Local Safeguarding Arrangements Plan

For Children and Young People

2019/2020

www.safernel.co.uk/nelsafeguarding-children-partnership
## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Foreword</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Background</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Our New Partnership: Vision and Principles</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Arrangements for the safeguarding partners to work together to identify and respond to the needs of children in the area</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Arrangements for commissioning and publishing local child safeguarding practice reviews.</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Independent scrutiny and assurance</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 The relevant agencies the safeguarding partners will work with, why these have been chosen and how they will collaborate and work together to improve outcomes for children and families.</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Wider Partnership agencies</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 How all Early years settings, schools, academies, colleges and other educational establishments will be included in safeguarding arrangements</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 How youth custody and residential homes for children will be included in the new safeguarding arrangements</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 How the safeguarding partners will use data and intelligence to assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 How inter-agency training will be commissioned, delivered and monitored for impact</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 How we will undertake any inter-agency audits and implement learning</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 How the arrangements will be funded</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 How the Thresholds of Need document, setting out the local criteria for action, aligns with safeguarding arrangements</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 How the arrangements will include the voice of children and families</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Child death reviews</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Dispute resolution</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Reporting annually</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Endorsement</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. **Foreword**

The ‘Working Together 2018’ government guidance (resulting from the Children and Social Work Act 2017) specifies that in order to safeguard children and to achieve the best outcomes, children and families should receive services in a co-ordinated way. This is a shared responsibility between three safeguarding partners and relevant agencies.

In response new North East Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership arrangements have been developed. There are three main changes:

1. The three organisations in North East Lincolnshire having joint responsibility for the partnership arrangements for keeping children and young people safe are
   - Humberside Police
   - NHS North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group
   - North East Lincolnshire Council
2. The North East Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NELSCP) replaces the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)
3. The Partnership has adopted a new structure, which will change the way in which partners work together, how that work is challenged and how we improve practice and outcomes for children through continuous learning and improvement.

North East Lincolnshire’s ambition is to co-produce, with children and families, an offer of help and support at the earliest point and to enable children, young people and families to have positive outcomes, where they reach their full potential and become independent from additional services. Where help is required it will be provided in the least intrusive way and build on strengths and assets.

This Plan outlines the new way of working across the safeguarding system. It reaffirms our local commitment to working collaboratively in the context of the ‘place’ of North East Lincolnshire. It ensures a proactive and responsive approach to the needs of children, young people and families and drives opportunities to shape and influence policy development, leading to improved practice and outcomes. Of critical importance is listening to all those people who want to give their views about their lives, our services and what they need to support them, and this includes the voice of our staff. These voices of experience will be central to our understanding, planning and monitoring.
The three safeguarding partner representatives are:
- Humberside Police – the Chief Superintendent South bank Divisional Commander
- NHS North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group – the Director of Quality and Nursing
- North East Lincolnshire Council – the Director of Children’s Services

The three safeguarding partners will lead in the following areas:

**Humberside Police**
- Analysis and Intelligence
- Data and Performance
- Finance and Resources

**North East Lincolnshire Council**
- Workforce development and Learning
- Voice and Influence
- Child Death Reviews

**Clinical Commissioning Group**
- Quality assurance and Scrutiny
- Partnerships
- Governance

2. **Background**

Safeguarding of children and young people in North East Lincolnshire has previously been successfully led by the ‘Local Safeguarding Children Board’ (LSCB). There has been a Board like this in every area of England. A national government review in 2015 and changes in legislation resulted in new guidance being issued about the management of children’s safeguarding. All local areas had to undertake a review and have new arrangements ready for launch by 29th June 2019.

The three safeguarding partners should agree on ways to co-ordinate their safeguarding services; act as a strategic leadership group in supporting and engaging others; and implement local and national learning including from serious child safeguarding incidents.

To fulfil this role, we three partners must set out how we will work with each other and with any relevant agencies whose involvement we think is necessary to safeguard and promote the welfare of children with regard to local need.
To be most effective we need to drive action that goes beyond the usual constraints and boundaries of the individual organisations involved. This includes working with other partnerships which have a key role in the health and wellbeing of children, young people and their families.

The review of safeguarding arrangements has been carefully planned to take into account a wide range of views, about how well our LSCB has been working, what needs to improve, and how we can develop our new partnership arrangements in a way that introduces renewed energy and expertise to the work that we do.

The review process has included:

- A project team made up of the main partners, meeting regularly to steer the review and challenge each other and our progress
- A wider group of practitioners who work across safeguarding meeting to provide expertise and insight
- Reviews of the progress made by the ‘early adopters’ group of councils, who have been exploring different aspects of putting together these new arrangements
- Listening to the view of children and young people about what they see as the most important things to get right in ensuring their safeguarding
- Learning from the findings of inspections and case reviews
- Holding a stakeholder event to seek views on the contents of this Plan
- Publishing progress reports through our Council scrutiny panel and our Council/CCG Union Board

These new arrangements have been agreed through the decision making processes of our three main Safeguarding Partners, who will:

- Speak with authority for the safeguarding partner they represent
- Take decisions on behalf of their organisation or agency and commit them on policy, resourcing and practice matters
- Jointly hold each other and our organisations to account on how effectively we participate and implement the local arrangements
- Constructively challenge and support each other to meet the arrangements.
3. **Our New Partnership: Vision and Principles**

Our New Partnership is called the **North East Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NELSCP)**. It will cover the geographical area of North East Lincolnshire as defined by the local authority boundary. The geographical area corresponds with that of the NHS Clinical Commissioning Group for North East Lincolnshire and is part of the area covered by Humberside Police.

We as the Safeguarding Partners, and other organisations and agencies included in these arrangements, will fulfil our statutory duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. This includes those who live in the area, those who are placed in the area from other authorities and those who are from our area but placed outside of it.

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Our Partnership’s vision is to work together to ensure safeguarding arrangements within our place are proactive, robust, effective and clear. We will also offer help and support at the earliest point and to enable children, young people and families to have positive outcomes, where they reach their full potential.

**Focused - Listening - Accountable – Improving - Brave**

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We are committed to delivering our vision by applying these principles – they will govern our work

1. Keeping children and young people safe and well is the focus of everything that we do
2. We ensure that everyone has a voice, is listened to and respected
3. We all take ownership and responsibility for safeguarding and we challenge and support each other, inviting scrutiny from others too
4. We all share information and knowledge, learning from each other and so improve our work continuously
5. We spot issues early and face them together, with bravery and courage.

How we will work to these principles is captured in the remainder of this Plan, and the detail of this work will be featured in our annual work programme.

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**Priorities**

Our Partnership priorities and key safeguarding themes will be identified through data and performance analysis, audit of children’s cases and analysis of need. Our Partnership will adopt the previous LSCB priorities which are Neglect (continues to be the highest stated issue at Child Protection), Domestic abuse (due to prevalence within the community) and Sexual Harm (assurance is needed that processes are effective). Priorities will develop and change over time dependent on presenting issues and analysis of local need.
4. **Arrangements for the safeguarding partners to work together to identify and respond to the needs of children in the area.**

The structure and format of our new Partnership has been agreed by the three statutory partners. Terms of reference for our Partnership have also been agreed.

This published Plan gives details in accordance with the requirements of Working Together 2018 (pp 79-80) which are that we have made arrangements for:

- safeguarding partners to work together to identify and respond to the needs of children in the area
- commissioning and publishing local child safeguarding practice reviews
- independent scrutiny of the effectiveness of the above

and which also include:

- who the three local safeguarding partners are, especially if the arrangements cover more than one local authority area
- geographical boundaries
- the relevant agencies the safeguarding partners will work with; why these organisations and agencies have been chosen; and how they will collaborate and work together to improve outcomes for children and families
- how all early years settings, schools (including independent schools, academies and free schools) and other educational establishments will be included in the safeguarding arrangements
- how any youth custody and residential homes for children will be included in the safeguarding arrangements
- how the safeguarding partners will use data and intelligence to assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help
- how inter-agency training will be commissioned, delivered and monitored for impact, and how they will undertake any multi-agency and inter-agency audits
- how the arrangements will be funded
- the process for undertaking local child safeguarding practice reviews, setting out the arrangements for embedding learning across organisations and agencies
- how the arrangements will include the voice of children and families
- how the threshold document, setting out the local criteria for action, aligns with the arrangements
- dispute resolution
- reporting annually

The NELSCP has made its governance structure more robust and less complex to enable it to deliver its key functions of keeping children in NE Lincolnshire safe. The local arrangements must create an architecture that enables the Children’s Safeguarding Board to deliver on its key objectives, regardless of the local priorities and key agenda’s, and ensuring the three statutory partners are able to demonstrate risks,
progress and impact. The NELSCP will achieve its purpose through the Safeguarding Children Partnership Structure.

Structure of the Safeguarding Children Partnership

A concise description of the purpose of each group, the responsibility of each group and how it interlinks with the whole structure of the Board is as follows:

Safeguarding Children Partnership Executive Board
The NELSCP is the key statutory mechanism for coordinating, monitoring and supporting relevant agencies in North East Lincolnshire to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people, and for ensuring public service system effectiveness. The three statutory partners will equally lead the NELSCP and will be held to account by each other for the successful delivery of children’s safeguarding arrangements. The Safeguarding Children Partnership Executive Board brings together the three safeguarding partners.

The key role and functions are:
- assessment of need
- strategy
- planning and delivery
- performance outcomes
- quality and performance monitoring
- compliance and oversight of child practice reviews

The NELSCP Executive Board will be in two parts; part one will include the three safeguarding partners. Part two will include the wider safeguarding partners who will agree the local strategy and system indicators and report on exceptions to enable the board to obtain (assurance through high challenge/high support.) The NELSCP will provide strategic direction to a single sub-group, the Children’s Safeguarding Assurance Group (CSAG), and will receive assurance from the CSAG on:

- The effectiveness of the local whole system safeguarding arrangements – from Early Help through to Children looked After.
- Delivery of the NELSCP priorities and the improvement activity of the NELSCP.

Note: When specific/ new safeguarding issues arise that are assessed as an emerging or high risk they will report directly into the Safeguarding Children Partnership Executive Board.

Children’s Safeguarding Assurance Group (CSAG), chaired by North East Lincolnshire Council with Humberside Police as the Vice Chair

The purpose of the CSAG is to monitor, scrutinise and interpret local system performance and quality in terms of the safeguarding system indicators agreed by the NELSCP. The group also interprets the current position and direction of travel in terms of the system practice improvement activity and the business of the Safeguarding Learning and Review Group. The CSAG will:

- Assess the local position on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local system
- Prepare a position statement on the current system status, the progress of the Improving Practice Group and the learning from the Safeguarding Review Group for the NELSCP.
- Identify emerging safeguarding issues or threats, tasking the IPG with specific areas to initiate improvement activity through agreeing and setting practice standards.
- Put in place mechanisms to measure system outcomes against the NELSCP’s key strategic areas of focus (Mental Health, Substance Misuse, and Exploitation).
- Set and manage an annual audit schedule against the NELCSP priorities, key areas of focus and the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements.
- Commission audits of cases identified by the IPG where there are learning opportunities in respect of interagency working but where the Safeguarding Review Criteria is not met.
- Receive learning from the Safeguarding Review Group and position statements from the IPG on the progress of improvement activity.

The CSAG will link with Multiagency Strategic Partnership Delivery Groups to receive information on their activity to inform quality assurance and practice development.

Improving Practice Group (IPG) chaired by Humberside Police with the North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group as the Vice Chair

The purpose of the IPG is to focus on facilitating, innovating and developing local practice to drive improvements in outcomes for children and young people in specific areas of practice identified by the
CSAG. The IPG receives place based data (including the voice of children, families and staff), which enables it to identify need and develop its strategy to be agreed with the NELSCP Executive Board. The IPG will:

- Formalise the objective(s) for delivery and establishes working groups to focus on improving practice in specific areas.
- Ensure working parties are time limited and remain in place until the objectives of the party are met or until the IPG disbands the party with the formal agreement of the NELSCP
- Receive learning from the SRG on active improvement activity.
- Share a concise report with the CSAG to provide an overview on the position of the improvement activity supported by the group
- Co-ordinate the completion of the annual audit schedule
- Identify cases that would benefit from audit in respect of interagency learning where the safeguarding review criteria is not met

Safeguarding Review Group (SRG) chaired by the North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning group with North East Lincolnshire Council as the Vice Chair

In the event of a Serious Child Safeguarding case, a rapid review meeting is undertaken, overseen by the Safeguarding Review Group (SRG), which is made up of safeguarding partner representatives and facilitated by a member of the Safeguarding Partners Multi Agency Innovation Hub. The safeguarding partner representatives make a recommendation to the safeguarding partners about whether a local, national or no review should be undertaken. This group will also facilitate communication with the national Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel, Ofsted and the Secretary of State, Department for Education. In the event of a serious child safeguarding practice review, the SRG would be responsible for overseeing the process, development and monitoring of the action plan. The action plan will be signed off by the safeguarding partners at the Safeguarding Children Partnership Executive Board.

Strategic Delivery Groups

Domestic Abuse One System Approach (DAOSA)
The Domestic Abuse One System Approach is a multiagency strategic partnership delivery group. Using an Outcomes Based Accountability (OBA) scorecard, this group reports progress to the three Safer NEL boards – the Community Safety Partnership, the Safeguarding Adults Board and the Safeguarding Children Executive Board. The interface with the CSAG will enable the NELSCP to seek assurance and offer direction and challenge to the progress of the Domestic Abuse strategy. In addition to holistically addressing issues relating to perpetrators, victims and wider family, it will implement a programme of workforce development to ensure skills and experience gaps are identified and addressed, identify what is working well and identify current gaps in provision.

Children’s Exploitation One System Approach (CEOSA)
The Children’s Exploitation One System Approach will be a multiagency strategic partnership delivery group. This group will broaden the current scope of exploitation to encompass the work of the former “Keeping Children Safe” Group (which looked specifically at Missing, Child Sexual Exploitation [CSE], Child Criminal Exploitation [CCE], Harmful Sexualised Behaviour [HSB]) as well as wider issues such as
radicalisation and the activity of the Channel Panel. Like the Domestic Abuse One System Approach, this group will use an OBA scorecard to report into the CSAG. It will agree multi-agency actions to address and reduce the identified risk and deploy additional resources in respect of young people at significant or complex risk of one or any of the vulnerabilities. It will identify system-wide themes and issues in respect of the vulnerabilities that will contribute to multi-agency awareness and promote effective partnership working. It informs strategic planning, workforce development and problem profile.

**Operational Working Groups**
There are a number of inter-agency operational working groups which support the structure and are overseen by the IPG and CSAG, with the purpose of improving practice in specific areas. Some of the groups are time limited, working groups that include:

**Managing and Improving Practice Group (MIPP)**
The function of the Managing and Improving Practice group is to quality assure practice at both a multi and single agency level. Audit themes will be aligned to the Partnership priorities, identified and emerging themes from performance exceptions and audit themes through single agency audit findings.

**Operational Vulnerability group**
The purpose of this operational group is to identify any cases where any of the three vulnerabilities (Child Sexual Exploitation [CSE], Child Criminal Exploitation [CCE], Missing) is a current feature. It will ensure that there has been an appropriate and timely response with a robust safety plan in place with the family. It will ensure that the case is held at the appropriate level, interventions are driving progress and any actions relating to CCE/CSE/missing form part of the child’s main plan.

**Channel Panel**
This brings together multi-agency partners to consider referrals to the police regarding PREVENT and the radicalisation of children and young people and adults with care and support needs. (PREVENT is part of the Government’s strategy to prevent terrorism by reducing the possibility of radicalisation). The aim is to identify opportunities for partnership action and reduce the impact on children and young people. Exceptions reporting regarding the business of the Channel Panel will be through the Multi Agency Innovation Hub Business Report.

**Voice and Public Engagement Partnerships, Groups, Networks and Forums**
There are established mechanisms in place where children, young people and families can have their say. They share their views and experiences, challenge and support local decision makers, shaping and influencing strategic planning, commissioning and service provision at an individual, service and strategic level. Key examples include Young Reporters, Children in Care Council, Youth Parliament, and Youth Action.
Supporting Mechanisms
Multi-Agency Innovation Hub
This will offer dedicated support to the effective operation of the Safer NELSCP and safeguarding system. This includes development policies, procedures, measuring impact, performance/ data management, learning and improving practice, communication and awareness-raising.

Scrutiny and Assurance Framework
The framework will inform all elements of the system and will feed into the Targeted Services Pathway Lead Officer group, Innovation Hub and the Executive Board. It will enable safeguarding partners to:

- Have a direct line of sight to practice
- Take account of independent scrutiny which helps determine the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements
- Inform practice through audit
- Receive challenge from Youth Action
- Have assurance whether inter agency practice is joined up and effectively safeguards and promotes the welfare of children

5. Arrangements for commissioning and publishing local child safeguarding practice reviews.

At the time of publication of these safeguarding arrangements there are no current Serious Case Reviews to be handed over to the NELSCP by the NEL Local Safeguarding Children Board.

Serious child safeguarding cases are those in which:

- abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected and
- the child has died or been seriously injured

The three Safeguarding Partners must make arrangements to:

- identify serious child safeguarding cases which raise issues of importance in relation to the area
- commission and oversee the review of those cases, where they consider it appropriate for a review to be undertaken

On being informed of a notifiable incident, our NELSCP will undertake a Rapid Review, in line with published guidance in Working Together 2018, in order to make decisions and to inform the initial recommendation of the NELSCP to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel (the Panel) about whether a local practice review is required.

The responsibility for considering cases for Child Safeguarding Practice Review and for informing the Panel lies with the Safeguarding Review Group (SRG). Decision-making will be scrutinised by an independent advisor. Terms of Reference for the SRG have been written in detail to cover all requirements and timescales in Chapter 4 of Working Together 2018 (including notifications of serious incidents). A process
map has been created with procedures for considering notifiable incidents and non-notifiable but serious incidents of safeguarding review.

Safeguarding Practice Reviews will be commissioned using regional and national information on known reviewers and their expertise. These reviewers will be assessed and selected by representatives of our NELSCP and the SRG, based on previous work and experience, recommendations and via personal interview. Reviews will be published as outlined in Chapter 4 of Working Together 2018 on the SaferNEL website. Exceptions to publication will be discussed and agreed with the Panel. The Local Safeguarding Review arrangements are aligned to the local child death review arrangements.

6. Independent scrutiny and assurance

Working Together 2018 defines independent scrutiny of safeguarding arrangements as:

- providing assurance in assessing the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area
- part of a wider system which includes the independent inspectorates’ single assessment of the individual safeguarding partners and the Joint Targeted Area Inspections
- objective, acts as a constructive critical friend and promotes reflection to drive continuous improvement
- considering how effectively the arrangements are working for children and families as well as for practitioners, and how well the safeguarding partners are providing strong leadership and agree with the safeguarding partners how this will be reported.

The published arrangements should set out the plans for independent scrutiny; how the arrangements will be reviewed and how any recommendations will be taken.

Our NELSCP arrangements have been developed to create an environment that is conducive to robust scrutiny and constructive challenge, where there are opportunities to proactively ensure that they identify gaps in practice and arrangements and to ensure a partnership approach to learning and improvement across the safeguarding system.

The Safeguarding Children’s Partnership Scrutiny and Assurance Framework provides clarity regarding who will conduct the assurance function, how arrangements will be reviewed and how any recommendations will be taken forward. This includes the process and timescales for ongoing review of the arrangements to ensure they remain fit for purpose. The Framework also clarifies mechanisms for scrutinising our Safeguarding Children Partnership arrangements through individual safeguarding partner’s organisational scrutiny functions, the outcomes of which can contribute to learning across the wider partnership as well as the individual organisations themselves.

The Safeguarding Children Partnership Scrutiny and Assurance Framework, which is developed in a contemporary context taking innovative approaches, enables safeguarding partners to:
have assurance of whether all agencies are fulfilling their responsibilities to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children
have assurance of whether all agencies are joined up and working together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children across the safeguarding system
have a direct line of sight to the front line practice
creating open access from front line practitioners
take direct feedback from children, young people and families
test the interconnectedness between performance, practice and the voice of the child, young person and family
take account of independent scrutiny which helps to determine the effectiveness of our arrangements including arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding cases
be confident about the authenticity of the report they will publish at least once a year

This will be achieved through a range of mechanisms to ensure scrutiny and assurance including independent scrutiny, which are:

- Audit against Section 11 of the Children Act 2004
- Assurance events/visits
- Practice Learning Line of Sight Events
- Inter-agency/single agency practice audits
- Peer Review
- Independent scrutiny role
- Case note reviews
- Thematic Inspections and reports

In the event of any dispute between the safeguarding partners and/or relevant agencies or any local disputes relating to multi-agency practice, the Independent Scrutiny Officers (ISOs) may also assist with the dispute resolution process. (See Dispute Resolution section 19 below).

The Lead Member for Children’s Services in local authorities holds key political accountability for ensuring that the needs of all children and young people, including the most disadvantaged and vulnerable, and their families and carers, are addressed. In doing so, they work closely with other local partners to improve the outcomes and well-being of children and young people. Therefore, the North East Lincolnshire Council Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People will have a key role in our NELSCP arrangements.

The ‘voice’ of children and young people runs through all our NELSCP business (See section 17 Voice of children and families).

Our NELSCP challenges other strategic Boards regarding their response to the views and wishes of children and young people and the impact of safeguarding issues upon their lives.
Independent Scrutiny

The role of independent scrutiny is critical to provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of our NELSCP arrangements, including arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding cases.

Independent Scrutiny Officers (ISOs) will play a significant role in the Safeguarding Children Partnership Scrutiny and Assurance Framework and there are also opportunities for safeguarding partners and representatives from relevant agencies to engage in peer review processes and further opportunities for peer review processes at a regional and national level.

Links to the community will be maintained through the Voluntary Sector Alliance and the commissioned Voluntary Sector Support currently provided by North Bank Forum.

We as Safeguarding Partners will be jointly responsible for identifying ISOs who should have suitable attributes, skills, knowledge and understanding of the safeguarding children system. It is anticipated that there will be a small pool of ISOs from a range of backgrounds, which will ensure different perspectives and provide a degree of flexibility and capacity to contribute to the scrutiny and assurance arrangements as required. External independent scrutiny will be commissioned where independent scrutiny is required in respect of specific areas of focus.

Independent scrutiny can also assist in the event of a disagreement between the safeguarding partners and/or relevant agencies involved in Safeguarding Children arrangements. There are more details in dispute resolution section within our Safeguarding Children Partnership Memorandum of Understanding.

7. The relevant agencies the safeguarding partners will work with, why these have been chosen and how they will collaborate and work together to improve outcomes for children and families.

We three Safeguarding Partners must agree on ways to co-ordinate our safeguarding services and act as a strategic leadership group in supporting and engaging others. To fulfil our role we must set out how we will work together with any relevant agencies.

Relevant agencies are those organisations whose involvement the safeguarding partners consider is required 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.

A systematic review of the Local Safeguarding Children Board structure in developing new safeguarding arrangements has sought to reduce duplication and improve integration with other local partnerships. The
number of subgroups has reduced with the new groups having a strong focus on improving practice and ensuring an emphasis on learning.

It is vital for us to maintain the full engagement of other partners in the business of safeguarding children, even if those partners are not attending face-to-face NELSCP meetings on a regular basis. This enables the new Partnership to reach more agencies and organisations and to engage them in the safeguarding children agenda.

Our NELSCP relevant agencies are defined below.

### EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE

#### Local authority maintained schools (under section 342 of the Education Act 1996)

**Nursery**
- Great Coates Village Nursery
- Scartho Village Nursery

**Primary**
- Coombs Briggs Primary School
- Grange Primary School
- Humberston Church of England Primary School
- Queen Mary Infant and Nursery School
- Scartho Infants Primary School
- Stallingborough Church of England Primary School
- Stanford Junior and Infant School
- Western Primary School

**Secondary**
No local authority maintained schools

#### Academies

**Primary**
- Bursar Primary Academy
- Canon Peter Hall Church of England Primary Academy
- East Ravendale Primary Academy
- Edward Heneage Primary Academy
- Eastfield Primary Academy
- Elliston Primary Academy
- Enfield New Waltham Primary Academy
- Fairfield Primary Academy
- Great Coates Primary Academy
• Healing Primary Academy
• Humberston Cloverfields Primary Academy
• Laceby Acres Primary Academy
• Lisle Marsden Primary Academy
• Little Coates Primary Academy
• Macaulay Primary Academy
• Middlethorpe Primary Academy
• Oasis Academy Nunsthorpe
• Old Clee Primary Academy
• Ormiston South Parade Primary Academy
• Pilgrim Primary Academy
• Reynolds Primary Academy
• Scartho Juniors Academy
• Signhills Infants Academy
• Signills Junior Academy
• South Parade Primary Academy
• Springfield Primary Academy
• St Josephs Voluntary Aided Catholic Academy
• St Marys Voluntary Aided Catholic Academy
• St Peters Church of England Primary Academy
• Thrunscoe Primary Academy
• Waltham Leas Primary Academy
• Welholme Primary Academy
• William Barcroft Junior Academy
• Woodlands Primary Academy
• Wybers Wood Primary Academy
• Yarborough Primary Academy

Secondary
• Beacon Academy
• Cleethorpes Academy
• The Academy Grimsby (TAG) (key stage 4 only)
• Havelock Academy
• Healing Science Academy
• Humberston Academy
• John Whitgift Academy
• Oasis Academy Immingham
• Oasis Academy Wintringham
• Ormiston Maritime Academy
• Toll Bar Academy
Special School Academies
- Cambridge Park Special School Academy
- Humberston Park Special School Academy

Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) Academies
- Sevenhills Academy
- Phoenix Park Academy

Governing bodies (of local authority maintained nursery, primary, secondary, special and pupil referral unit schools and academies, further education and higher education providers)
- All governing bodies

Any providers of further and higher education or training
- Franklin College
- Grimsby Institute
- Linkage (special post-16 provision)

Independent Schools
- Best Futures
- Orchard Education
- St James School
- St Martins School

Childcare providers
- All childcare providers

Children’s Centres
- Reynolds
- Highgate
- East Marsh
- Central
- Immingham
- Queensway
- Broadway
- Nunthorpe and Bradley Park
- Riverside
- Scartho
- West Marsh
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

**NHS England**
- NHS England North (Yorkshire and Humber)

**NHS Trust**
- East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust

**NHS Foundation Trusts**
- Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust
- Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

**Health providers**
- Navigo
- Care Plus Group
- Primary Care

**Adoption Support Agency**
- North East Lincolnshire Council Adoption Service

**Registered adoption society (also known as voluntary adoption agency)**
- No local provision

**Fostering Agency**
- North East Lincolnshire Council Fostering Service
- Treehouse

**Children’s Homes**
Eight locations in North East Lincolnshire

**Residential holiday schemes for disabled children**
- No local provision

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

**Child and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS)**
- CAFCASS South Yorkshire and Humberside

**Probation Services**
- National Probation Service (North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire)
Community Rehabilitation Company (Humberside, Lincolnshire and North Yorkshire)

Youth Offending Hubs
- North East Lincolnshire Youth Offending Service

POLICE AND IMMIGRATION

British Transport Police
- British Transport Police Midlands

Port Police Forces
- Port Police Force

Border Police
- Border Police

OTHERS

- Salvation Army
- Blue Door
- NSPCC
- Others charities commissioned by safeguarding partners
- Religious Organisations (as set out in the school admissions regulations 2012)
- All sport and leisure providers

OTHER AGENCIES INCLUDED IN THE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN ARRANGEMENTS

Voluntary Community Social Enterprise
- Voluntary Action North East Lincolnshire
- North Bank Forum
- Carers Support Centre
- Others significant to the area

Faith-based organisations
- All faith based organisations

Private sector organisations
- Private sector organisations who provide activities, support and services to children, young people and families
Fire and rescue service
• Humberside Fire and Rescue Service

Health providers
• Virgin Care
• Addaction

Others
• Health watch
• Office of Police and Crime Commissioner
• Elected Members

This list is the selected relevant agencies and other named organisations and agencies. Other organisations and agencies with responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children who are not listed will still have a responsibility for working under the auspices of the NELSCP arrangements.

As the three safeguarding partners we will:
• Ensure the relevant agencies are aware of the expectations placed on them by the Safeguarding Children Partnership arrangements
• Consult with relevant agencies in developing the safeguarding arrangements to make sure the expectations take account of an agency’s structure and statutory obligations
• Assure ourselves that relevant agencies have appropriate, robust safeguarding policies and procedures in place and how information will be shared amongst all relevant agencies and safeguarding partners
• Determine how regularly our list of relevant agencies will be reviewed
• Be clear on how agencies with a national remit should collaborate and take account of that agency’s individual responsibilities and potential contributions towards a number of safeguarding arrangements

Once designated as a relevant agency, agencies are under a duty to cooperate with the published safeguarding arrangements.

Relevant Agencies
The strength of local partnership working is predicated on safeguarding partners working collaboratively with relevant agencies, whose involvement the safeguarding partners consider is required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Our Safeguarding Children Partnership arrangements will engage local organisations and agencies to collaborate and provide targeted support to children, young people and families. The local approach also enables joint identification of, and response to, existing and emerging needs, and to agreeing priorities to improve outcomes for them.
8. Wider partnership agencies

Whilst wider safeguarding partner organisations are not named in the relevant agency regulations, their involvement is crucial within the safeguarding arrangements. These can include, for example Humberside Fire and Rescue Service, Lincolnshire Housing Partnership, voluntary, charity, social enterprise who provide activities, support and services for children and families, private sector organisations, faith-based organisations and other health providers. Organisations and agencies that are not named in the relevant agency regulations, whilst not under a statutory duty, should nevertheless cooperate and collaborate with the safeguarding partners particularly as they may have duties under section 10 and/or section 11 of the Children Act 2004.

Where a relevant agency has a national remit, such as the British Transport Police and Children and Families Court Advisory and Support Services, the safeguarding partners will collaborate and take account of that agency’s individual responsibilities. The safeguarding partners have secured the clinical expertise of designated health professionals for safeguarding and looked after children within their arrangements.

9. How all early years’ settings, schools, academies, colleges and other educational establishments will be included in safeguarding arrangements

In respect of the educational landscape the area has a lot of academies:

- 38/48 primary schools are academies
- All 10 secondary schools are academies
- There is one key stage four secondary provision academy provided by a further education provider
- Both special schools are academies
- Both pupil referral units are academies
- There is one teaching school at one of the secondary academies
- There are three independent schools in the area (one of which is for children and young people with special education needs and disabilities (SEND)
- There are two further education colleges (one of which is a 6th form and one provides higher education)
- There is one post 16 specialist SEND provision

Schools/academies and colleges are represented in our NELSCP partnership arrangements.

Early years providers play a crucial role in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, as defined by their duties under Section 40 of the Childcare Act 2006. There are robust arrangements in place at a
strategic and operational level to engage with early years providers to ensure they are fulfilling their safeguarding responsibilities, for example through annual safeguarding audits and the nursery and childminders safeguarding forums.

There are established, collaborative relationships with schools/academies and colleges, which are built on open and transparent partnership and governance arrangements. For example the school child protection coordinators forum, the safeguarding education sub group and primary and secondary heads forum and associated safeguarding audit frameworks.

Through the Multi Agency Innovation Hub there will be opportunities to build on existing mechanisms and develop an even more unique, innovative approach to engaging with early years’ providers, schools/academies, colleges and other educational providers in the new arrangements.

10. How youth custody and residential homes for children will be included in the new safeguarding arrangements.

The Youth Offending Service will report to our NELSCP and will continue to support our Partnership through the Local Authority Children’s Services representative on the Partnership. The Youth Offending Service is directly represented on our NELSCP Improving Practice Group and on wider sub-groups.

There are no Youth Custody homes within the local authority but those which are in the region will be required to report on arrangements as and when necessary.

There is representation from the residential homes, which are in the area of the local authority, on our NELSCP Multi-Agency Child Exploitation Panel (MACE)

All residential homes for children within North East Lincolnshire, including those provided by North East Lincolnshire Council and private sector organisations, are selected by the safeguarding partners as relevant agencies. There are mechanisms in place to engage residential homes in local arrangements which will include the section 11 process and the local provider forum.

11. How the safeguarding partners will use data and intelligence to assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help

Our NELSCP uses data and intelligence to assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families across the safeguarding system, from early help to children looked after and care leavers. It is focussed around the journey of the child. There are opportunities to further develop our performance
data and intelligence across our Partnership and bring together one multi-agency dataset, so that we can better understand our collective impact.

We will develop our approach to the principles of Outcomes Based Accountability, which identifies five key questions to inform our monitoring, evaluation and next steps planning:

- What is the outcome we want for our children, young people and families?
- What is the curve we want to turn – what does success look like?
- What is the story behind the baseline – where have we been and where are we headed?
- How much did we do, how well did we do it and is anyone better off (performance measures)?
- Are we making a difference (indicators)?

A wide range of performance, activity and compliance data is regularly used across the workforce to aid ongoing management oversight and ensure best practice. This is a key feature of the NELSCP Scrutiny and Assurance Framework, which also incorporates case audit, quality assurance and practice observations and service user feedback and views. Performance data and intelligence is routinely collated and fed into key partnership and governance arrangements.

This is not exhaustive of all the opportunities for oversight, but does take account of the performance and intelligence monitoring across our key NELSCP partnership and governance structure.

There will be a flexible approach to monitoring performance and intelligence to ensure that the information collated relates to current need and any new and emerging threats, to inform decision-making and strategic direction leading to better outcomes.

The multi-agency dataset includes data on all aspects from early help through to statutory intervention. Contributions to the core data set are received quarterly from partners who also provide the story behind the figures. The dataset is scrutinised and analysed by the relevant sub-groups and by our NELSCP Improving Practice Group and the Children’s Safeguarding Assurance Group.

Each sub-group produces highlight report, on activity, actions and performance, including on how the ‘voice of the child’ has been included in the work of the sub-group and the safeguarding needs of disabled children. A composite report is presented to our Partnership, highlighting performance, issues, exceptions, actions and recommendations for further action. Our Partnership, and each sub-group, keeps an action log which is reviewed and completion of each action recorded. Actions and outcomes from all case audits and reviews are reviewed and re-reviewed to ensure that they are embedded in practice. Our NELSCP Delivery Plan records and reviews actions and outcomes for each Partnership priority.
12. How inter-agency training will be commissioned, delivered and monitored for impact

Locally, there is an ongoing commitment to developing a consistent approach to multi-agency training which is underpinned by robust evaluation processes to ensure that the training programme is clearly focussed on the needs of our partners to deliver effective services. In addition to needs analysis, the training programme is informed by case audit processes, local and national case reviews and research.

Through the Multi Agency Innovation Hub there will be further developments to enhance the commissioning, delivery, monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of all commissioned multi-agency training. The outcomes will be fed into partnership and governance processes and this information will also be included in our annual report.

Under the auspices of our Safeguarding Children Partnership arrangements, the safeguarding partners will undertake needs analyses to understand what training is required locally. All safeguarding partner organisations and the locally selected relevant agencies will be required to contribute. A Safeguarding Children Partnership training programme is available on the website, developed on an annual basis and published through the website. Training is available at a basic, intermediate and advanced level. The training programme is flexible, updated and republished as required to reflect local need.

Continuous learning is key to improving outcomes for our children, young people and families. We will work towards a collective understanding of new and emerging threats, trends and issues, familiarising ourselves with evidenced based practice about what works, utilising research. We will provide the children’s workforce with the knowledge, skills and mind-sets to transform the theory of training into day to day practice.

As outlined in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, multi-agency training is important for supporting our collective understanding of local need and for practitioners to be effective in universal services and across the safeguarding pathway. The premise of multi-agency training is that it is ‘added value’ and ‘better together’ to provide a collective understanding of the local needs of children and families the new and emerging threats This spans from early help to specialist services including children looked after and care leavers.

In addition to training activities, there will also be development opportunities under the auspices of the Safeguarding Children arrangements focussed around information sessions, practice forums and conferences. These development activities promote putting theory and research into practice, developing evidence-based practice and expertise, sharing perspectives and learning and enhancing confidence in helping and protecting children and young people. Publications that support learning and that may be of interest will also be made available and published on the SAFER NEL website.
13. How we will undertake any inter-agency audits and implement learning

The Safeguarding Children Partnership Scrutiny and Assurance Framework provides clarity regarding how safeguarding partnership arrangements will be reviewed and how any recommendations will be taken forward. This includes the process and timescales for ongoing review of the arrangements to ensure they remain fit for purpose. The Framework also clarifies mechanisms for scrutinising our Safeguarding Children Partnership arrangements through individual safeguarding partner’s organisational scrutiny functions, the outcomes of which can contribute to learning across the wider partnership as well as the individual organisations themselves.

The framework informs all elements of the system and will feed into both the Improving Practice Group and the Children’s Safeguarding Assuring Group, Innovation Hub and NELSCP. It will enable safeguarding partners to:

- Have a direct line of sight to practice
- Take account of independent scrutiny which helps determine the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements
- Inform practice through audit
- Receive challenge from Youth Action
- Have assurance whether inter agency practice is joined up and effectively safeguards and promotes the welfare of children

The Managing Improving Practice Group will quality-assure practice at both a multi and single agency level. Audit themes will be aligned to the Partnership priorities and identified and emerging themes from performance exceptions and audit themes through single agency audit findings. Assurance activity will include:

- Audit against Section 11 of the Children Act 2004
- Agency Specific Assurance event(s)
- Thematic Assurance event(s)
- Practice learning line of sight event(s)
- Peer Review

14. How the arrangements will be funded

The board will approve a finance & resourcing plan on an annual basis to deliver against the priorities. Funding for the partnership has been secured for 2019/20. Details of funding will be published in the Partnership Annual report.
15. How the threshold document setting out the local criteria for action aligns with safeguarding arrangements

Alongside the development of our new safeguarding arrangements we have reviewed our approach to Thresholds of Need and produced an updated model and guidance. The approach details how and when to take action to help children if the need arises. It has been developed to help all who work with individual children and/or their families to raise concerns and respond to needs with the best type of support. Support can be provided by any agency, professional, parent/carer, volunteers, children/young person and other family members and should be bespoke to the individual child’s needs.

A new document called ‘Together for All – Thresholds of Need 2019’ outlines:

- The thresholds for access to services to support actions required to improve outcomes for children
- The crossing points between early help, safeguarding and child protection
- A focus on getting in early with the right help as outlined in the area’s Prevention and early help Strategy

Our model considers four key questions when assessing a family:
1. What are we worried about – we discuss harm and complicating factors
2. What’s working well – we talk about existing strengths and the ways in which people positively contribute to the child’s safety
3. How worried are we on a scale of 0-10? - enables all to make a judgement on the situation
4. What needs to happen? - Who will do what in everyday life to ensure worries/wellbeing concerns are dealt with?

The Safeguarding Children Partnership has adopted a new structure which will strengthen the way in which partners work together whilst continuing to use the Signs of Safety framework. The Signs of Safety framework is designed to enable the participation of children, young people and their families to identify strengths we can build on. Where there are worries, we particularly look at whether the child has experienced harm, the evidence for this, its impact on the child and if there are issues that complicate the situation. We then together consider what the family, practitioners and/or children’s social care can do to support the family to keep children safe, happy and well.

The diagram shows the Thresholds of Need and responses:
The Threshold of Need approach stresses the importance of all agencies taking appropriate responsibility and working together to meet the needs of the child.

16. How the arrangements will include the voice of children and families

The voice of children, young people and their families is at the heart of our Partnership. Partners are committed to engaging at an individual, service and strategic level. We will make use of the various systems, processes, groups and forums to gather the views, either directly through services, through independent voice representatives or through established groups and networks.

Building on this strong foundation of voice and engagement the safeguarding partners will forge the new approach to working with young people into a more enduring model that focuses on understanding strengths and assets, as well as contextual safeguarding issues whilst acknowledging individuals as the experts in their own lives and managing risk facing behaviours in a positive way.
The ambition is to engage with all children and young people who experience services, particularly those who are harder to engage. Agencies and organisations will make sure that the information, help, protection and services are available at the right time and the right place leading to better outcomes where children and young people are resilient and safe.

We will work with established groups and forums where children and young people can have their say, share their views and experiences, challenge and support local decision makers and shape and influence strategic planning, commissioning and service provision at all levels.

These include:

- Routine feedback from children and young people involved with services
- Primary, adolescent and college lifestyle surveys
- Involvement of young people in the scrutiny and assurance framework
- Involvement of young people in commissioning and recruitment
- Involvement in ‘Make Your Mark’ annual youth ballot where young people get to vote on issues that matter to them
- Attendance at key boards and partnerships
- Opportunities that come from established groups such as Young Reporters, Youth Action, Children in Care Council, Youth Parliament.

17. Child death reviews

Locally the local Child Death Review Partners responsible for ensuring child death reviews are undertaken is the North East Lincolnshire Council Chief Executive and North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group Chief Clinical Officer. As NEL have a joint child death review arrangement with North Lincolnshire this will be undertaken jointly through the Northern Lincolnshire child death arrangements. Locally, the lead representatives have delegated their functions to the Director of Public Health, North East Lincolnshire Council and Director of Quality and Nursing, North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group

The CDR partners have the responsibility and authority for ensuring full participation with Northern Lincolnshire Child Death Review arrangements, though the lead representatives remain accountable for any actions or decisions taken on behalf of their respective agency. The lead representatives and those they have delegated their authority to, are able to:

- Speak with authority for the child death partner they represent
- Take decisions on behalf of their organisation or agency and commit them on policy, resourcing and practice matters
- Hold their own organisation or agency to account on how effectively they participate and implement the local arrangements.

More detail regarding child death partners’ roles and responsibilities will be articulated in the Northern Lincolnshire Child Death Review arrangements Memorandum of Understanding.
A report of the activity of the Northern Lincolnshire Child Death Arrangements will be presented to the NELSCP on an annual basis. The Local child death review arrangements are aligned to the local Child Safeguarding Review arrangements.

18. Dispute resolution

Working collaboratively to safeguarding and promote the welfare of children and families leading to better outcomes is at the heart of our local arrangements. Through effective leadership, openness, transparency and effective professional challenge, there is a commitment to resolving any disputes locally between the safeguarding partners, selected relevant agencies and other organisations and agencies in a timely fashion.

If a clear, single point of leadership is required, safeguarding partners will agree the most appropriate partner, who will act on behalf of and in the interest of all three safeguarding partners. This will be done through a discussion at our Safeguarding Children Partnership or if done outside of the Partnership arena, it shall be referenced and recorded at our Safeguarding Children Partnership as required.

The first point of resolution of issues would be through the three safeguarding partners. Any issues which cannot be resolved directly between the three safeguarding partners will be escalated to the lead representatives of the three safeguarding partners Director of Children’s Services, North East Lincolnshire Council Director of Nursing and Quality, NHS North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group Chief Superintendent, Humberside Police.

In the event that a resolution cannot be reached, the issue would be escalated to an Independent Scrutiny Officer in the first instance for consideration, mediation (if required) and resolution. If a meeting is required, the meeting will be chaired by an Independent Scrutiny Officer with an agenda agreed prior to the meeting by all parties involved.

It is acknowledged that any safeguarding partners that fail to comply with their obligations under law are held to account through a variety of regulatory and inspection activity, for example Ofsted, Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and the Care Quality Commission. If no resolution can be reached, consideration should be given by the three safeguarding partners to seek formal independent arbitration via a professional body such as the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators to reach an acceptable conclusion. Where necessary, legislation allows the Secretary of State to take enforcement action against any agency that is not meeting its statutory obligations as part of local safeguarding arrangements.

Multi-Agency practice escalation processes

All agencies work within different structures and from a variety of professional backgrounds and perspectives, though they should work co-operatively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This is reliant of all agencies complying with Working Together 2018 and the underpinning Safeguarding Children Partnership arrangements policies and procedures. In the event of any disagreement between
practitioners involved in the Safeguarding Children Partnership arrangements relating to multi-agency practice it is necessary to have in place a quick and straightforward means of ensuring safeguarding arrangements and resolving professional differences of opinion, as detailed in the Safeguarding Children Partnership Escalation procedure.

19. Reporting Annually

As safeguarding partners we will publish an annual report setting out work undertaken by the Partnership and the partners to safeguard children and young people during the previous year and the effectiveness of arrangements.

The report will include:

- Agreed priorities
- Evidence of the impact of the work of the safeguarding partners and relevant agencies on outcomes for children and families
- An analysis of any areas where there has been little or no evidence of progress on agreed priorities
- A record of actions taken by the safeguarding partners in the reporting period (or planned to be taken) to implement the recommendations of any child safeguarding practice review
- Ways in which the partners have sought and utilised feedback from children, young people and families to inform their work and influence service provision.

Our annual report will be endorsed by the Safeguarding Children Partnership on behalf of the North East Lincolnshire Council Chief Executive, North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group Accountable Officer and Chief Officer of Humberside Police. Following endorsement, the report will be distributed through relevant governance and accountability routes across the three safeguarding partners (via North East Lincolnshire Council’s democratic functions, the Clinical Commissioning Group’s Governing Body and Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner). It will also be distributed across relevant partnership and governance arrangements as required.

Our annual report will be subject to independent scrutiny by prior to final publication.
20. **Endorsement**

We endorse the content of the Local Safeguarding Arrangements Plan and accept responsibility for working under the auspices of the conditions outlined above.

Steve Kay  
Director of Children’s Services  
North East Lincolnshire Council

Jan Haxby  
Director of Nursing and Quality Assurance  
North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group

Darren Wildbore  
Chief Superintendent  
Humberside Police

[www.safernel.co.uk/nelsafeguarding-children-partnership](http://www.safernel.co.uk/nelsafeguarding-children-partnership)