



# **North East Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board**

## **Strategic Business Plan**

**2017 -2019**

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## Foreword

The North East Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) is a partnership of statutory and non-statutory agencies (Appendix 1) Working Together with a shared vision to safeguard and promote the welfare of children who are at risk of abuse and neglect. The work of the partnership is led by the NE Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board. The work of the LSCB is undertaken on behalf of the Board by a number of LSCB Sub-Groups whose remits are aligned to the LSCB Priorities and Core Functions.

This document sets out the Board's Vision, Values and Principles (Appendix 1) and the board's Strategic Plan towards realising them. All of these combine to provide direction and continuity to the Annual Business Plan, enabling the Board's achievements to be built upon each year whilst ensuring that its activities are focused on the Board's overall priorities and objectives.

The work planned for 2017–19 will see a sharper focus on undertaking activity that we can evidence is making a difference. To do this we will:

- Develop safe transition arrangements to the new safeguarding children arrangements
- Work on reducing neglect through the effective implementation of the neglect strategy
- Seek assurances that practice and available resources are effective and all practitioners and partners are able to recognise need and risk early and respond appropriately to presenting concerns in respect of Sexual Harm.
- Remain focused on the impact and difference made to children's outcomes through Early Help and Prevention, through the PEI strategy, through the 0 -19 agenda and our data and intelligence reporting processes
- Identifying the early signs and impact of domestic abuse and the impact of interventions to address this across North East Lincolnshire with a continued focus on activity that reduces the incidences impact of domestic abuse on children and families
- Implement the Voice and influence Strategy and ensure the voice of the child can both be heard and matters in everything we do
- Have oversight of the impact of activity and process related to both broader and emerging safeguarding themes including Modern Day Slavery and Criminal Exploitation
- Seek to better evidence the impact of improvements to safeguarding children through lessons from Safeguarding Reviews and Child Death Reviews

## Priorities and Key Safeguarding themes

This Local Safeguarding Children Board Strategic Business Plan, LSCB Priorities and safeguarding themes has been developed through:

- **Data** relating to our context and performance.
- **Audit** of children's cases, particularly in areas of high risk/need.
- **Experience of particular children** subject to Serious Case Review.
- **Local and National Priorities** derived from a strategic analysis of need.
- **LSCB Development Day** Annual Review of progress/priorities.
- **LSCB Annual Report** analysis and recommendations.

This Strategic Business Plan also supports and contributes towards the North East Lincolnshire Outcomes Framework. The Outcomes Framework has been developed with key stakeholders in North East Lincolnshire and is the means by which local aspirations and intentions will be translated into tangible accountable delivery and action.

### The Framework has Five Outcomes:

That all people in North East Lincolnshire will:

- Enjoy and benefit from a strong economy
- Feel safe and are safe
- Enjoy good health and well being
- Benefit from sustainable communities
- Fulfil their potential through skills and learning

### Priority Indicators

The LSCB has identified the following three priority areas of focus (Reducing Domestic Abuse, Sexual Harm, Neglect) and four Bellwether indicators that will act as the Boards indicators to measure progress towards the outcome that All people in North East Lincolnshire "Feel Safe & are Safe" :-

- Domestic Abuse – Incidence of Domestic Abuse
- Sexual Harm – Open cases for each element of Sexual Harm
- Neglect - % of children on a CP plan for neglect
- Safeguarding system – Number of children open to services across the Child Concern Model

## **Core Data Set**

The LSCB has developed a Core Data Set of safeguarding performance measures which inform the indicators.

The Voice and Influence of the Child is a key principle of work which will inform the Business plan activity.

There are also a number of broader safeguarding themes

- Emotional Health and Wellbeing.
- Modern day slavery
- Criminal Exploitation
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Concordat Compliance
- Radicalisation (Channel and Prevent)
- Statutory Functions.
- Substance use
- Mental Health issues
- Esafety and Ante Bullying
- Learning and Development.

## **Outcome Based Accountability**

The Outcomes Framework is underpinned by Outcomes Based Accountability methodology (OBA) developed by Mark Friedman, an American public policy maker. OBA is a disciplined way of thinking and taking action that ultimately asks the key question of: “is anybody better off” as a result.

The LSCB has adopted, and over the next two years, will continue to embed OBA methodology in implementing this strategic business plan and develop and report on indicators and performance measures that contribute towards the improved outcome for children and families in North East Lincolnshire that all people “Feel safe and are safe”.

## **Understanding the basics of Outcomes Based Accountability**

OBA starts with focusing on the desired end result and then working backwards step by step to understand what is required to achieve the end result or outcome.

When developing local activity the Community Safety Partnership will adopt and consider the key principals of OBA as follows:-

**Outcomes** - The conditions of well-being we want for our children, families and wider communities as a whole.

**Indicators** - How we measure these conditions.

**Baselines** - What the measures show about where we've been and where we are headed.

**Turning the Curve** - What success looks like if we do better than the baseline.

**Performance Measures** - How we know if programmes and activities are working by asking three simple questions 'How much did we do?', 'How well did we do it?', 'Is anyone better off?'.

## **How the Effectiveness of our Strategic Business Plan will be Monitored?**

Each area of focus will be addressed by partners combining resources under a single framework and working collectively to agreed initiatives and action plans. Activity will be delivered by established thematic delivery groups linked to wider partnership working and utilising the OBA methodology and reported to the Leadership Board through the Composite Performance Report.

Performance will be monitored by the use of scorecards covering the following areas:-

- The Whole Population Outcome we are working towards: "All people in North East Lincolnshire feel safe and are safe"
- The Partnership Indicators that will inform progress towards our outcome
- The Story Behind the Baseline: showing history and distance travelled utilising intelligence on the forces, drivers and causes impacting on the indicators
- The Partners with a role to play in 'Turning the Curve'
- Our coherent collection of actions
- Our Performance Measures and Scorecard

The Broader safeguarding themes will be reported on through the respective performance reports, audits, enquiries and associated strategies and actions plans to the Leadership Board.

The effectiveness and impact of the Business plan will be overseen by the Leadership Board and LSCB Structure which will provide both high challenge and support to individual task group activities.

The work of NEL Safeguarding Children Board will be underpinned by the following Principles and Values which have been adopted by its members.

### **Our Vision for Safeguarding Children in North East Lincolnshire**

The vision of the N E Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board is:

#### **Vision**

- We believe Children and Young People thrive best in their own family networks and should stay together except where the welfare contra-indicates this.
- For North East Lincolnshire to be a child friendly place in which Children and Young People are safe from harm in their families, their communities and their neighbourhoods.

#### Values

- NEL SCB will have a child focus at all times.
- NEL SCB values children and young people and their crucial role in the life of the North East Lincolnshire.
- NEL SCB is always honest and transparent about what it does and what it can't do.
- NEL SCB is courageous and willing to speak out and act for children, even if this is inconvenient and challenging to other structures in North East Lincolnshire.

#### Principles

- Keeping children safe is the highest priority of each member of NELSCB, both individually and collectively.
- NEL SCB takes leadership seriously, both collectively and individually.
- The collective priorities of NELSCB take precedence over the priorities of individual member agencies. Any subsequent conflict of interests for members will be acknowledged and recorded in the minutes
- NEL SCB accepts the inherent risk in Child Protection, including that presented by the abusive behaviour of individuals in the community.

- NEL SCB accepts that, despite best efforts, there may be human error by professionals or volunteers who are trying to keep children safe. NEL SCB will support the children's workforce to learn from these experiences without blame.
- NEL SCB is open and transparent in its work, whilst holding member agencies to account.
- NEL SCB knows that it needs the community to understand and support its work and will seek out partnerships with communities in NEL to strengthen local child safeguarding.

Whilst challenging and scrutinising member agencies and structures the NELSCB will seek to work collaboratively and in a constructive way.