

**City of York**

**Safeguarding Children Partnership**



City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership

# Safeguarding Arrangements



## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 In accordance to Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018), this document sets out our Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements (MASA) and how our three safeguarding partners and other relevant agencies, including education settings will work together to safeguard children and young people in the City of York.
- 1.2 This document is a revised version of our previous arrangements which were published in January 2019, following a review of our Partnership arrangements which has seen the implementation of a new streamlined governance structure in early 2021.
- 1.3 Our York partners are fully committed to the new arrangements and to continuing to work together, so that children in York grow up in safety. Our plans for how we intend to achieve this are set out within this document. We believe that safeguarding children and young people is the responsibility of everyone, and ask that all individuals, organisations and communities in the City of York join us in ensuring that this happens.

## 2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Children Act 2004, as amended by the Children and Social Work Act 2017, and the associated statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) replaced Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) with new local Multi-agency Safeguarding Partnership Arrangements (MASA).
- 2.2 The new MASA arrangements placed new duties on the three Statutory Safeguarding Partners (namely: the Local Authority, the Police and the Clinical Commissioning Group) in local areas, to make arrangements to work together, and with other relevant agencies locally:
  - to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in their area.
  - for partner organisations and agencies to collaborate, share and co-own the vision for how to achieve improved outcomes for vulnerable children
  - for organisations and agencies to challenge appropriately and hold one another to account effectively
  - where there is early identification and analysis of new safeguarding issues and emerging threats
  - where learning is promoted and embedded in a way that local services for children and families can become more reflective and implement changes to practice
  - where information is shared effectively to facilitate more accurate and timely decision making for children and families
- 2.3 In order to work together effectively, the safeguarding partners with other local organisations and agencies should develop processes that:
  - facilitate and drive action beyond usual institutional and agency constraints and boundaries
  - ensure the effective protection of children is founded on practitioners developing lasting and trusting relationships with children and their families

24 To be effective, these arrangements should link to other strategic partnership work happening locally to support children and families. This will include other public boards including Health and Wellbeing Boards, Adult Safeguarding Boards, Channel Panels, Improvement Boards, Community Safety Partnerships, the Local Family Justice Board, MAPPAs and, where relevant, Violence Reduction Units (Working Together, 2018).

25 Within the City of York, the three partners were identified as:

- Operating Officer, City of York Council
- Chief Constable, North Yorkshire Police
- Chief Executive Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

It has been agreed within the City of York that the lead officers will delegate their function to the following officers:

- Martin Kelly, Director of Children Services, City of York Council
- Scott Bisset, Assistant Chief Constable, North Yorkshire Police
- Michelle Carrington, Director for Quality & Nursing York Health and Care Partnership.

26 Each local area had to inform the Department of Education (DfE) of their MASA arrangements and publish these by September 2019. The City of York were part of the national Early Adopter's scheme which meant that the CYSCP was established in April 2019; the CYSCP has been in existence longer than many other Partnerships in England.

27 Moreover, Alan Wood was appointed by the Government in December 2019, to review the implementation of the new safeguarding arrangements. The final report '[A sector expert review of new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements](#)' was published in May 2021, in which a number of recommendations were made for central government, the Inspectorates, the Children's Commissioner, the National Panel and NHS England in order to make new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements for local areas more effective. There was also a specific action for local safeguarding children partnerships which suggested a review of the Business Manager role in order to consider whether it is meeting the needs of the safeguarding partners to carry out their strong leadership role.

28 The CYSCP subsequently commissioned an Independent review of the Partnership, the terms of reference for the review focussed on how well the new requirements are currently fulfilled, one full year into the Partnership's operation; and to advise on any necessary improvements and adjustments that may be required.

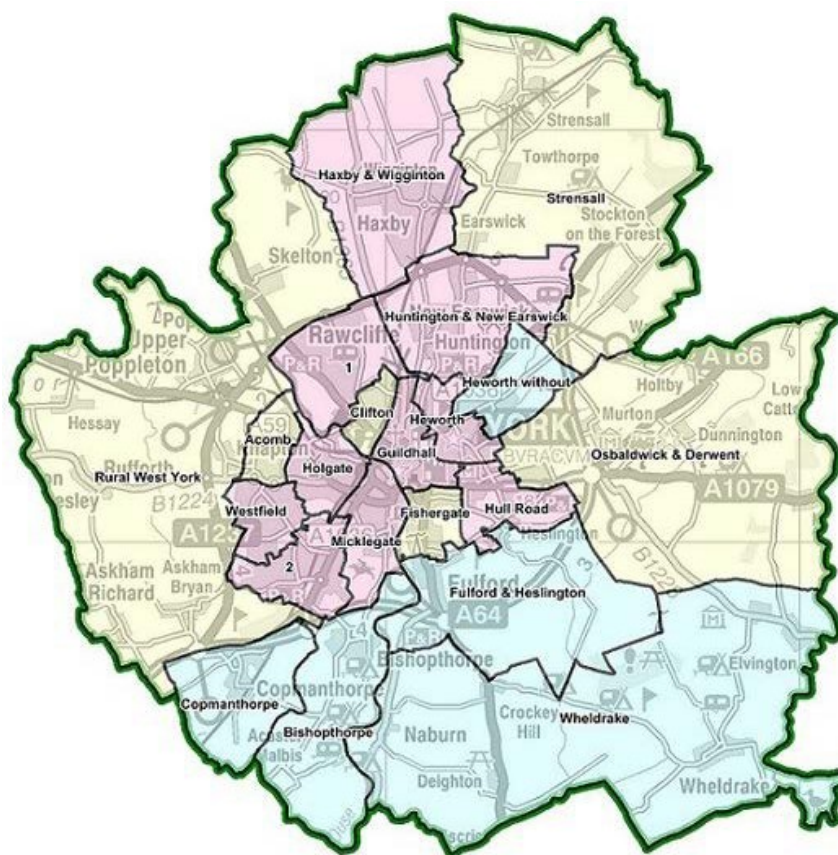
29 The final report was presented at the Partnership Meeting in April 2020 which outlined areas of strengths and areas of improvement. Within the report a number of recommendations were made which the Partnership agreed to take forward and implement and an action plan has been developed based on the recommendations which will be monitored by the CYSCP Business Unit.

210 At the Partnership meeting in April 2020, it was also agreed for the Interim Business Manager, CYSCP to lead on the review of the current CYSCP governance arrangements taking into account the findings of the Review Report.

- 211 The review of the CYSCP Governance Structure was completed and ratified at the CYSCP Partnership Meeting in October 2020. Following agreement of the new CYSCP structure, an implementation period took place between October 2020 and December 2020 and the first round of meetings within the new structure took place in January 2021. With the addition of MASH Strategic and MASH Operational Groups which were aligned within the CYSCP structure in May 2021.

### 3.0 Geographical Area

- 31 The City of York is a cathedral city and unitary authority area in North Yorkshire. The local authority is the City of York Council, a single tier governing body responsible for providing all local services and facilities throughout the city.
- 32 The City of York Safeguarding Arrangements cover the area within the City of York Local Authority boundaries, as outlined in the map:

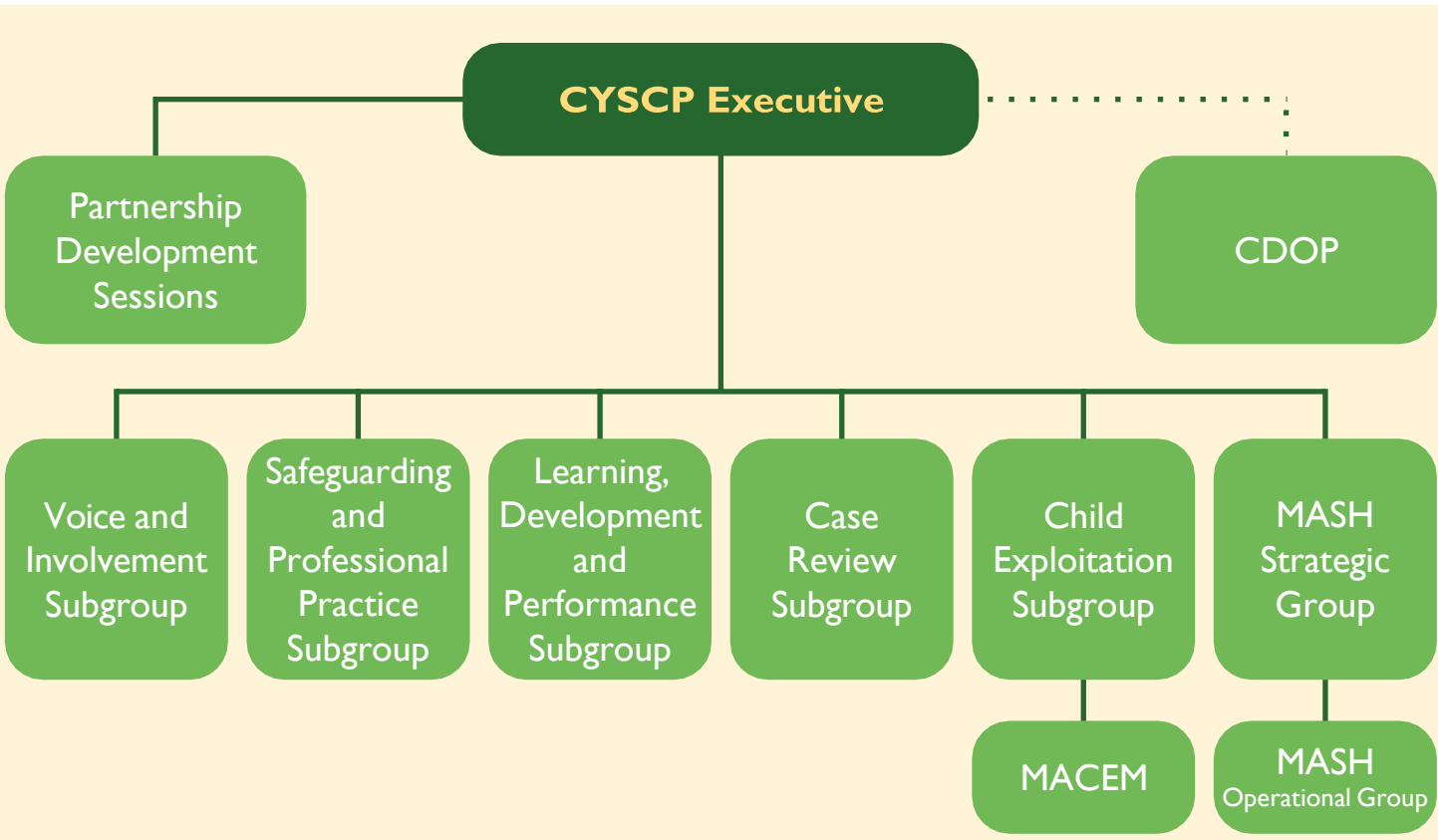


- 33 The City of York maintains close links with colleagues in North Yorkshire and other neighbouring local authorities and works jointly on priorities and projects where relevant.
- 34 The area is covered by one police force, North Yorkshire Police (NYP) (NYP also covers North Yorkshire).
- 35 Health care is provided by one hospital NHS Foundation Trust, York & Scarborough Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust - (which also covers Malton and Scarborough in East and North Yorkshire respectively.)
- 36 The York Place Health and Care Partnership Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board commissions health care across the whole of the City of York area.

- 37 Tees and Esk Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust are commissioned to provide mental health care services for York.
- 38 Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust provide some inpatient mental health services including a Tier 4 inpatient CAMHS facility.
- 39 As well as NYP, some partners work across York and neighbouring North Yorkshire or wider across the region, including Probation Services CAFCASS and NHS England.

## 4.0 CYSCP Governance Arrangements

41 The agreed governance arrangements of the CYSCP, are as follows:



### 42 CYSCP Executive

43 The CYSCP Executive meeting replaced the partnership meeting and streamlined its membership. It has been agreed that the Independent Scrutineer will Chair this meeting which meets on a bi-monthly basis. Membership includes each of the statutory partners.



- 44 The functions of this group are as follows:
- To provide the strategic direction for the City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership (CYSCP) in line with national, regional and local objectives and priorities and to ensure that this correlates with the strategic direction and plans of partners.
  - Are responsible for developing the CYSCP Business Plan and its priorities.
  - To receive exception reports from the subgroup chairs regarding progress against the business plan priorities.
  - To receive regular updates and seek assurance from partners via their single agency assurance reports and action plans.
  - Are to be advised of all cases that have been notified to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel by the Local Authority, in accordance with the Children Act 2004 and as outlined in Working Together (2018).
  - To be notified of cases that have not been notified to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel but have been identified as significant to local learning i.e. complex case procedures.
  - To maintain and develop links with all current and potential partnership agencies such as Health and Wellbeing Board, Community Safety Partnership, Safeguarding Adult Board and the Systems Leadership Group, Serious and Organised Crime Disruption Panel, the Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Partnership and the Partners Prevent Board.

#### 45 Partnership Development Sessions

46 Two development sessions are to be held within the year which the Independent Scrutineer facilitates and leads on. These sessions include Executive Members, partners, relevant agencies and stakeholders. The purpose of these sessions are to consider local priorities and themes as well as reviewing wider regional and national themes which will inform the CYSCP in delivering their priorities.

47 The Independent Scrutineer also shares the outcomes of the Development sessions with the Executive and feedback is also provided within the annual assurance report.

#### 48 Voice & Involvement Subgroup and Voice of the Child

49 The City of York are currently developing their preferred practice model which is centred on systemic practice. Systemic practice seeks to make sense of the world through relationships, focusing on the whole family system rather than individuals. Through a systemic approach, change can be achieved through exploring relationship patterns and how they impact on children. The CYSCP Practice Framework has been developed with partners across all organisations and agencies in the City of York.

410 **‘Every conversation starts with the Child’**. As a Partnership it is important that we continue to seek assurance from our partners that Children and Young People are at the forefront of every conversation. The CYSCP are committed to consulting with young people when undertaking pieces of work and recognises the voice of the child throughout all aspects of their work and is included within all terms of reference of subgroup meetings and is also a standing agenda item at each meeting.

- 4.11 This group is chaired by the Head of Innovation & Children's Champion, City of York Council and meets on a quarterly basis and the functions of this group are as follows:
- To ensure that the CYSCP seek assurance from our partners that Children and Young People are at the forefront of every conversation. This should include groups that may be at risk of not having a Voice, in particular those that are pre-verbal or non-verbal or that would be identified as being at risk.
  - To ensure that young people have a voice and are involved in decision-making, planning, design and delivery of services.
  - Responsible for developing and reviewing the Voice Strategy and monitoring the associated action plan.
  - Responsible for providing an update to CYSCP Executive on a quarterly basis. This will include information relating to children and young people's views on their experience of Early Help and safeguarding.

## **4.12 Safeguarding & Professional Practice Subgroup**

4.13 The Safeguarding Professional Practice Subgroup is a new group within the structure. The function of this group is to lead on the development of Safeguarding portfolio areas on behalf of the CYSCP Executive regarding Safeguarding Practice. This group also contribute to the development of strategic and operational child safeguarding practice in line with the CYSCP Business Plan, regional and national priorities.

4.14 The Safeguarding and Professional Practice sub-group is responsible for:

- Monitoring the effectiveness and seeking assurance from partners, ensuring that changes to safeguarding practice are implemented and embedded within partner organisations and across frontline multi-agency practitioners. For example the Graded Care Profile or Home Assessment Tool.
- Review national, regional and local research and ensure that any learning identified is embedded within CYSCP multi-agency documents such as strategies, assessment tools, policies, procedures and forms.
- Responsible for developing and reviewing local multi-agency policies, procedures, protocols and One Minute Guides (OMG) in line with local, regional and national learning.
- Receive updates from partners and other Boards/Partnerships/commissioned services in respect of wider partnership safeguarding work i.e. Domestic Abuse, Prevent, Self-Harm, Suicide, Early Help. Where appropriate members will provide challenge and hold partners to account.
- Receive updates in respect of Early Help and the Supporting Families (formerly known as Troubled Families) agenda.

4.15 This group is chaired by the Head of Service - Safeguarding and meets on a quarterly basis.

## **416 Learning, Development & Performance Subgroup**

417 The function of the Learning, Development and Performance Sub-Group is to monitor the effectiveness of the City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership (CYSCP) and drive forward performance through reviewing data, commissioning audits and ensuring that multi-agency commissioned training is robust.

418 The Learning, Development and Performance Sub-Group are responsible for:

- Ensuring that the multi-agency data set pertaining to safeguarding is interrogated and understood and that trends and patterns receive proportionate scrutiny, and will use the data and intelligence to assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help (Working Together, 2018).
- Escalating to the CYSCP Executive where risks or performance issues have been identified
- Commissioning any multi-agency and inter-agency audits, including the Section 11 Audit and the Schools Safeguarding Audit as well as being responsible for monitoring and implementing associated action plans. To develop an audit schedule which will be reviewed annually. There will be a multi-agency audit task group with a flexible chair and membership and the chair will be responsible for reporting back to the Learning, Development and Performance Sub-Group the outcome findings and recommendations from all audits.
- Developing learning resources of the findings of audits, Safeguarding Practice Reviews or other types of learning reviews which can be disseminated to front line professionals, partners and stakeholders.
- How inter-agency training will be commissioned, delivered and monitored for impact (Working Together, 2018).
- Driving forward the CYSCP Training and Learning Strategy.
- Seek assurance in regard to single agency audits and ensure that 'learning is promoted and embedded in a way that local services for children and families can become more reflective and implement changes to practice' (Working Together, 2018).
- Responsible for providing an update to the CYSCP Executive on a quarterly basis.

419 This meeting is chaired by Head of Quality Assurance and Safeguarding, Principle Social Worker, City of York Council and meets on a quarterly basis.

## **420 Case Review Subgroup and Child Practice Reviews**

421 The function of this group, in accordance with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) is to identify serious safeguarding cases which raise issues of importance to improve Child Protection and Safeguarding Practice within the City of York.

422 The purpose of child safeguarding practice reviews as set out in Working Together (2018) at both local and national level, is to identify improvements to practice and safeguard children and promote the welfare of children. Where a serious child safeguarding case has been identified the local authority have a duty to notify the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel within five working days of becoming aware that the incident has occurred (Working Together, 2018 Chapter 4 page 86).



423 The Case Review Subgroup are responsible for:

- Instigating the rapid review process upon a notification being made by the local authority and comply with the requirements of the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel (The Panel) about whether a Local or National review is required. Rapid reviews should be submitted to the Panel within 15 working days of the incident.
- Identifying and submitting cases to the Case Review Group for consideration where the case may not meet the definition of a serious child safeguarding case but nevertheless raise issues of importance to the City of York that might, for example, include where there has been good practice, poor practice or where there have been 'near miss' events (Working Together, 2018).
- Commissioning and publishing (where appropriate) local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews, multi-agency reviews and single agency reviews.
- Review any national, regional or local learning and develop learning resources such as briefings, one minute guides and reports which can be disseminated to front line professionals, partners and stakeholders.
- Responsible for maintaining information relating to Learning and Development on the CYSCP website.
- Responsible for providing an update to CYSCP Executive on a quarterly basis.

424 This meeting is chaired by the Designated Nurse, Safeguarding and Looked after Children, Vale of York CCG and meets on a quarterly basis.

#### 425 Child Exploitation Subgroup

426 The City of York have recently developed an [Adolescent Strategy](#) which provides further emphasis of how partners will work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of those young people who are at risk. This strategy has identified a number of key themes, including: Missing, Exploitation, Transitions, Healthy Relationships, Mental Health, Social Media, Contextual Safeguarding, Radicalisation, Harmful Sexual Behaviour, Neglect and Domestic Abuse.

427 The purpose of the Child Exploitation Sub-Group is to provide strategic oversight, scrutiny and challenge in response to how partners will work together to safeguard and promote those young people who are at risk of harm, exploitation and abuse.

428 The Child Exploitation Sub-Group is responsible for:

- Driving forward the Adolescent Strategy and monitoring the associated action plan.
- Consider the themes which are set out in the Adolescent Strategy
- The Child Exploitation Sub-Group will provide strategic oversight and scrutiny of the monthly operational MACEM meetings. The MACEM meeting should also provide quarterly updates to this meeting including information pertaining to Data, Trusted Relationships Project and Good Practice examples.
- Reviewing any national, regional or local learning and develop learning resources such as briefings, one minute guides and reports which can be disseminated to front line professionals, partners and stakeholders in respect of Child Exploitation.

- For the development of multi-agency practices and procedures in relation to Child Exploitation.
- Responsible for reviewing the CYSCP data set, to ensure that this group has oversight of performance management data to ensure efficiency and effectiveness of operational activity.
- Receive updates from partners and other partnerships i.e. Modern Slavery Partnership to drive forward performance and to ensure that data pertaining to child exploitation is interrogated and understood and that trends and patterns receive proportionate scrutiny.

429 This group chaired by Detective Chief Inspector, North Yorkshire Police and meets on a quarterly basis.

### **430 Multi-Agency Exploitation and Missing Meetings (MACEM) & Risk Management Meetings (RAM)**

431 During 2019/20 the City of York Council have also focused on improving social work practice across the service and identified that significant work was needed to strengthen the partnership responses to missing children and those vulnerable to exploitation. Senior managers within the Council committed to creating a larger, more specialist resource to engage directly with these children, aimed at reducing risk and increasing resilience.

432 To support this approach the CYSCP have monthly MACEM meetings whereby partner agencies are able to share information where there are concerns that a child or young person is at risk of, is being exploited, or is frequently missing from home or care. These meetings are currently led by Children's Social Care and the Police. The Child Exploitation Subgroup is therefore retains strategic oversight of these meetings.

433 In addition, to the MACEM meetings multi-agency Risk Assessment Meeting (RAM) has been established to assess and review children open to the City of York Council's Children's Service where a risk of Child Sexual Exploitation/Child Criminal Exploitation. (CSE/CCE) or Trafficking has been identified; and/or where there are concerns about children or young people who have been missing from home, care or education.

434 The RAM will also consider children and young people, about whom there are similar concerns, who are in the care of other Local Authorities and are placed in the City of York Council area.

435 The RAM is a multi-agency approach to the sharing of information about, and safeguarding of, children and young people who are vulnerable to any form of exploitation. The RAM is designed to provide a weekly operational, integrated and proactive response to children vulnerable to Exploitation and Missing from Home.

## 436 MASH Strategic Board and MASH Operational Subgroup

437 The MASH Strategic Board was established following the implementation of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) which replaced the Children's Front Door in July 2019. The purpose of this Board is to:

- provide strategic oversight and direction to the CYSCP MASH.
- to receive assurance and provide challenge regarding safe and effective implementation of multi-agency decision making across the partnership in relation to the safeguarding of vulnerable children.
- to share, contribute and engage in new ways of working, taking forward learning and best practice in multi-agency decision making
- review and interrogate data pertaining to the MASH

438 This group is chaired by the Director of Children's Services Safeguarding, is attended by strategic leads from partner agencies and meets on a quarterly basis. A quarterly assurance report is provided to the CYSCP Executive which reports on the work of the group including any risks.

439 The MASH Operational Subgroup is chaired by the, Head of MASH, Assessment and Integrated Services, Children's Social Care. The chair of this operational subgroup is also represented on the MASH Strategic Board and acts as a conduit between both of the meetings, and providing an overview report of progress within the MASH and any outstanding risks.

440 The purpose of this meeting is to:

- provide assurance to the Multi-agency strategic group regarding safe practice and decision making, escalating any quality performance, conflict or risks.
- provide oversight and direction through standard operational procedures.
- through audit, review, feedback and challenge the operational group will ensure safe and effective multiagency decision making.
- ensure continuous improvement through multi agency review and action planning.

## 5.0 Membership and Relevant Agencies

5.1 The CYSCP are committed to ensure that there is consistent membership across all of the CYSCP meetings. The three statutory partners are represented and chair each of the CYSCP meetings.

5.2 Relevant agencies are those organisations and agencies (whose involvement) that the safeguarding partners consider to safeguard and promote the welfare of local children. Strong effective multi-agency arrangements are ones that are responsive to local circumstances and engage the right people.

5.3 The CYSCP have a number of relevant agencies who attend a number of the subgroups and Partnership Development sessions. These arrangements are strengthened within the Terms of Reference of each CYSCP Meeting.

5.4 The list of relevant agencies can be found in Appendix A.

## 6.0 Child Death Review Panel (CDOP)

- 61 The CDOP arrangements are undertaken cross-border and cover the geographical areas of City of York and North Yorkshire County Council, with learning enhanced by collaboration with other regional neighbours.
- 62 It has been agreed by the Child Death Review Partners (CDRP), namely the Clinical Commissioning Groups across York and North Yorkshire and both Local Authorities, that CDOP will report to the Safeguarding Children Partnership Arrangements in each local authority, given that the statutory CDRP make up two of the three Safeguarding Partners; the third being North Yorkshire Police who are also involved in CDOP processes.
- 63 The CDOP is not a subgroup of the CYSCP, rather it has a 'dotted line' in terms of the governance structure and should report any relevant safeguarding issues to the Partnership. It is chaired by the Public Health Consultant, City of York Council. The CDOP Panel continues to meet bi-monthly and provides reports on activity to each of the York and the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnerships and publishes an Annual Report.
- 64 The CDRP and the CYSCP Interim Business Manager are also members of the Strategic CDOP Meetings.

## 7.0 Independent Scrutiny

- 71 Following the revision to Working Together in 2018 there was no longer a requirement to have an Independent Chair. This role was replaced by the role of Independent Scrutineer who acts as a constructive critical friend and promotes reflection to drive continuous improvement and provides assurance in judging the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area.
- 72 The previous Independent Chair (Simon Westwood) left at the end of March 2020. Following the review of the CYSCP it was agreed by the three statutory partners to recruit to the Independent Scrutineer role Maggie Atkinson was successfully appointed into this role in September 2020 and was in this role until December 2022.
- 73 Following Dr Maggie Atkinson's departure, the CYSCP, it was agreed by the three statutory partners to recruit a new Independent Scrutineer. Mel John-Ross was successfully appointed into this role in January 2023.
- 74 Mel John-Ross brings a wealth of experience to the new role, as a qualified children's social worker, serving as an Executive Director for Children's Services at Barnsley MBC.
- 75 The purpose of the Independent Scrutineer is to ensure that local multi agency safeguarding arrangements operate effectively and provide assurance to the CYSCP and that all relevant organisations and agencies co-operate to safeguard and promote the

welfare of all children in the City of York.

- 76 To provide objective scrutiny, constructive challenge, appreciative inquiry and assurance in judging the effectiveness of local multi-agency arrangements, including arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding practice reviews.
- 77 To work independent of, but closely with the statutory safeguarding partners as set out in Working Together 2018 ensuring effective implementation of all agreed functions including statutory functions within statutory timescales and responding to local identified priorities.
- 78 To provide independent scrutiny of the annual report which the safeguarding partners must publish at least once a year.
- 79 Within the City of York it has also been agreed for the Independent Scrutineer to meet with the three statutory safeguarding partners and chief officers/leaders of each statutory safeguarding organisation on a six monthly basis to provide objective scrutiny, constructive challenge, and assurance regarding the CYSCP.

## 8.0 Education and Early Years

- 81 In the City of York there are total of 69 schools (out of the primary and secondary schools 31 of those have academy status) of which;
  - 51 are Primary Schools
  - 9 are Secondary Schools
  - 6 are Independent Schools
  - 2 are Special Schools
  - 1 Pupil Referral Unit
- 82 In addition, there are 129 registered childminders, 28 pre-schools, 43 Nurseries and 32 Out of School Clubs.
- 83 Schools (including academies and independent schools) and Early Years are represented through the CYSCP arrangements and at subgroup meetings. Additionally, there is a joint City of York and North Yorkshire.
- 84 The City of York has a dedicated School Safeguarding Advisor, who sits within the Local Authority Virtual School and Inclusion Team, CYC Children and Families Directorate. The purpose of the School Safeguarding Advisor is to provide advice and support to schools in meeting their safeguarding responsibilities and in developing their safeguarding arrangements. The School Safeguarding Advisor is also an active member of the CYSCP and represents schools at a number of subgroups. In addition, she delivers training via face-to-face sessions with Designated Safeguarding Leads and bespoke safeguarding training sessions (including safer recruitment) with whole schools, governors, and with taxi and bus drivers who are contracted to provide school transport.
- 85 The CYSCP Executive agreed in March 2021 their approach to how they seek assurance regarding safeguarding arrangements in schools as per Section 175/157, Education Act

(2002).As a result a [CYSCP Schools Assurance Protocol](#) was produced outlining the process. It is agreed that a rolling programme of Individual Safeguarding Reviews is undertaken by the School Safeguarding Advisor. These reviews will also be proactively offered to schools where it is felt that there is a need/requirement due to information from risk assessments or where potential issues arising from parental concerns or from partners. The reviews involve a half day site visit, with a detailed report being produced containing recommendations and actions. A copy of the report is also retained by the Local Authority for oversight and assurance. Schools are then supported by the School Safeguarding Advisor as needed to implement the recommendations. It has been agreed that the findings of the School Audit visits would be reported back to the CYSCP Executive on a termly basis, together with any key issues identified by schools.

- 86 The School Attendance Officer also provides data to the partnership around children missing from education, those who are Electively Home Educated and information regarding children missing from education and the steps taken to locate them.
- 87 Using the Early Adopters funding, the CYSCP developed a ‘Young People’s Social Media Project’ which has now been completed. The aim of the project was for it to be led by young people and their views, in order to develop a Young People’s Guide to Safe Social Media Use, together with teaching resources, to help young people navigate their social media interactions safely and protect their wellbeing. The project, a collaboration between safeguarding partners and the University of York St John, worked with young people across the city to develop the guide and resources. The resources can be used in schools to form part of their on-line safety and relationships education provision. These resources were launched during Safeguarding Week in June 2021. Further information can be found on the CYSCP website: <https://www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/safeguarding-information/contextual-safeguarding-1/5>
- 88 The CYSCP also maintains contact with schools via the electronic newsletter, website and Twitter. The CYSCP use these platforms to disseminate key messages, share new documents and keep partners updated with new developments.

## 9.0 Threshold

- 91 Within the City of York, the CYSCP updated the Level of Needs document (Threshold document) in April 2020 which provides a more aligned multi-agency framework for assessing and responding to need and risks of children across universal, early help, targeted intervention and safeguarding.
- 92 This document is a guide and a starting point to assist practitioners to come to a common understanding. It provides help and guidance to practitioners at all levels, working in the statutory, public, voluntary and independent sectors who work with children and their families.
- 93 It allows practitioners to identify levels of need and risk through the use of indicators related to outcomes. It also supports practitioners in determining how their service can

best support and work alongside children.

- 94 The [Level of Needs Guidance](#) is available on the CYSCP website for all professionals, partners, stakeholders and members of the public to access.

## 10.0 Resolution of Dispute

- 10.1 Working Together 2018 (p 80) specifies that: ‘Safeguarding partners and relevant agencies must act in accordance with the arrangements for their area, and will be expected to work together to resolve any disputes locally’.
- 10.2 The CYSCP Resolution of Disputes Practice Guidance outlines principles and processes, when and at what stage, concerns should be escalated to the CYSCP, including the referral of cases for consideration for a Child Safeguarding Practice Review.
- 10.3 The Resolution of Dispute Practice Guidance is available on the [CYSCP website](#).

## 11.0 Annual Reporting

- 11.1 The three Statutory Safeguarding Partners will publish an Annual Report setting out what has been done by the Partnership, and the partners, to safeguard children and young people during the previous year and how effective the partnership arrangements have been.
- 11.2 Within the City of York, it has also been agreed for the Independent Scrutineer to provide a separate Scrutineer Annual Assurance Report. This report is included as an Appendix within the published Annual Report.
- 11.3 The CYSCP Annual Report is published on the CYSCP website and copies will be sent to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and the What Works Centre for Children’s Social Care within seven days of being published as per the requirement set out in Working Together (2018). This report is also disseminated across all our partners and stakeholders for dissemination throughout their organisations.

## 12.0 Funding

- 12.1 The CYSCP budget is derived from contributions from a number of partners. As well as direct funding the CYSCP is also provided with services in kind by a number of agencies.

## 13.0 Information Sharing

- 13.1 As outlined in Working Together (2018) there is a requirement for all organisations to share information effectively, amongst and between them, to improve outcomes for children and their families. There is also a requirement for partners to share information with the CYSCP following a request from the three statutory partners, i.e. a request to share information when undertaking reviews.
- 13.2 The CYSCP partners are committed to sharing information and adhere to the [local multi-agency information sharing protocol](#) and national [Department for Education information sharing guidance](#).

## 14.0 Business Unit for the CYSCP

14.1 The CYSCP is supported by a dedicated Business Unit who co-ordinates the work of the safeguarding children partnership. Members of the Business Unit comprise of: Business Manager (1FTE), Performance & Governance Officers (1.5FTE) and Business Support (0.6 FTE)



## Appendix A

The list of relevant agencies are as follows:

- North Yorkshire Police
- York Health and Care Partnership
- City of York Council
  - » Lead Member for Children, Education and Young People
  - » Children's Services, City of York Council
  - » Legal Services, City of York Council
  - » Adult Services, City of York Council
  - » Housing Services, City of York Council
  - » Education Services, City of York Council
  - » SEN, City of York Council
  - » Youth Justice Service, City of York Council
- York and Scarborough Teaching Hospital Foundation Trust
- Tees & Esk Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust
- Public Health
- Healthy Child Service
- Leeds & York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- NHS England
- YorSexual Health
- Probation
- CAFCASS
- HMP Askham Grange
- York CVS
- IDAS
- York Drug and Alcohol Service, Changing Lives
- York Adults Safeguarding Board
- York Racial Equality Network