from schools and early years settings attended almost 100% of the Child Protection Conferences they are invited to. This data, along with annual rolling reports and assurance from the School Safeguarding Advisor provide a clear and positive picture about how safeguarding is prioritised and comprehended in school and early years settings.

More specifically, the number of children excluded from or missing education is monitored quarterly by the CSCP Performance Management Group. This data includes specific information about those pupils missing from education who are also looked after, have SEN support, on free school meals and with EHC plans. The Local Authority Education and Inclusion Services are leading a multi-agency response, including Head Teachers, to improve inclusion and address high numbers of fixed term and permanent exclusion in Calderdale. This includes commissioning an external review of alternative provision, managed moves, and a forum chaired by the external reviewer to look at the system wide response to inclusion. The external review will also look specifically at inequalities such as gender, ethnicity, pupils on free school meals and those with special educational needs.

The CSCP has received an interim report on this, partners are involved in the scrutiny, and the Executive will formally receive findings as the review is completed which will inform CSCP activity. The number of children who are electively home educated have risen during pandemic in line with the national trend. The CSCP sought and received assurance that the Calderdale Vulnerable Learners Team go beyond statutory duties but remain concerned about national policy and the subsequent lack of oversight by children in EHE. The CSCP has, collectively with other Yorkshire and Humber Safeguarding Partnerships, written to the Department for Education to request that the legislative framework and guidance be strengthened to give sufficient protection for children who might need safeguarding and protecting.

Learning from Serious Case Reviews and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

Representatives from education and early years providers are involved in Calderdale Safeguarding Practice Reviews through Panel meetings, in inquiry events, briefings and the subsequent learning. Because it is uncommon for professionals from education and early years settings to be part of safeguarding reviews, the CSCP secretariat helps and coaches panel members to ensure they are supported and confident about their involvement and the subsequent learning. Learning from Calderdale reviews is systemic and once learning from a particular school or nursery has been acquired, this is disseminated to the whole sector, to inform and improve safeguarding practice and to inform any future commissioning arrangements.

Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB)

The CSCP Harmful Sexual Behaviour toolkit is a practical tool to aid practitioners to assess what is healthy behaviour in regards to sexual development for ages 0-5, 5-9, 10-13, and 14-17. It also helps to assess what might be more worrying or problematic behaviour, and also what is harmful for the same age groups and assists professionals to understand what interventions might be needed at each level.

An audit was undertaken to assess the level of understanding of HSB from professionals including from both primary and secondary schools and school nurses. Findings included positive use of the HSB tool, good examples of the use of innovative practice, and worry boxes in schools, prevention of young people accessing inappropriate online sites, and special schools benefitting from specialist nurses to respond to inappropriate behaviour. However, the audit also found that there was still a lack of clarity about HSB and some areas for improvement in the way agencies worked together to address HSB, including addressing underlying causes of behaviour rather than exclusion from schools.

In response, a multi-agency Harmful Sexual Behaviour Panel was set up which meets every two weeks to respond to referrals from schools and early years settings, and the CSCP produced a screening checklist to assist with assessments.

Child Exploitation

The Child Safeguarding National Review Panel published their report 'It was hard to escape: Safeguarding children at risk from Criminal Exploitation' in 2020. One known risk factor for exploitation is exclusion from school. The CSCP has, through the Local Authority, directed attention to this and offered collective multi-agency funding to recruit a safeguarding specialist with an education focus in both the child exploitation hub and the front door arrangements. The CSCP Young Advisors produced a PowerPoint presentation explaining Child Exploitation and delivered it to schools. They also held a competition with all Calderdale schools to design a poster raising awareness of Child Exploitation.

In addition, the CSCP has delivered 25 training sessions to over 285 professionals and been part of raising awareness through an animation series designed for schools specifically aimed at tackling exploitation.

Summary

Following the letter from Vicky Ford, the Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership has considered and reviewed the engagement and approach to schools. This section summarises some of that activity. The CSCP has and will continue to tailor the approach to schools to ensure that data, quality assurance, learning from review, feedback from young people and views of professionals inform what is focussed on, where areas of improvement are and who needs to be considered most at risk in dialogue with schools. Nevertheless, the CSCP will more formally offer opportunities for engagement.

Quality Assurance of Early Help, Safeguarding, and Prevention activity undertaken by Early Years and Education Settings

The CSCP has recognised, through hearing from schools, colleges, and the early years sector (with particular reference on the October 2021 Development Day) that much early help activity is undertaken by education settings which does not reach local authority or CSCP recording or reporting. The College has spoken about a very low number of risks and concerns being referred to MAST or the Early Help Pathway – the rest being managed through pastoral activity within the college and partner agencies (health, mental health, youth offending, drug and alcohol support etc).

In response, the CSCP has initiated quality assurance activity to explore activity in educational establishments and recognise the good practice. Calderdale is the only authority where every school is linked by the same software system (CPOMS), therefore there are opportunities for enhanced auditing and reporting. Case studies and examples of activity will initially reflect and illuminate some of this activity which needs to be recognised by the CSCP and considered as to how it fits into the wider continuum of need.

Formal Attendance at Head Teacher Networks

Although dissemination and collation of information to and from schools is good, the CSCP recognises that there are other opportunities to ensure that all institutions feel included. Enhanced engagement through the attendance of the Safeguarding Partnerships Manager at Head Teacher Association meetings will continue the two-way dialogue. This is in addition to the current attendance by members of the secretariat at the regular Early Years Network meeting.

Trauma Informed Approaches

Schools and Early Years providers are part of the CSCP ambition (along with the Safeguarding Adults Board) for Calderdale to be a Trauma Informed Borough. An audit has begun to look at risk and vulnerability in adolescence, which will inform new ways of working for schools and partners agencies.

The Early Years sector leaders are producing a briefing about trauma in early childhood and its effects on later life. The CSCP focus on transition and the intention for children to become safe, resilient adults will impact on safeguarding advice and guidance for schools, and the CSCP Young Advisors Manifesto will signify what is important to young people and the Calderdale they want to live in.

The CSCP remains committed to using intelligence, learning and evidence from the education sector to inform how professionals in Calderdale can work together to improve outcomes for children, young people and families in Calderdale.

12. Conclusion and Future Priorities for the CSCP

The CSCP will reflect on and consider how the Josh McAllister's Review of Children's Social Care, and the expected but delayed government response, will impact on the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in Calderdale. The partnership will continue to build on our child focussed practice and strong early help arrangements to evidence how services and professionals give children the best outcomes.

It is anticipated that a widening of health inequalities and social poverty further exacerbated by the current national economic and social positions, the cost of living, and the impact of local government cuts will have an impact on the safeguarding of children, young people, families and the wider community. This is evidenced in research and the increased risk associated linked with poverty and social deprivation leads to increased domestic abuse, neglect, increased substance abuse, increased mental ill-health (of children and parents), chronic ill-health, homelessness and further inequality.

The risks and vulnerabilities in adolescence will be exacerbated due to economic and social issues we are currently experiencing – poverty, debt, stress, and parental conflict all impact on the ability of parents to support their adolescents through this time of huge development, and longer term effects resulting in poor transitions to adulthood. Adults who have multiple-complex needs, who may be at risk of being a victim or perpetrator of domestic abuse, who have children who are in the child protection system, who are workless, have mental ill-health, substance abuse issues, suicidal ideation and who continued to be exploited.

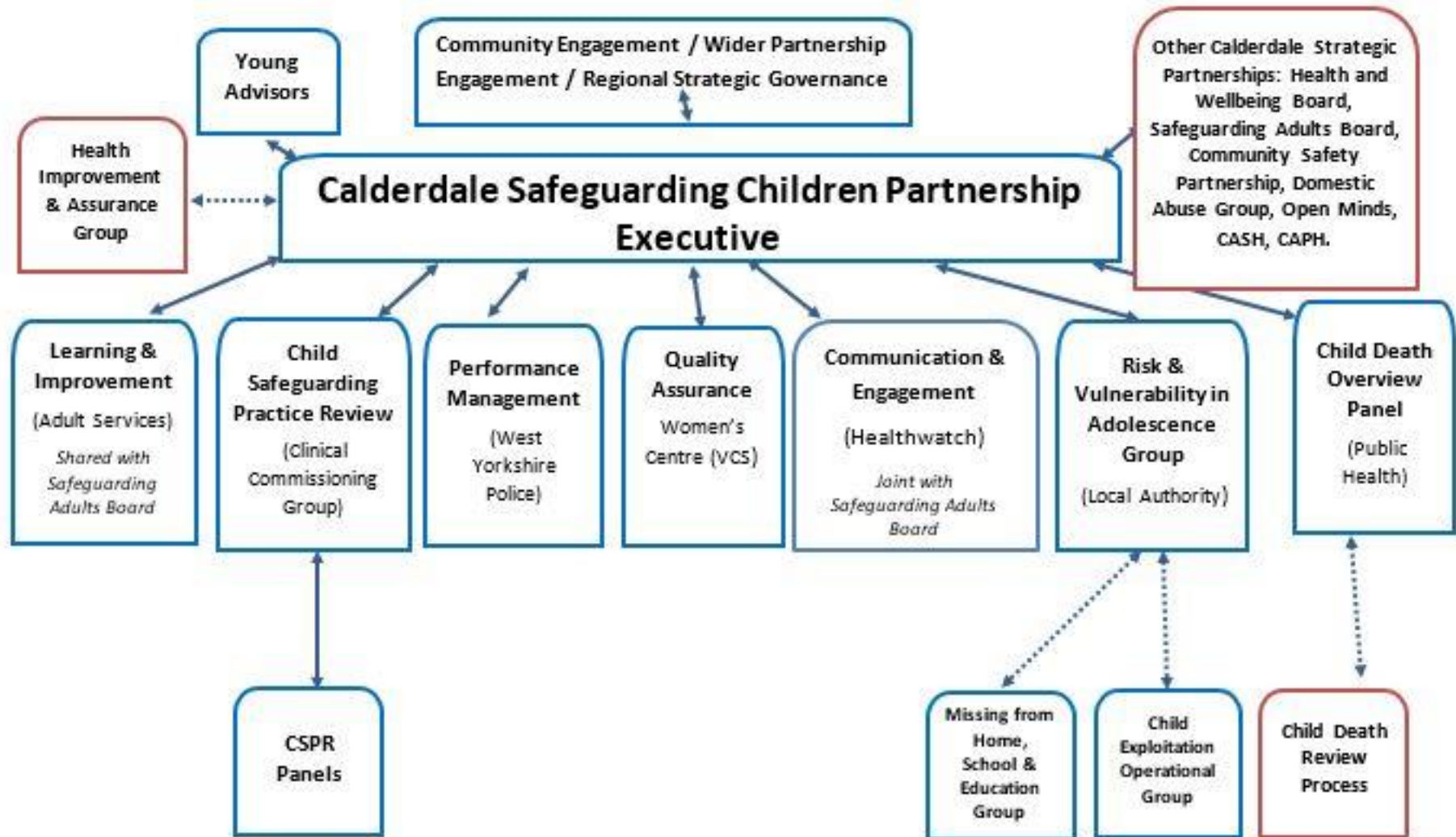
The CSCP focus on Risk and Vulnerability in Adolescence this year, alongside the resetting of the Children Social Care System (McAllister Review), will result in changes being made to the whole multi-agency working practice in Calderdale. The CSCP is using evidence based research from national bodies and best practice examples from other authorities to address the challenges faced for this adolescent age group.

The CSCP will continue to focus attention on Joint Targeted Area Inspections (JTAI) and the learning from these reports. The Calderdale partnership will consider this learning alongside other National Panel reports and how partners will implement relevant recommendations and how Calderdale front line services demonstrate this operationally.

Priorities for the Partnership going forward will include the following:

- Focus on equality and diversity
- Voice of the child and family of those receiving services.
- Cost of living, poverty and the impact on safeguarding
- Assurance from other partnerships around neurodiversity and mental health
- Contextual safeguarding
- Parental mental health, domestic abuse and substance abuse (Toxic Trio)
- Neglect

Appendix 1 Structure Chart



Appendix 2 – Relevant Partner Agencies

- Adult Services and Wellbeing
- CAFCASS
- Calderdale and Huddersfield Foundation Trust (CHFT)
- Calderdale College
- Calderdale Governors Association (CGA)
- Early Years Quality and Improvement (Representing Childminders, Early Years Settings, Out of School Clubs)
- Locala School Nurse and Health Visiting Service
- National Probation Service (NPS)
- NHS England
- Together Housing Group
- Education (Primary and Secondary Head Teachers Association & Designated Safeguarding Lead Network)
- Public Health
- South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust (SWYPFT)
- Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Service (VSI)
- West Yorkshire Fire Service
- Women’s Centre
- Youth Justice Service
- Children’s Residential Homes including private providers
- Independent Fostering Agencies
- Halifax Opportunities Trust and North Halifax Partnership (Children’s Centre, Family Support and Community Engagement delivery)
- Yorkshire Ambulance Service
- One Adoption
- British Transport Police
- Sports and Leisure Organisations
- Religious Organisations

Appendix 3 – Changes to Local Multi-Agency Safeguarding Procedures for Children during 2021-2022

Chapter Name	Details
Faltering Growth Policy	This chapter has been revised throughout in line with local practice and terminology.
Initial Child Protection Conferences	A note has been added to remind all practitioners of the importance of establishing the nationality and immigration status of children and families. This will ensure they can be signposted for immigration advice and support where required. Furthermore - if as EU / EEA nationals they have been granted pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme - it will ensure that they can be supported to apply for settled status when they accrue 5 years' continuous residence in the UK.
Allegations of Harm Arising from Sexual Activity (including Under Age Sexual Activity)	This chapter has been amended to include information on sexual harassment and violence following the Review of Sexual Abuse in Schools and Colleges (Ofsted) and Keeping Children Safe in Education. See the Ofsted report in Further Information.
Bullying	This chapter has been amended to include information on sexual harassment and violence following the Review of Sexual Abuse in Schools and Colleges (Ofsted) and Keeping Children Safe in Education.
Child Abuse and Information Communication Technology	This chapter has been amended to reflect that section 69 Domestic Abuse Act 2021 expanded so-called 'revenge porn' to include threats to disclose private sexual photographs and films with intent to cause distress.
Child Exploitation: Policy, Procedures and Guidance	A link has been added in Section 1, Introduction and Links to Local Resources to Calderdale - Child Exploitation Risk Assessment.
Children from Abroad, including Victims of Modern Slavery, Trafficking and Exploitation	This chapter has been refreshed throughout. Information has been added on piloting devolving decision making for child victims of modern slavery and on Independent Child Trafficking Guardians (ICTG). Links to Further Information have been added and updated, and a link has been added to the Independent Child Trafficking Guardians Referral Form. In areas where the ICTG service has been implemented, if the first responder considers a child to be a potential victim of modern slavery, they should refer them to the ICTG service by completing the online referral form. Minor amendments have been made to this chapter in line with the UK's exit from the EEA.
Children of Alcohol Misusing Parents	A link has been added in Further Information to Guidance: Parents with Alcohol and Drug Problems: Support Resources (GOV.UK).

Children of Drug Misusing Parents	A link has been added in Further Information to Guidance: Parents with Alcohol and Drug Problems: Support Resources (GOV.UK).
Domestic Abuse	This chapter has been updated to add links to Domestic Abuse Act Factsheets and Domestic Abuse: Specialist Sources of Support (GOV.UK).
Gang Activity and Youth Violence	Information has been added on Knife Crime Prevention Orders.
Harmful Sexual Behaviour	This chapter has been updated to reflect local practice, the Review of Sexual Abuse in Schools and Colleges (Ofsted) and Keeping Children Safe in Education.
Parents with Learning Disabilities	This chapter has been updated to include information in relation to pre-birth assessments and planning.
Pre Birth	Section 2, Identifying Risks has been updated to include information in relation to pre-birth assessments and planning where the mother has learning disabilities.
Safeguarding Children who Move Across Local Authority Boundaries / Abroad	A note from Working Together to Safeguard Children has been added to remind all practitioners of the importance of sharing information when a child moves from one local authority into another; due to the risk that knowledge pertinent to keeping a child safe could be lost.
Multi-Agency Protocol for the Assessment of Non Mobile Babies with Injuries Including Bruising, Burns and Scalds in Non Mobile Babies	This protocol has been updated.
Safer Recruitment, Selection and Supervision of Staff	This chapter has been updated to reflect legal changes following EU exit, including guidance on checking the past conduct of individuals who have lived or worked overseas.
Complaints and Appeals (Child Protection Conferences)	This chapter has been revised throughout in line with local practice.
Children Missing Education	This guidance has been reviewed throughout and extensively updated
Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)	This guidance has been reviewed and updated throughout to reflect the latest statutory guidance on Female Genital Mutilation.
Children Visiting Psychiatric Wards and Facilities	This chapter has been refreshed throughout and terminology updated. Additional information has also been added in to Section 3, Visiting Patients in the High Security Psychiatric Services: Ashworth, Broadmoor and Rampton, in line with the High Security Psychiatric Services (Arrangements for Safety and Security) Directions 2019 and associated Guidance.
Children Visiting Prisons	This guidance has been reviewed throughout and updated as required.

Information Sharing	This guidance has been reviewed and updated throughout to reflect amendments in the statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE).
Allegations Against Persons who Work with Children	This procedure has been reviewed and updated as required to reflect the most recent versions of the statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children and Keeping Children Safe in Education. A fourth bullet point has been added in Section 1, Introduction and Criteria to include situations where an individual in those settings has behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children. This is to capture concerns around transferable risk; for example where a person who works with children is involved in a domestic abuse incident at home and this may have implications for their suitability to work with children.
Safer Recruitment, Selection and Supervision of Staff	This guidance has been updated as a result of the UK's exit from the European Union. Information has been added on how employers can now check that an individual has the right to work in the UK during the recruitment process.
Elective Home Education	A small, but growing number of children are educated at home. Elective home education (EHE) is not, in itself, a risk factor for abuse or neglect, and there is nothing to suggest children who are educated at home experience a higher incidence of abuse or neglect than the wider population of children. However, when children who are educated at home are maltreated, this can be more difficult for professionals to identify. This new section explains the actions practitioners should take if they have concerns that a child who is being educated at home is at risk of abuse or neglect. Links to local EHE contacts are also included.





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