

# North East Lincolnshire Local Safeguarding Children Board.

## Multi-Agency Practice Audit – Thematic Audit – Missing

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*Relationships matter, where practitioners are successful in building honest and open relationships with children and families this leads to better outcomes for the child.*

### What Happened?

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The themed audit challenge event reviewed four cases where the child had been reported Missing in the last year. Each case had a time for discussion. Auditors, along with practitioners and managers involved with the case came together to consider the audit responses. The challenge event was used to begin to analyse audit findings and propose actions to improve outcomes for children and families across the Child Concern Model.

### What Did The Audit Tell Us?

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Missing episodes were responded to appropriately and in line with LSCB policies and procedures.

3 of the 4 cases had significant extended histories with Children's Social Care. In some instances not all of the significant history was known by the current assessing agency.

All of the cases had elements of good practice and excellent examples of multi-agency working

Practitioners found innovative ways to communicate and work with young people, but there were instances where managing risk and what the young person wanted caused tensions

Finding a suitable care placement difficult in 2 of the cases, and this linked back to suitability of foster care placements.

Decisions were timely and proportionate to meet the needs of the child.

There had been significant disruption to all of the children's education, this appeared to be as a result of their previous histories and symptomatic of chaotic lifestyles.

Historically, neglect had not always been identified as early as it could have been

### What Can We Do?

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1. Practitioners should make sure that, when they start working a new case they ask questions about significant histories and use all information sources available to them as part of their assessment
2. The Graded Care Profile 2 should be used with families at the earliest possible point to make sure Neglect is identified and responded to appropriately
3. Professionals should consider stability of education placement for children who are vulnerable