

City of York

Safeguarding Children Partnership



City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership

Annual Report

2019/2020



Executive Summary

This is the first annual report of the new City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership (CYSCP). The CYSCP was established in April 2019 and has been in existence longer than many other Partnerships in England as we were part of the Early Adopters Programme.

The overarching vision of CYSCP is **'For all the children of York to grow up in safety and always feel safe'**.

This annual report covers the period from 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020 and sets out the work that has been undertaken by partners and the subgroups of the CYSCP during that time including its successes. The Partnership has gone from strength to strength and saw the launch of the new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub in July 2019.

At the beginning of March 2020 we faced a global pandemic, which saw a new virus Covid-19. We responded quickly as a Partnership and adapted our ways of working by working remotely and virtually. We have continued to work together, learn from each other and have shared best practice. As well as maintaining our links with other Boards and Partnerships to ensure that **'Safeguarding is Everyone's Business'** (Working Together, 2018).

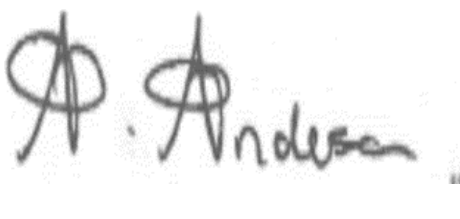
Our greatest asset during this challenging period has been our incredible safeguarding workforce, whom have tirelessly worked throughout these difficult times. All or of our services have adapted to ensure that children, families and communities have been supported throughout.

We have ensured that schools have remained open for those children whom are vulnerable and for those children whose parent/carer is a key worker staff. Partners have also worked together to ensure that there have been bespoke support packages for those children who are vulnerable and at most risk.

As a partnership we recognise the progress that has been made during 2019/20 and we will continue to work together to meet our priorities during 2020/21.



Amanda Hatton
Director of Children's
Service, City of York Council



Annette Anderson
Assistant Chief Constable,
North Yorkshire Police



Michelle Carrington
Executive Director of Quality
and Nursing, NHS Vale of
York Clinical Commissioning
Group

Introduction

The new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements (MASA) 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.

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

- City of York Council
- North Yorkshire Police
- Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group

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.

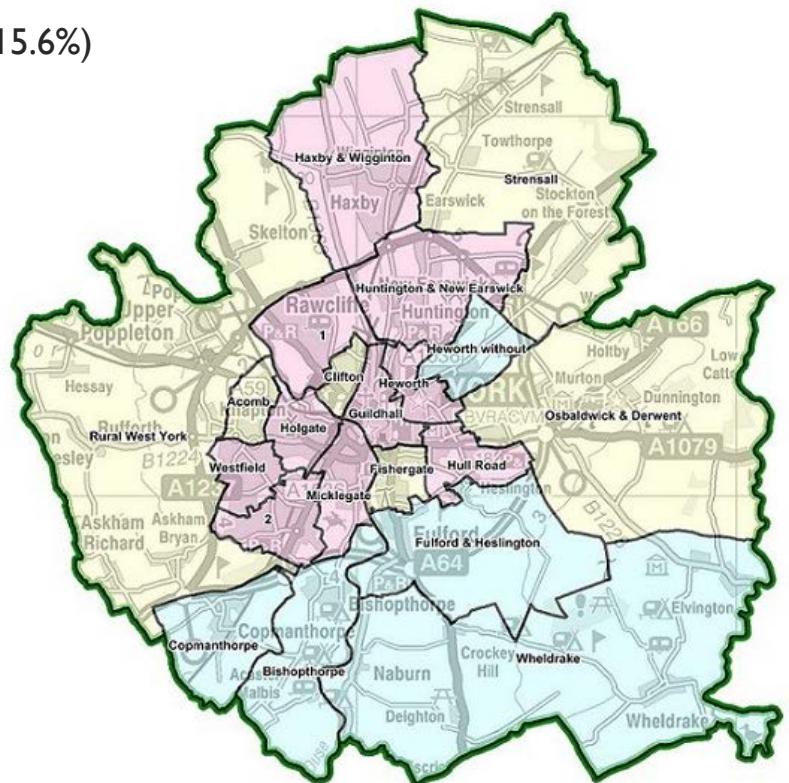
During 2019/20 the CYSCP continued to work towards its priorities as outlined in the Business Plan. Further details of the work the CYSCP has undertaken is highlighted within this report.

About York

York is a cathedral city and unitary authority area in North Yorkshire. Located at the confluence of the Rivers Ouse and Foss, it is known for its famous historical landmarks such as York Minster and the city walls, as well as a variety of cultural and sporting activities, which makes it a popular tourist destination. 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.

The population of the council area which includes nearby villages is 209,893 (ONS population estimates)

- Children aged 0 – 15 years = 32,742 (15.6%)
- Median age = 37.7
- Density per sq. KM = 774
- Hectares = 27,201



CYSCP 2019/20 Overview of Data:

Education

69 schools

31 academies 51 primaries 9 secondary 6 independent 2 special 1 PRU

% pupils attending good or outstanding schools = 91%

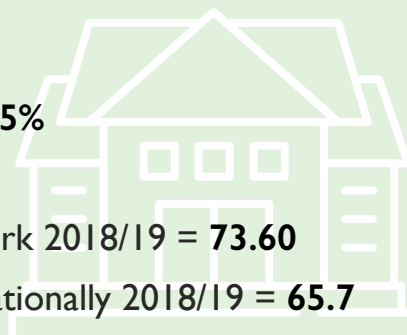
% after school clubs achieving good or outstanding = 100%

% take up of early education places by eligible 2 year olds = 75.5%

% year 12 – 13 NEETS = 2.4%

% pupils achieving 9 – 4 or above in GCSE English and maths York 2018/19 = 73.60

% pupils achieving 9 – 4 or above in GCSE English and maths nationally 2018/19 = 65.7



Safeguarding

During 2019/20 there were 7777 contacts to Children's Services via the Children's Front Door, which was replaced by Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) in July 2019. It is envisaged that the increase was due to the recent changes from the Children's Front Door to the MASH and the awareness of the new service.

2017/18 = 5270 2018/19 = 5523 2019/20 = 7777

Children subject to CPP per 10,000

2017/18 = 45 2018/19 = 43.51 2019/20 = 64.59

Factors identified in single assessments:

Alcohol misuse = 244

Drug misuse = 198

Domestic Violence = 439

Mental Health = 521

Learning disability = 90

Physical Disability = 112

Young carer = 12

Privately fostered = 4

Unaccompanied

Asylum-Seeking
Children = 3

Missing = 24

Child Sexual
Exploitation = 28

Trafficking = 7

Gangs = 6

Self-Harm = 45

Socially unacceptable behaviour = 65

Neglect = 251

Emotional Abuse = 281

Physical Abuse = 106

Sexual Abuse = 52

Other = 2109

Abuse linked to faith or belief = 3

FGM = 0

% CPP due to:

Neglect = 62.76 Sexual Abuse = 4.60 Emotional abuse = 29.29 Physical Abuse = 4.07

Other Data

Return interviews = 504 missing incident/286 return interviews

Rate of children in care per 10k = 70.81 - 262 in total

FEHAs initiated = 245

Finance 2019/20

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.

Expenditure	2019/20 (£)	Income	2019/20 (£)
		Balance brought forward from 18/19	£(27,885)
Staffing	£137,304	CYC Children's Services	£(68,738)
Training	£12,178	Vale of York CCG	£(78,991)
Other	£11,254	North Yorkshire Police	£(33,011)
Child Death Review Grant	£12,000	NPS North Yorkshire & CRC	£(2,211)
Management charges	£18,840	Schools	£(50,000)
Independent Chair	£18,100	CAFCASS	£(550)
		Child Death Review Grant	£(12,000)
		Harmful & Sexual Behaviour with NSPCC – CYC, CCG & Police	£(5,500)
Total Expenditure	£209,676	Total Income	£(278,886)

Development of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) in York replaced the Children's Front Door Service in July 2019. The MASH is a multi-agency team made up of representatives from a range of services, including Social Care, Early Help, Police and local Health Professionals. It is a single point of contact for all concerns about children. This new partnership approach will make it easier to support children, young people and their families to get the right level of support as quickly as possible.

In addition the CYSCP reviewed and updated the multi-agency level of needs document (threshold document), the multi-agency referral form and the multi-agency response form.

During 2020/21 (Monday 1st June – Friday 5th June) the CYSCP held a virtual campaign 'York MASH: Safeguarding Children Together' which saw the virtual launch of the MASH. The awareness campaign aimed to highlight the work of the MASH in York, [the new multi-agency level of needs document \(threshold document\)](#), [the multi-agency referral form and the multi-agency response form](#).

During the campaign the MASH Awareness tweets were seen on the CYSCP Twitter account by over 74,000 users, there were over 2000 hits to the CYSCP Landing Page and 1400 hits to the 'Concerned about a Child' page. The new MASH Threshold document was downloaded 419 times, the MASH Referral Form 274 times, and the MASH Referral Response Form 101 times.

The progress of the MASH continues to be supported and monitored by the MASH Strategic and Operational groups.

Safeguarding in Education

The City of York's School Safeguarding Advisor provides safeguarding support to schools and colleges on safeguarding issues. During 2019/20 the Schools Safeguarding Advisor has provided training to designated safeguarding leads, school governors and school transport providers and has carried out bespoke training sessions with schools. In addition, the School Safeguarding Advisor continues to support schools with their safeguarding policies and procedures, to enable them to be inspection-ready.

The City of York was part of the national Early Adopters Scheme and secured funding from the DfE to focus on engagement with education providers and young people in the new safeguarding partnership arrangements. The School Safeguarding Advisor, working closely with schools and partner agencies led on this piece of work. A 'Safeguarding in Education' conference was held in April 2019 and included key note and workshop inputs from the NSPCC, the Police, IDAS, Changing Lives, the School Wellbeing Service, The Local Area Teams and young people from 'Fulford Minds.' The conference was attended by 120 delegates from schools across the City.

As part of the Early Adopters work with schools, the impact of social media use on young people's wellbeing was identified as a key issue. A 'Young People's Social Media project' involving St John University Psychology Department and the NSPCC was launched by an event held in November, with young people attending from the city's schools. The aim of the project is for it to be led by young people and their views, in order to develop a young people's guide and teaching resources to help them to navigate their social media interactions safely.

Subgroup achievements

Early Help Partnership Subgroup

The Early Help Partnership has been chaired by North Yorkshire Police, which reflects the equal responsibilities of the three statutory partners in the Safeguarding Children Partnership.

The Early Help Partnership has representation from a number of partners including Children Social Care, Early Help, Health, Police, Education and third sector organisations, all of whom are active members.

During 2019/20 the Early Help Partnership has completed various pieces of work to evidence, develop and promote the Early Help provision for children and young people across the City of York. Highlights include:

- A review of the Terms of Reference which identified gaps in services attending and resulted in amendments. This group now includes wider representation including schools.
- During 2019/20 the [Early Help Strategy \(2020-2023\)](#) has been reviewed and updated, the updated strategy is now available on the CYSCP website.
- A multi-agency Early Help Audit was commissioned which specifically looked at identifying need, assessing need and interventions which is reflected in the revised Working Together (2018).
- Undertook an audit in respect of Family Early Help Assessment (FEHA), which is used to assess the needs of children, young people and families to determine the need for Early Help support. The actions taken are to improve outcomes, based on a holistic view of the needs of the family.
- The Troubled Families Programme have provided regular updates to the Early Help Partnership and have identified families who require additional support.
- The outcomes, findings and identified areas for development have been used by the Early Help Partnership to create a multi-agency action plan to improve the partnership response to Early Help support to children, young people and their families across the City of York.

Neglect Subgroup

The Neglect subgroup is tasked by the CYSCP with identifying and developing ways to enhance professional's awareness of and judgement in identifying, responding to, and addressing neglect and strengthening multi-agency responses to effectively tackling neglect.

The Neglect subgroup is responsible for developing a strategic approach to Neglect across the City of York and continues to embed the principles, objectives and priorities set within the [Multi-Agency Neglect Strategy \(2019-2022\)](#). Additionally, the subgroup continues to raise awareness and understanding of the signs and symptoms of neglect and how to assess, intervene and escalate concerns. This is targeted to all staff in the agencies represented in the Safeguarding Partnership and others as relevant, thus helping to ensure an effective citywide response.

Agencies Responses in Regard to Neglect

Primary Care

Neglect remains on the agenda for safeguarding in Primary Care and training during this year has been delivered at 'Hot Topics' GP training sessions.

During 2019/20 an audit was undertaken with the City of York GP's around 'Was Not Brought' (WNB) to seek assurance that the North Yorkshire and York Primary Care WNB guidance is being followed and any missed appointments are being looked at as potential safeguarding issues. The audit identified that when children and young people are not brought to GP appointments, clinicians act proactively to follow up these cases. The audit highlighted areas of good practice including:

- Clinicians review of the records to ascertain if WNB episode is a cause for concern and the GP safeguarding lead is contacted if there are concerns.
- The GP safeguarding lead considers the impact of missed appointments and considers whether this is a safeguarding concern. If a safeguarding concern has been identified then the multi-agency safeguarding procedures are followed.
- There is good liaison with the City of York 0-19 Healthy Child Service.
- GP practices are also coding missed appointments as the 'Child Was Not Brought' rather than Did Not Attend (DNA). This enables practitioners to review historical concerns when new concerns arise and also demonstrates a change of culture where children are recognised as not being responsible for not attending an appointment.

York Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (YTHFT)

One of the key developments for the Trust in relation to Neglect was the development and implementation of the Was Not Brought (WNB) Pathway.

This pathway was developed for the procedure for management of children not attending appointments (Was Not Brought) and was introduced in YTHFT in May 2017. The pathway was developed following a recommendation from a Learning Lessons Review (LLR) published by the City of York Safeguarding Children Board in 2016, in relation to Child A, a case which presented a number of potential indicators of neglect including numerous missed health appointments with YTHFT.

An initial audit of the compliance with the pathway and impact of its use was completed in October 2017. This identified that further work was required to promote and embed the pathway.

It has been identified for 2020/21 for a further joint audit to be undertaken between York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Primary Care around WNB appointments.

YTHFT deliver specific training in relation to Neglect as part of the Level 3 statutory and mandatory training offer for the Trust. This includes guidance on explaining the impact on the child(ren) of the potential neglectful action by the parent / carer and assessing risk and safety.

NYP Continuous Professional Development Training Program

Throughout 2019/20 NYP has continued to focus on developing front line staff awareness of the signs of Neglect. Mandatory training packages have been created for all Police Officers providing advice and guidance on Neglect and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), highlighting their responsibility to act and the support options available.

Due to an increase in recruitment of student Police Officers, the NYP Safeguarding team have initiated a direct input into the initial officer training program. Through scenario and real life case studies, NYP are focused on developing a strong foundation of Officers with a safeguarding mentality, equipped with the skills and knowledge to identify abuse through professional curiosity.

NYP Singular notification / referral process

NYP have now introduced a single notification procedure for all concerns regarding children and vulnerable adults. The new process (PPN) utilises recently adopted mobile data devices, operated by all front line officers, allowing them to quickly and efficiently raise their concerns. Prior to sharing with partner agencies, on a daily basis NYP safeguarding specialists review all police notifications looking for opportunities to identify signs of neglect and the need for urgent intervention, that may not have already been addressed. This procedure provides a holistic approach to risk management via multi-level scrutiny.

Children's Social Care (CSC)

During 2019/20 partners have contributed towards the development of the Adolescent Strategy in partnership with CSC. This strategy's overall scope is to improve outcomes for Children in the adolescence stage of life and also considers the neglect of teenagers in their own right. This strategy is due to be launched in 2020/21.

Early Help and Local Area Teams

The revised Early Help Strategy has been launched which focuses on developing an environment in which vulnerable individuals are identified and engaged with at the earliest point, so that they and their families' needs do not escalate to requiring a statutory and costly intervention.

The Early Help training offer has been established and has started to be delivered by the Local Area Teams to multi-agency teams. The training includes:

- Early Help – Building Relationships with families we support.
- Early Help – Recognise Vulnerability and your role in supporting Children, Young People and Families.
- Early Help- The Whole Family; Listening to Everyone.
- Early Help – Using the FEHA Tool; How to be an Effective Lead Practitioner.

The Local Area Teams are also able to provide training around the use of the Graded Care Profile. The Graded Care Profile helps professionals to be clear as to what the basic needs of a child are, and to what degree they are being met. This allows practitioners to make reasoned and explicit judgements in relation to Neglect.

The Local Area Teams have supported the use of the Neglect Screening Tool through the MASH and with link work with schools and other early help partners.

Staff within the Local Area Teams continue to provide a critical role in supporting the wider children's workforce in the delivery of Early Help and early signs of Neglect both at a case level but also in terms of wider support in accessing support services, appropriate provision for families and training to support their role with children and families.

Healthy Child Service

During 2019/20 the Healthy Child Service has continued to deliver the five mandated healthy child programme contacts to residents of York, these include:

- Antenatal appointments
- New birth visit
- 6-8 week review
- 1 year review
- 2 year review

The service has seen improvements in the uptake of the offer across all the contacts which in turn enables early identification of emerging neglect for more infants and children.

The Graded Care Profile is a key tool that the HCS staff group have access to and training for Healthy Child Service Health Visitors is prioritised. All staff will have the opportunity for the Graded Care Profile refresher course when it next becomes available.

In contribution to the dental neglect agenda, the Healthy Child Service staff now ask parents at each mandated contact if their child has been seen in the last 12 months by a dentist (not just if their child is registered with a dentist) to promote the importance of dental health and identifies issues with access to dental services.

During 2020/21 the Healthy Child Service is keen to develop a home conditions assessment tool that is based on others already used in community child health that will be used routinely for universal contacts. This will support standardisation of the assessment of home conditions, support work with parents and will prompt the use of the Graded Care Profile or Neglect screening tool as required. Development of the home conditions assessment tool has been temporarily paused during the Covid -19 pandemic but the Healthy Child Service will seek to involve partners in its development when work starts again.

Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation/Missing and Harmful Sexual Behaviour Subgroup (CSA&E)

The CSA&E subgroup was established to deliver against a key priority of Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation. The remit was expanded in 2015 to include Children Missing from Home and Care (MFHC) to reflect the clear linkages between CSA&E and in 2018 this subgroup also included a focus on Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB).

During 2019/20, this subgroup has:

- Examined the findings of the HSB task and finish group as well as the themes that emerged from a Learning Lessons Review (LLR) where HSB had been a significant factor. The subgroup made recommendations to the CYSCP about the need for strategic decisions to be made on how the partnership could raise awareness of HSB, improve understanding and practice in this area and develop service provision. This work led to the CYSCP Partnership commissioning the NSPCC nationally to undertake the HSB framework audit. A launch event was held in November 2019 and was attended by over 50 representatives from across the partnership from both statutory and voluntary agencies. 15 audits were completed, analysed and validation meetings have been held. Due to Covid it was not possible to hold the dissemination event as originally planned however an alternative plan was agreed for the NSPCC to report to the Partnership on the key themes and findings from the audits and for work to begin on shaping a multi-agency response and dissemination plan. This will include the development of a new multi-agency strategy for HSB.
- A task and finish group has been established to update multi-agency policies and procedures in cases where HSB is a factor.
- Identified, through regular monitoring of data, the low numbers of children subject to a Child Protection Plan (CPP) where Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) was the category of concern. The position in York was in line with national data trends and was a factor highlighted within the JTAI Thematic Report. The group considered the implications of this and felt strongly that without specific focus on CSA it was possible that the impact of CSA might not be addressed. The group recommended introducing dual categories for child protection plans whenever child sexual abuse was a factor in a case. This decision was taken to ensure that the issues of concern relating to CSA did not become 'hidden' or forgotten when Neglect or Emotional Abuse was the decision for a CPP. A pilot to review and analyse the impact and outcomes for children subject to dual CPP identified has been implemented. The pilot will be audited and reviewed in 6 months' time to identify if there has been any identified benefits to this way of working or any barriers to implementation.
- Lessons Learned – The group has worked hard to share knowledge and key learnings from partner agencies and ensure the voice of the child is heard and understood. Case studies are regularly brought to the sub-group from different organisations e.g. Child Sexual Assault Assessment Centre, Hand in Hand, PACE and NSPCC. This learning is disseminated throughout the Partnership. There will be greater focus in 2020/21 on learning can be shared more widely. Chairs of this sub-group and the CRAG have worked in response to the LLR and contributed to an LLR workshop to be disseminated about the Partnership.
- Other reports and data are received and analysed on the work of the MACEM, the Trusted Relationships initiative, the numbers of children missing and return interviews completed as well as the number of children accessing child sexual abuse services.

MACEM

A Multi Agency Child Exploitation Meeting (MACEM) process has been established by Children's Social Care jointly with North Yorkshire Police. This monthly meeting focuses on all aspects of Child Exploitation and includes those young people transitioning to Adult Services. This meeting is very well represented by partners including Health, Education, Drug & Alcohol Services, Mental Health Service among others and helps reduce the chances of agencies working in silos or duplicating work/resources.

The purpose of this meeting is to allow regular information sharing and action planning to tackle Child Exploitation. The meeting panel members consider each referral against intelligence held by the range of agencies represented at the meeting, and intelligence provided by additional agencies unable to attend meetings.

The MACEM runs alongside the safeguarding process to ensure all information in relation to Exploitation is collated at a central point.

The outcome of the MACEM is to complete risk and reduction plans to further help safeguard the victim and target the perpetrator. This plan of action will also identify and direct the involvement of other agencies not yet involved who may assist in further reducing the risk of harm.

The CYSCP agreed to audit the effectiveness of MACEM in November 2019. This audit was positive and the recommendations from this audit are now to be implemented. This included the use of Business Support for meeting minutes and agreed timeframes for actions.

Further to the MACEM there is also weekly intelligence sharing meetings chaired by the Community Safety team. This has been pivotal in helping increase the speed at which the Community Safety team, Housing and Police are able to take enforcement action in order to disrupt concerns such as county lines activities.

CSC Exploitation Team

During early 2020 senior managers within the City of York Council committed to creating a larger, more specialist resource to engage directly with children who are experiencing or who are at risk of exploitation, with the aim of reducing risk and increasing resilience. The Exploitation team's focus, will be to identify those children most at risk of exploitation in the City, co-ordinate mapping activity, share and collate intelligence and develop approaches to the investigation of exploitation and vulnerability such that offenders are identified and young people are effectively helped. This team will work alongside Police, Health and Education colleagues as well as the Youth Justice Service.

The Exploitation team focuses on direct work and engagement with young people and their families. This carefully planned work with skilled workers aims to engage with young people and their carers to help understand their specific needs and strengths; as well as the impact of abuse and trauma.

Trusted Relationships Project in York

The [York North Yorkshire and Trusted Relationships](#) project is one of 11 initiatives across the country to have been funded by the Home Office to improve support to young people at risk of exploitation and abuse. The project centres on the implementation of a multi-agency collaborative approach to identification and support for children and young people **who are primarily at risk of or subject to Child Criminal Exploitation** (including County Lines, Child Sexual Exploitation and Modern Slavery). 'Trusted Relationship' trained mentors are identified for each young person with the ambition to foster positive long-term relationships and develop protective factors to build resilience in this highly vulnerable population.

Hand in Hand Service for Vulnerable Young People in York

During 2019/20 the Hand in Hand, delivered by the Children's Society were commissioned by the Office of the Police Fire & Crime Commissioner (OPFCC) to support children and young people, across City of York and North Yorkshire, who are affected by Child Sexual and Criminal Exploitation, or who are vulnerable to grooming. The aim of the service is to reduce the harm and incidence of Child Sexual and Criminal Exploitation and provide support and safety for those affected by it.

The service will:

- Raise awareness and develop and implement preventative strategies.
- Provide intensive individual support.
- Provide localised expertise through training and information events.
- Contribute to multi-agency district-wide work (e.g. the Multi-agency Child Exploitation Meetings (MACEM) and the Trusted Relationships Project) to identify and support victims and disrupt the organisation and facilitation of Child Sexual and Criminal Exploitation.

Further information the Hand in Hand Service or other commissioned services can be found on the [CYSCP Commissioned Service Page](#).

The Voice and Improvement Subgroup

A key strength of the Voice and Improvement Subgroup in York is a strong multi-agency commitment to the Voice and Young People. The Voice and Involvement Strategy was refreshed in 2017 and runs until 2020. The Voice and Involvement Strategy sets out the long term vision for the involvement of children and young people.

The Voice and Involvement Group is the key multi-agency group that drives the voice agenda in York. This brings together partners from the Local Authority, Health, Police, Education and the Voluntary and Community Sector organisations. The group takes forward the priorities set out in the Voice Strategy and provides a forum for partners to collaborate and support the development of high quality practice in the city.

During 2019/20 key achievements have included:

- The Review of Voice in 2019 summarised the key mechanisms by which children and young people in York can be involved in decisions that affect them. These participation opportunities take place on an individual, group and whole population level.
- Areas of particular strength for York are the range and effectiveness of various participation groups for children and young people. This includes York's Children in Care Council, Youth Council as well as other participation groups such as North Yorkshire Youth Commission, York Mind Participation group, CAMHS participation group, Young Carers Revolution and Refugee Action York.
- There has been significant developments of large scale engagement of children and young people through the Make Your Mark ballot, 12 moves to an inclusive York and Healthwatch York. The Make Your Mark ballot continues to secure strong engagement from schools across York and provided a detailed view on the priorities of children and young people across the city. The 12 moves to an inclusive York sets out young people's views on required action to improve inclusion across the city. This work also builds on the development of stronger arrangements to hear the voice of SEND children and young people.
- Healthwatch York have historically struggled to secure the engagement of children and young people. A bespoke piece of engagement work through schools and other agencies has provided Healthwatch York with a more detailed understanding of children and young people's views. All of the involvement exercises outlined above have informed those individual programmes of work. They have also provided invaluable information in the development of the new Children and Young People's Plan in 2020/21.
- In addition the group has supported the initial role out of the Mind of My Own application with children and young people open to CSC. This work will be built upon further throughout 2020/21.
- The Voice and Involvement Group has also supported the development of new multi-agency Early Help training. This was in response to an audit of Early Help Assessments showing a need to strengthen children and young people's voice within these.
- More recently the group has worked together to ensure children and young people are able to continue to have a voice throughout the response to the COVID-19 crisis.

During 2020/21 the Voice and Involvement Group will evaluate the delivery of the current Voice and Involvement Strategy before launching a refreshed strategy. This will set out the long term future aspirations for how children and young people have a voice in our city. A key priority in the short to medium term is to ensure that children and young people's experiences of COVID-19 is clearly heard and at the heart of developing any plan for recovery.

Case Review & Audit Group (CRAG)

The purpose of the Case Review and Audit Group (CRAG) is to carry out the functions of the City of York Safeguarding Partnership as described in Chapter 4 of Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2018 for improving child protection and safeguarding practice. The Terms of Reference for the group were updated in 2019 to reflect the changes in Working Together 2018 and the guidance from the National Panel.

Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

The CRAG reviews serious child safeguarding cases, at both local and national level to identify improvements to be made to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The CRAG is the means by which the CYSCP makes arrangements for commissioning and publishing local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews.

During 2019-20 the group reviewed progress against the actions plans form;

- **Child P Learning Lesson Review (LLR).** All actions from this review are completed including the introduction of the Harmful Sexual Behaviour Framework (HSB) across the partnership.
- **The NHSE led Significant Incident Investigation - 'Jane'.** Key actions from this case are completed including the introduction of the PAMIC assessment tool across the partnership which supports all practitioners to consider the impact of parental mental health on children.

The CRAG undertook one case consideration, Baby T which was progressed through to a Single Agency Review. It is anticipated that this review will be completed in autumn 2020 and the associated action plan will be monitored through 2020/21 by the CRAG.

Multi Agency Audit

During 2019/20, the sub-group undertook audits relating to:

- **Core Groups:** This audit established there was further work required across the partnership to ensure appropriate representation and administration of Core Group meetings.
- **Multiagency Child Exploitation Meetings (MACEM)** This audit identified how the introduction of MACE meetings has supported the partnerships across the City to identify and respond to children vulnerable to Exploitation. Further work is required to ensure all relevant agencies are engaged in the meetings in order to secure best outcomes for children and young people. Actions from this audit are monitored through the CRAG.

Single Agency Audit

During 2019-20 the CRAG was due to receive the York Teaching Hospitals and Primary Care audit into the effectiveness of 'Was Brought' procedures. This was scheduled to be presented February 2020 but was delayed to May 2020.

During 2020-21 the CRAG will start to receive the outcomes from single agency audits. This will enhance the partnerships ability to seek assurance that safeguarding children arrangements are in place across all relevant partner agencies.

CYSCP Multi-Agency Training, Learning and Development

Online training

During 2019/20 the City of York Safeguarding Children E-Learning Awareness course replaced the previous version, offering a more interactive style of e-learning and included updates in respect to the MASH.

During the year 4407 learners have passed the course. This course is used by a wide range of organisations however the largest users of this training are from both the Education sector and Early Years providers.

Face to Face training

During 2019/20 a full training offer based around the Partnership's priorities was delivered.

CYSCP Multi-Agency courses delivered in 2019/20	Sessions	Attendees
Safeguarding Children: A child's journey following a disclosure or a concern of CSA/CSE Bitesize	1	9
Safeguarding Children: Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Bitesize	2	29
Safeguarding Children: Awareness of Neglect in Children and Young People 2019/20	2	36
Safeguarding Children: Fabricated and Induced Illness (FII) Bitesize	2	29
Safeguarding Children: Harmful Sexual Behaviour and Learning Disabilities - Sharing Learning from a Learning Lessons Review	1	15
Safeguarding Children: Introduction to Child Protection Conferences and Core Groups 2019/20	2	43
Safeguarding Children: Safeguarding Disabled Children 2019/2020	1	10
Safeguarding Children: Shared Responsibilities and Procedures - Working Together B 2019/2020	6	100
Safeguarding Children: Understanding Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation 2019/2020	3	37
Safeguarding Children: Understanding Domestic Abuse and Children 2019/2020	3	47
Safeguarding Children: Working Together A 2019/20	7	156
Total	30	511

The CYSCP saw a slight increase in attendees and courses run during 2019/20 compared to the previous year.

In 2019/20 saw the introduction of short bitesize sessions; these are short focused multi-agency sessions facilitated by a safeguarding practitioner which introduce learners to a safeguarding topic and provide an opportunity for professionals to discuss and share experiences. During 2019/20 the CYSCP ran three bitesize sessions on:

- Fabricated and Induced Illness
- A child's journey following a disclosure or concern of child sexual abuse or exploitation
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

Social distancing measures put in place for coronavirus towards the end of 2019/20 impacted on training, with some courses having to be cancelled. This included a number of workshops to share the learning from a recent Learning Lessons Review on Harmful Sexual Behaviour and learning disabilities. However, the CYSCP Workforce Development Advisor has worked with providers and partners to address how multi-agency training can be delivered virtually during 2020/21.

In addition to the Partnership's commissioned courses, through the membership of the Yorkshire and Humber Multi-Agency Safeguarding Trainers Network (YHMAST) CYSCP partners were able to take up places at the YHMAST regional masterclass on Pornography, Sex, Pressures and Social Networks.

Evaluation of training, learning and development

E-learning evaluation Learners' ratings of e-learning

Evaluation data from 4185 learners shows that 99.5% of learners stated the course either fulfilled or exceeded their expectations. 99.6% stated they would be able to apply what they learnt in their work. Ratings of the specific course elements also score highly.

Face to face training evaluation

Evaluation returns show that the majority of attendees highly rate the quality of various course aspects. Evaluation returns also show that 74% of learners were "likely" to "very likely" to change the way they do things in the future as a result of the training commissioned by the Partnership.

Impact of training, learning and development

During 2019/20, a short survey has been used to capture examples from course attendees about the impact of training on their working practices 3-6 months after training has taken place. The full data for 2019/20 is not yet available but information collected to date provides the following picture.

55% of respondents said they had changed something in their working practice as a result of the learning they undertook through CYSCP.

The reasons provided about why training hadn't impacted on working practice generally centred on that practitioners had attended training as a refresher of their knowledge or that working practices were not in need of updating as a result of attending the training.

Impact on children and young people

Practitioners were also asked to provide examples of where their learning had directly and positively impacted on a child or young person. Several responses include generic examples about increased staff awareness of safeguarding issues, more confidence and being aware of other support services. Some practitioners could identify particular examples including supporting a child making a disclosure, engaging with a pupil and family, making a referral and following up with another agency.

Safeguarding is Everybody's Business Conference 2019

During Safeguarding Week (22nd – 26th June 2019), the Adult Boards and Children Safeguarding Partnerships for York and North Yorkshire alongside the Community Safety Partnerships organised a full day conference on 25th June 2019.

Over 350 delegates attended the event which included workshops on Domestic Homicide, Child Criminal Exploitation and County Lines, Suicide Prevention, Harmful Sexual Behaviour, Self-Neglect and Modern Slavery. The marketplace stalls gave delegates the opportunity to access information from over 25 local services and organisations during the day.

Clive Ruggles gave a powerful and moving key note speech providing an account of the events leading up to his daughter, Alice's death by her ex-boyfriend explaining the role of stalking behaviours and coercive control and how these can escalate.

Another key note speech was provided by a representative of ECPAT UK highlighted the issues of Child Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking.

A follow up evaluation after the conference enabled delegates to provide examples of how the speeches and workshops had impacted on their working practice. Some common themes included:

- having a greater awareness of these issues in their work
- being more observant of the signs in children and young people's behaviour.
- better understanding of cross partnership working.
- using the examples and information to update training that they deliver.

Social Media

The CYSCP Twitter account provides regular updates on local and national news, resources, initiatives, policy and guidance which you can find by following us on Twitter [@YorkSCP](https://twitter.com/YorkSCP).

The CYSCP Twitter account has over 900 followers which includes professionals, schools, businesses, other safeguarding children partnerships and members of the public. The CYSCP's Twitter feed is used to provide important information such as changes to policies and procedures as well as links to information and resources. It also promotes campaigns and activities of partners and other safeguarding organisations.

Over the past year, the twitter account has earned 195,000 engagements and has promoted various children's safeguarding themes.

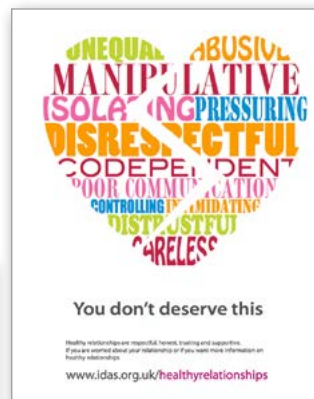
There have been 4 CYSCP Quarterly newsletters during the period of this report, with contributions from our partner agencies. The aim of the newsletters is to improve our communication and engagement with our partners, professionals and stakeholders across the city of York, and to keep them up to date with the latest developments in safeguarding children and young people in York. Each newsletter is distributed to 815 recipients for onward distribution.

During 2020/21 the CYSCP has sought to improve the way in which information is communicated and disseminated, particularly due to the Covid-19 pandemic and working practices. Further information, including how to receive the CYSCP Newsletter can be found on the [CYSCP website](#).

The CYSCP website contains a wealth of information, and averages approximately 48,000 hits per month. The [Concerned about a Child](#) page alone averages over 1000 hits per month.

During 2019/20 the CYSCP have also continued to support a number of campaigns. Some of these include:

- ICON
- Talk Pants
- Healthy Relationships (IDAS)
- Anti-Slavery Day
- Stop CSE



NSPCC – Speak out Stay Safe Programme

The programme is delivered by our specially trained staff and volunteers. It consists of an assembly presentation for key stage 1 and 2 children aged 5 to 11 followed by a one hour classroom workshop for children in years 5/6 (England and Wales)

The programme includes child friendly, interactive assemblies, workshops and teaching resources which help children:

- understand abuse in all its forms and recognise the signs of abuse
- understand that abuse is never a child's fault, and they have the right to be safe
- know how to get help, and the sources of help available to them, including our Childline service.

The programme links directly to the curriculum, helping with school's responsibilities to provide evidence that they are meeting statutory requirements.

During 2019/20 over 3,000 children and young people access this programme via their schools across the City of York

CSE Awareness Day Campaign

On National Child Exploitation Awareness Day, an awareness campaign was produced with both the CYSCP, the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NYSCP) and the North Yorkshire & York Youth Commission (NYYYYC).

This campaign was intended to encourage everyone to think, spot and speak out against abuse and adopt a zero tolerance to adults developing inappropriate relationships with children or children developing inappropriate relationships with other children.

A series of resources and key messages were created across the Partnerships to raise awareness across four key groups; Children and Young People, Parents and Carers; Professionals and the General Public. Five pictorial messages were created by NYYYYC members including quotes from interview extracts on Child Exploitation and how young people interact online.

The campaign was well received by partners despite the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Partnership recognised that this was a fantastic way to engage with young people and ensure that their voice is heard by professionals in the creation of key messages to other young people and professionals.



ICON

On the 8th November 2019, the Designated Nurses Team for the Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group hosted the North Yorkshire and York launch of an innovative new programme to prevent abusive head trauma injuries to babies caused by shaking.

'[ICON](#) – Babies Cry, You can Cope' is an evidenced-based programme designed to help parents and carers understand normal crying patterns and to help them develop successful coping mechanisms.

Initially funded by the four NYY CCGs, it delivers four simple messages:

- I** – Infant crying is normal;
- C** – Comforting methods can help;
- O** – It's OK to walk away;
- N** – Never, ever shake a baby.

These messages have been demonstrated to help parents and carers manage the stresses caused by normal infant crying. Midwives, Health Visitors and other professionals across the region have developed ICON expertise to help give parents and carers the tools they need to help keep their babies safe. For further information please contact the Designated Nurses team on 01609 767619 or alternatively further information regarding ICON can be found on the [CYSCP website](#).

Make your Mark campaign

The Make Your Mark campaign is a national ballot in which young people aged 11-18 can take part in voting on the issues that matters most to them. During 2019/20 we consulted with 4586 young people across York.

The top 3 voted topics for the UK issue in York were:

1. Protect the environment (2719 votes)
2. The Right to Vote at 16 (580 votes)
3. Tackling hate crime (529 votes)

The top 3 voted topics for the devolved issues in York were:

1. Putting an end to knife crime (1525 votes)
2. Mental health (1214 votes)
3. Curriculum to prepare us for life (856 votes)

The results from the ballot inform which topic will be campaigned locally, regionally and nationally. During 2020/21, York Youth Council are taking forward a campaign around protecting the environment.

For more information about the York Youth Council or for copies of the survey, contact yorkyouthcouncil@york.gov.uk



Mind your Language

In 2019 Show Me That I Matter (York's Children in Care Council) took part in a national campaign by TACT Fostering and Adoption to challenge the way professionals talk about Children in Care. The involvement in this project led to further discussions with care experienced young people who explained they are often unhappy about the language used by professionals and wanted to do something to challenge this in York.

They created a series of cards with the words that they would like to encourage professionals to use. The cards identify the four words they have chosen and why, these are:

Child or **young person** in care instead of Looked After Children

Seeing my **family** instead of contact

Stayover instead of respite

Home instead of placement

The electronic cards are available for any services who work with Children and Young People: showmethatimatter@york.gov.uk

Practice Guidance

During 2019/20 the [Managing Injuries to Non-Independently Mobile Children Practice Guidance](#) was updated. This guidance provides all professionals working with children and families with a knowledge base and strategy for the assessment and management of children who are not independently mobile and present with injuries or bruising.

Prevent Guidance

Safer York Partnership have updated the [Prevent Practice Guidance for Working with Individuals Vulnerable to Extremism](#). Additionally, the [Channel Referral Process](#) and the [Referral form](#) were all updated in January 2020 and are all available on the CYSCP website.

If you think that a child or young person is vulnerable to extremism/radicalisation or exhibiting behaviour or making comments that suggest he/she may be involved in activity which could be linked to terrorism, you need to follow the safeguarding guidance in regard to being concerned about a child. This means talking to your designated safeguarding lead and making an enquiry to the MASH.

Assessing the Impact of Parental Mental Ill Health on Children Tool (PAMIC)

The PAMIC Tool has been updated for use by the York and North Yorkshire Children Safeguarding Partnerships. Originally developed by the Teeside Children Safeguarding Board, the tool helps practitioners assess and respond to the impact of parents' or carers mental ill health issues on children.

It is intended for use by anyone involved in providing services to adults who are parents and/or carers as well as those providing services to children and young people.

The PAMIC tool involves the practitioner assessing the nature of risk and also the protective factors for the child whose parent / carer has mental health issues, so it includes the practitioner's professional judgement.

The PAMIC tool can be found on the [CYSCP website](#) along with details regarding online PAMIC training. During 2020 Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust have created a poster which professionals can use and provides a reminder about the impact of parental mental health.

The CYSCP Child Criminal Exploitation (CE) (including Sexual Exploitation) Screening Tool

During 2019/20 the Child Sexual Exploitation Screening Tool was updated to include all aspects of Child Criminal Exploitation to which children and young people can become victims. The [CYSCP Child Criminal Exploitation/Sexual Exploitation Screening Tool](#) was developed by the multi-agency members of the CYSCP Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Subgroup. The tool is designed to aid practitioners to help them consider the level of risk a child or young person might be at, through thinking about their individual needs via their behaviour and known information. It is not a full assessment of risk which would be carried out by Children's Social Care but it can help inform an enquiry to the MASH and any subsequent assessment.

Other Boards, Partnerships and Networks

The CYSCP recognise that it is vital for partners to work together to ensure our communities are safe for children, young people and their families and as such we continue to develop strong working arrangements with other boards across North Yorkshire and the City of York.

Systems Leadership Group

The Systems Leadership Group is chaired by the Chief Constable of North Yorkshire Police and operates across North Yorkshire and the City of York. This group aims to identify, implement and deliver cross boundary collaborative initiatives. Membership includes: CYSCP, CYSAB, NYSAB, Health Partners, North Yorkshire Police, Community Safety Partnerships, City of York Council and North Yorkshire County Council. This group continues to co-ordinate Safeguarding Week across the City of York and North Yorkshire.

North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Joint Commissioning Group (DAJCG)

The DAJCG includes representation from key agencies and sectors, who through this group deliver their commitments to continuing to reduce the impact of Domestic

Abuse and the effects on families, across the City of York and North Yorkshire. In order to do this we need to ensure that services are improving people's lives, with an emphasis on early intervention and providing secure provision and consistent services across the county.

To support this delivery two multi-agency sub groups have been established, both reporting to the DAJCG, one focusing on the commissioning of Domestic Abuse services and the other group is focusing on operational matters.

During the pandemic the CYSCP has continued to receive weekly updates regarding Domestic Abuse related crimes and the numbers of people who are accessing services.

City of York and North Yorkshire Strategic Prevent Board

The Prevent element of the Counter Terrorism Strategy, CONTEST, aims to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. It contains three key objectives; Ideology- challenging the ideology that supports terrorism and those who promote it Individuals- protecting people from being drawn into terrorism and ensuring that they are given appropriate advice and support; and Institutions- supporting sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation. The Prevent Strategic Board for the City of York and North Yorkshire develops the multi-agency strategic approach to Prevent.

Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs)

Community Safety Partnerships are under a statutory responsibility for partners to work together to reduce reoffending, to tackle crime and disorder, to tackle anti-social behaviour to tackle alcohol and substance misuse and to tackle any other behaviour which has a negative effect on the local environment. When the criteria is met, it is the statutory function of CSPs, to undertake Domestic Homicide Reviews, ensuring effective learning is identified and embedded across partners.

Child Death Review Panel (CDOP)

The death of a child is a devastating loss that profoundly affects all those involved. Since April 2008 all deaths of children up to the age of 18 years, excluding still births and planned terminations are reviewed by CDOP to accommodate the national guidance and statutory requirement set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018. The publication of the Child Death Review Statutory and Operational Guidance in 2018 builds on the requirements set out in Chapter 5 of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 and details how individual professionals and organisations across all sectors involved in the Child Death Review should contribute to guided standardised practice nationally and enable thematic learning to prevent future child deaths.

As part of the new Child Death Review requirements set out in Working Together (2018), North Yorkshire and City of York Local Authorities and Clinical Commissioning groups created a Strategic Child Death Review Overview group to provide strategic oversight for the Child Death Process across North Yorkshire and City of York.

The collation and sharing of all learning from Child Death Reviews and the CDOP is managed by the National Child Mortality Database (NCMD). The NCMD is an NHS funded project, delivered by the University of Bristol, which gathers information on all children who die across England with the aim to learn lessons that could lead to changes to improve and save children's lives in the future.

The purpose of the Child Death Review Process is to try to ascertain why children die and put in place interventions to protect other children and prevent future deaths wherever possible. The process intends to;

- Document, analyse and review information in relation to each child that dies in order to confirm the cause of death, determine any contributing factors and to identify learning arising from the process that may prevent future child deaths
- To make recommendations to all relevant organisations where actions have been identified which may prevent future deaths or promote the health, safety and wellbeing of children
- To produce an annual report on local patterns and trends in child death, any lessons learnt and actions taken, and the effectiveness of the wider Child Death Review Process
- To contribute to local, regional and national initiatives to improve learning from Child Death Reviews

A total of 7 children residing in City of York died in 2019/2020. [The CDOP Annual Report 2019/2020](#) details further information on the category, age and gender of the children that died.

CDOP Priorities for 2020/2021

- The panel plan to conduct an audit across services in North Yorkshire and City of York who are responsible for giving safe sleep advice to parents and carers
- The panel will seek out research which can inform practice on the prevention of suicide in children and young people and undertake an audit of all children and young people who have died by suicide in North Yorkshire and City of York
- Led by the evidence of both audits we will be recommending actions and campaigns to be put in place to raise awareness across organisations with regards to safe sleep advice and suicide prevention
- We will consider and monitor all child deaths that occur as a direct or indirect result of Covid-19 at the CDOP and ensure any actions which need to be implemented are recommended by the Panel