

**North East Lincolnshire  
Safeguarding Children  
Partnership Annual Report  
2019 to 2020**

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# 1) Foreword



**Darren Wildbore**  
Chief Superintendent  
Humberside Police  
NEL SCP Chair



**Joanne Hewson**  
Chief Operating Officer  
(Director of Children's Services  
North East Lincolnshire Council



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

## Our Vision

**“Our Partnership’s vision is to work together to ensure safeguarding arrangements within our place are proactive, robust, effective and clear and for help and support to be offered at the earliest point to enable children, young people and families to have positive outcomes, where they reach their full potential”**

*All three safeguarding partners  
have equal and joint responsibility for local safeguarding  
arrangements.*

This is the first annual report of the new North East Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership, it covers the period from 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020.

From March 2020 there was severe pressure faced across our communities and across all services as a result of the Coronavirus Pandemic This resulted in huge changes to the daily lives of children /families adults with care and support needs which will present heightened levels of risk for some.

The NEL SCP worked closely with the Safeguarding Adult Board and Community Safety under the SAFER NEL arrangements to ensure there was a joined up and consistent approach to supporting children, adults with care and support needs and local communities to meet both current and potential future risk and need.

This included changes to the way all services worked and the introduction of Shielding Hubs within the community and the Vulnerability Hub and the development of virtual contact arrangements for children.

This report recognises the progress the NEL Safeguarding Children Partnership (NELSCP) has made throughout the year and the challenges that remain that we will continue to address in 2020/21 as outlined in the Local arrangement Plan

The NEL SCP has a commitment to and has worked to the following shared values and principles that underpin everything we do as a partnership:

- To actively listen.
- To be child focussed.
- To work in a strength based way.
- To be a learning partnership.
- To focus on practice improvement.
- To be accountable.
- To value and support our workforce.
- To undertake engagement and co-production.
- To always ask the 'so what?' question and ensure what we do makes a difference.

### **Safeguarding Children Partnership Board**

The Safeguarding Children Partnership Board is the key decision-making body and consists of the executive leads of the three statutory partners. Representatives from the three safeguarding partners, the Partnership Business Manager, Professional Scrutiny Officers, Chair of the Safeguarding Assurance and Improvement, Safeguarding Review Group key representatives from relevant agencies meet four times

Its function is to coordinate and assure the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements. This is achieved through oversight of performance analysis, assurance activity, risk, challenge, the voice of the child in delivering the two outcomes. The published arrangements can be found through the link below or on the website. [Safer NEL](#)

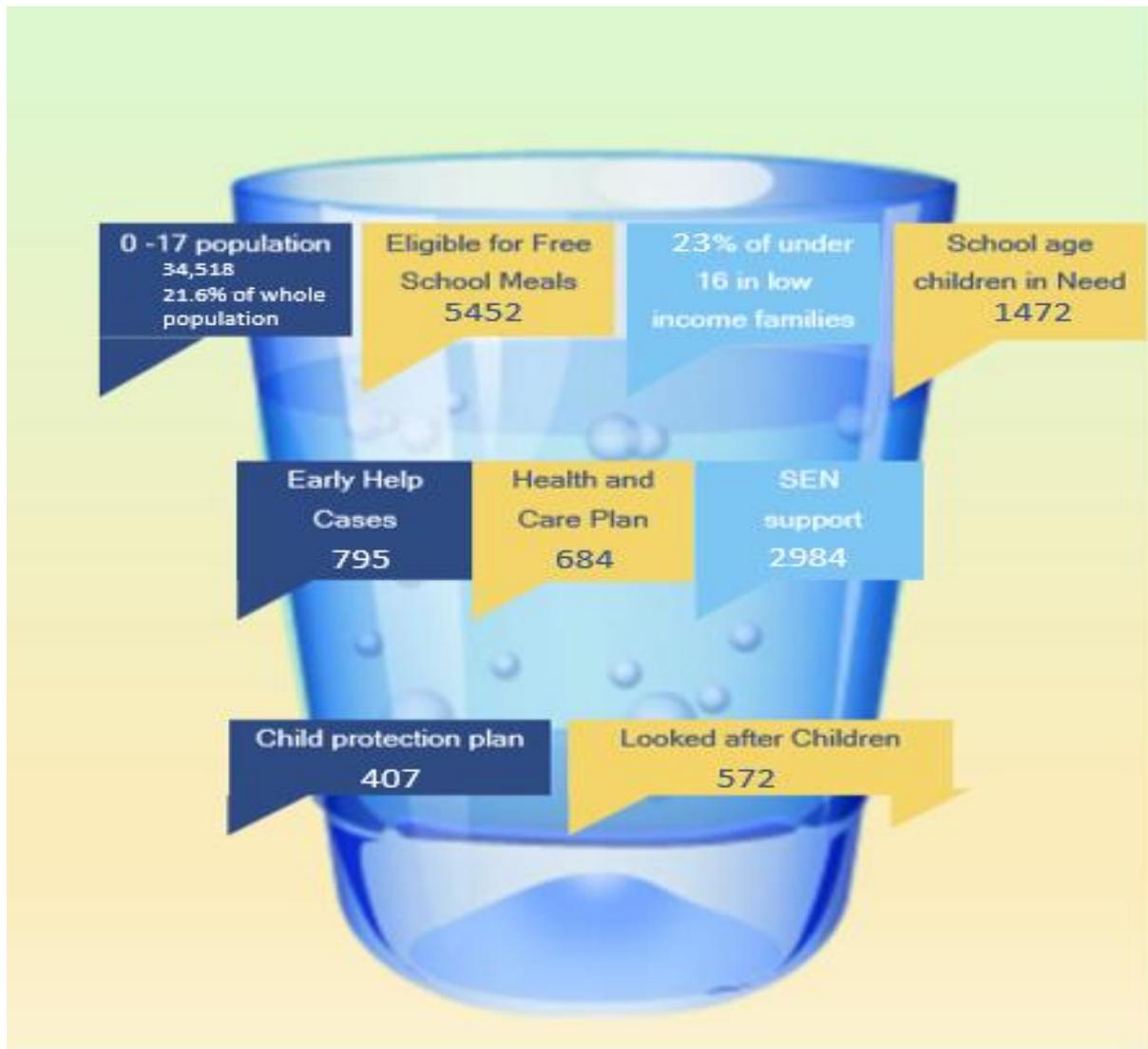
## **2) What We Know About Children in North East Lincolnshire**

### **Key Needs Data**

Children living in low income families aged under 16 years (2019) 21.3% compared to England 15.3 %. During the period 2015-2019 North East Lincolnshire's income deprivation among children rank increased by 6 places to 30th most deprived (out of 317 LAs). (*Source Indices of Deprivation 2019*)

- Number of Child Protection Plans at 31/3/20 = 407 (rate 117.96 per 10,000). All England average rate for 2018-19 was 43.7 per 10,000.
- Looked After Children = 572 (rate 165.8 per 10,000). All England average rate for 2018-19 was 65 per 10,000.
- Number of Early help cases at 31/3/20 = 795 (including episodes and assessments)
- School age children in need in North East Lincolnshire – 1158 - of those; 134 on a Health and care plan, this is 13.5% compared to England 21.6%
- 253 receiving SEN Support, 25.5% compared to England 24.4%
- 561 eligible for free school meals, 57.6% compared to England 54.1%
- 241 were the subject of a Child Protection Plan.

*Source Children in need outcomes local authority tables: 2019*



### 3) What Children and Young People Told Us

The NEL SCP and Influence Strategy seeks to assure the SCP through the Voice and Influence Strategy and action plan that services have a process for hearing the voice of the child, they are listening and improvements are made to service delivery and practice as a result. A virtual Voice of the Child Task and Finish Group is responsible for the implementation of the strategy action plan and for submitting biannual Voice and Influence reports to the SCP.

The NEL SCP have worked with youth action to develop a Young Inspectors Programme where young people will actively be involved in undertaking inspection visits to agencies as aligned to the SCP Scrutiny and Assurance Framework and supported will be supported by the Professional Scrutiny Officers. This will commence in Autumn 2020.

The NEL SCP also receive the wider Voice and Influence annual report. Children and young people have several opportunities to share their thoughts and influence action in the Borough. We will continue to strive to understand the world through the eyes of children and young people to inform our practice and the services we provide to support them to. This is essential in a child centred environment. A child who feels really heard by all services working with them will be more likely to share when they feel unsafe.

Young people said, “visiting the civic building is stressful for me, I feel that people are staring at me from above and judging me.” The young person’s waiting and working area were created with young people as a result

Young people said “kids should feel safe on the streets” as a result we have created a range of opportunities for young people to inform the SCP including young inspectors and are looking to promote spaces that are safe for children and young people and young people are involved now and will continue throughout the development of the OnSide Youth Zone in Grimsby.

Young people said “we want to learn the skills we need for when we are living independently” as a result directors have been attending group meetings and cooking with the young people sharing recipes they learned as they were growing up. In care leavers food parcels have had recipes and the ingredients to make meals for themselves. They said they loved having the right ingredients and simple instructions to make food they enjoy.



Your Voice Your Vote is the local version of an annual consultation run in previous years called Make Your Mark. Make your Mark is the youth consultation run through the UK Youth Parliament supported by the British Youth Council and delivered in Local authorities across the UK in September each year. In March 2019 the decision was made due to limited capacity that we would not elect a new team to UK Youth Parliament for North East Lincolnshire but that we would still like to take part in the successful annual youth consultation with young people locally. Over 300 young people locally submitted over 500 topics they would like to see on the ballot paper. The top ten of those topics submitted were used to vote on during the consultation.

There were **4183** votes cast by young people aged 11-19 years. From the possible students who could have voted in these academies we saw a 50% turnout across the board. The two priority issues for North East Lincolnshire are the same as last year **Mental Health and Knife Crime** except Mental health has moved up to the top issue and Knife crime down to second.

Mental health received 22% of all votes and if you include the votes cast for exam stress support this goes up to 31% of all votes from young people in our area.

Youth Action members have a campaign plan in place for mental health work including revisiting the work already done and getting that promoted, working with Compass in developing their work as Mental Health Support Teams in North East Lincolnshire. This includes working with them to develop the branding and promotional/awareness raising materials for use with young people. Progress and the difference made will be reported as part of the next Your Voice Your Vote campaign and subsequent report.

### **Youth Voice Matters Event**

The Youth Voice Matters event for January 2020 was planned and delivered by young people who are part of the Youth Action group for North East Lincolnshire. These young people are aged 12-21 and are regular members, trained as Young Advisors as part of the National network of Young Advisors. The aim of the event was to bring together young people, senior managers and representatives from organisations and services linked to the Your Voice Your Vote top topics. The event saw 30 young people and adult delegates working together through discussions and activities to prioritise the actions and explain why they came to those decisions. Also sharing their views about what outcomes

we might see if we do this right and how we would know that this has made a difference for young people locally.

Issues discussed relating to the top topics were:

- Youth homeless,
- Feeling safe wherever you are
- Spiritual groups and the lack of access to these for young people specifically

This led to a wider discussion around creating and promoting existing 'Safe places' which would contribute to improving mental health, reducing knife and violent crime as well as transport accessibility. Following the table discussions and sharing the feedback it was generally agreed that all present felt a good starting point for the actions to take would be to focus on finding and promoting already safe spaces, creating safer spaces in already existing places and developing safe spaces through working with OnSide for the Youth Zone to be built over the coming 2-3 years.

Since the Youth Voice Matters event some of the planned activity around identifying and promoting existing safe places has been on hold due to the restrictions around Covid-19. We have continued to support the Youth Zone Young People's Development Group at the online meetings. Youth Action members have continued to work together online to develop and plan the process for the 'Young Advisors Inspection Team' who will be able to work with the Safeguarding Children Partnership to provide a young person's perspective on a number of key themes including how safe a service or place feels and how evident it is that the place or service hear and allow the voice of children and young people to influence its development.



Youth Action are the Borough wide youth voice group for 11-25 year olds who plan campaigns and actions coming out of the Your Voice Your Vote consultation as well as the consultation itself. Youth Action group have a member who represents young people on the Children and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny panel and another member who delivers a speech at least twice per year to the Full Council meeting. Both roles, through their representation, share the views of young people and their priority issues through the results of the Your Voice Your Vote consultation and subsequent planning workshops that follow including the Youth Voice Matters events. In addition, they invite and engage with managers of service areas or organisations relevant to improving the issues raised.

For example, the group have ongoing conversations with the Assistant Director for Safer NEL and Manager of the Safeguarding Children Partnership. Being a part of these groups creates real opportunities for young people to develop skills and experience in presentation skills, representing the views of others and increasing their confidence. They build up a network of contacts that they might not normally meet through their contribution to the meetings. The information and perspective they share at these meetings is inciteful for those involved and allows them to understand some of the issues and topics being discussed through the eyes of a child/young person.

This group planned and delivered the Youth Voice Matters event and were involved in doing further consultation in February 2020 with SENDIASS through their BIG Event where they consulted with the young people and families attending on where they feel safe and what makes them feel safe in their communities. This consultation is being used by SENDIASS as well as helping in planning the safe places and safe spaces for young people work of the Youth Action Group.

Members of this group also sit on regional youth voice groups and are part of the national Young Advisors network. This offers the opportunity for the young people to create wider networks, share their good practice and learn from others to help us with solutions in our local area. The regional and

national work also amplifies the voice of children and young people taking it from a local campaign to a regional or national one.



Our Voice Listen Up is the children in care council for young people aged 11-17 in North East Lincolnshire and this group engage with managers on a regular basis to discuss their ideas, experiences and issues in a relaxed environment whilst learning skills for life. The group invite directors and senior managers to come along to their meetings and bring a recipe to cook and eat together. They held a summer BBQ and invited the Corporate Parenting Board members to come along taking part in a treasure hunt and again a relaxed environment to hold conversations.

This group heard from other young people that the Civic building did not feel very welcoming or comfortable for young people needing to access support from their social worker or support worker there. They consulted about what makes a space feel and look welcoming and comfortable for young people and from this negotiated with senior managers and the assets team to create a young people friendly space. This was opened by young people with the Director for Children's Services in November 2019. One young person using the space at the civic building said

“before the space was available I wouldn't have been able to wait (except in main reception) to see the person I needed and I probably would have kicked off” he said “instead I was able to wait in the warm and get to see the person I needed to see”.

The group have been advising the family time service on how they can make the spaces used for family time relevant an appropriate for young people as well as younger children because they felt that many of the spaces were more focussed on the younger children and they wanted to see it have activities and facilities that would suit a family with different aged children. The work on the physical spaces has been put on hold during the restrictions around Covid-19.

During Lockdown the group continued to work with the family time service to request people to donate old but still functional mobile phones to be used by young people and family members so that they can have video calls and 'see' each other at a time when seeing people face to face was not possible. This resulted in some phones being donated by the community and a local housing association who might look at being able to help with technology longer term. In addition the service have been asking families and children how they are finding family time during the restrictions and what we can do differently to make things better when the restrictions lift.

Loneliness is often an issue raised by our young people and the group decided at the start of lockdown in March this year that they should start writing to others in a similar situation to make them feel better and more connected. This has resulted in the postcards to care homes and the idea they started resulted in over 50 young people taking part with hundreds of postcards being delivered. The young people are not only children in care but also those working with the Young and Safe team, Duke of Edinburgh and Young carers. The writing continues and when it is safe to so, we plan for the young people to meet those they have been writing to in the care homes.

Buddies, (Independent Visitors) are volunteers who connect with a child or young person in care and help them to develop meaningful, long term relationships with adults. Buddies usually visit a child or young person on a monthly basis and engage them in fun activities that build their confidence and self-esteem whilst acting as a positive adult 'role model' for the young person.

An example of how this is making a difference for our young people is one of our young people who is matched with a Buddy and their connection has not only helped reduce the sense of isolation during lockdown but has been a connection that has been consistent for them through their transition from being in care to a care leaver. The Buddy has offered, over recent months, support to the young person in preparing to apply and be interviewed for an apprenticeship in their chosen career. The young person was successful in gaining a traineeship initially and has now been offered to move onto the apprenticeship. They said they are

'over the moon and really appreciate the support received from the Buddy and her former Foster carer (and family) to get to this point.' they also said 'that it feels like their life is turning around now because of all this.'

An independent Advocacy Service is provided for children looked after and children subject to child protection. This offers an adult, independent of children's social care who is trained to support the child to share their views and experiences as well as their wishes and feelings to contribute to their review/conference meetings. The numbers of children requesting and accessing this service has significantly increased during the year and we have plans to continue this into the coming year.

100% of children who accessed the advocacy services said that speaking to an advocate helped them to tell people their views more easily than if they had not had an advocate. As a result, the range of promotional activities was increased to encourage even more children to access advocacy to have their voices heard when decisions are being made about them. The impact of this was an 86% increase in children accessing an advocate from 18/19 to 19/20.

## 4) Work of the Partnertship and Impact

### 4.1 Progress against LSCB recommendations 18/19

#### Communication and engagement

- A Children Partnership communication plan has been developed which is aligned to the SCP Local Arrangement Plan, Strategic Delivery Plan and Scrutiny and Assurance Framework.
- The SCP consulted widely with relevant agencies in the development of the Local Arrangement Plan. Regular SCP progress updates have been provided through the different networks including CP Coordinators forum, Voluntary and Community sector newsletter, and the SAFER NEL website

## Governance

- The SCP had strengthened governance structure with clear remit of strategic delivery groups aligned to the achievement of the two SCP outcomes.
- A Scrutiny and Assurance Framework (SAF) and action plan is in place which aligns assurance activity to analysis data and achievement 2 outcomes.
- SCP biannual Self -Assessment undertaken evidencing progress and areas of development.
- Strategic delivery plan is place and aligned to risk register, SCP SEF and SAF action plan.
- Professional Scrutiny Officers in place and Data analyst.
- SCP Risk Register and Task and Finish group provide SCP with clear oversight of risks and measures in place to manage these including Contextual Safeguarding and Domestic Abuse
- SCP Challenge Log evidences ongoing challenge by the SCP, resolution and impact
- SCP Forward Plan ensure SCP receive key assurance/ Governance documents i.e. IRO annual report, LADO report, private fostering
- SCP is part of the TRI Board with SAB/ CSP, shared strategies include Domestic Abuse, Modern Day Slavery and Prevent
- Safeguarding procedures are reviewed annually and are accessible and widely used across the partnership
- The NEL SCP have established a multi-agency dispute resolution agreement for the resolution of concerns and disputes at a strategic level with a clear process and timescales. The NEL Partnership Escalation Procedure provides a timely and straight forward way of seeking resolution at an operational level in the event of any disagreement between practitioners involved in the NELSCP arrangements relating to multi- agency practice.

## Thresholds

- The SCP have overseen the review of the local Threshold of need in June 2019 and more recently in August 2020 as part of the development of the integrated front door. The Early Help Strategic Board provide the SCP with progress reports on the embedding and effectiveness of local thresholds and on Early Help offer and impact. The understanding and application of Thresholds is monitored will be audited through the SAF.

## **4.2 Covid-19 response**

- The SCP acted quickly in convening fortnightly SCP executive meetings
- Two Tri board baseline assessment of agency response to covid 19 undertaken in April and June 2020 with a further assessment planned

## **4.3 NEL SCP data set and use intelligence**

The NELSCP have reviewed and greatly strengthened its arrangements for using data and intelligence in assessing the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help. The SCP core data set incorporates a wide range of performance measures and compliance data from a variety of agencies across the spectrum of need and levels of intervention and across the local threshold of need. The data set is aligned to the SCP vision, the two outcome statements and the nine areas of focus. Performance data against the data set is provided on a quarterly basis and analysed by the three partner agency data analysts.

Stuart Smith (DFE appointed Chair of Improvement Board) commissioned from March - May 2020 to provide challenge support re SCP governance arrangements re core data set, risk register, SAF. All of these elements strengthened as a result. The three partner agency Professional Scrutiny Officers translate the data and intelligence into meaning for practice and identify and report current need and any new and emerging threat to the SCP to inform decision making.

The SCP Scrutiny and Assurance Framework and action plan is integral to the effective delivery of the SCP strategic delivery plan and the two outcome statements in assessing the effectiveness of the safeguarding system and evidencing improvements to practice and children’s outcomes and includes:-

- Mechanisms for direct line of sight to practice.
- Take account of independent scrutiny which helps determine the effectiveness of arrangements.
- Audit/ benchmarking activity.
- Young inspectors’ arrangements.
- Independent scrutiny.
- Peer review arrangements.
- Stakeholder events including voluntary and community sector.

#### **4.4 Audit findings**

Audits were undertaken in respect of Thresholds, Domestic Abuse, Sexual harm, Criminal Exploitation during 2019/20. The findings and actions from audits have informed practice and the work undertaken by the Safeguarding Assurance and Improvement group in improving practice. The Safeguarding Assurance and Scrutiny Framework and the development of the Professional Scrutiny Officers has strengthened audit and assurance processes and added capacity.

| <b>Themes</b>             | <b>Findings</b>   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Timeliness of referral    | The referral was responded to in a timely manner in the majority of cases audited   |
| Identification risk       | Presenting risk was identified and understood in most cases, there were some missed opportunities to fully consider previous harm in understanding current risk   |
| Assessment                | The quality of assessments was not consistent with a lack of shared understanding of all of the factors impacting on the child. There was some evidence of escalation of cases in respect of being at the right threshold   |
| Impact of the plan        | The quality of the child’s plan was variable across the audits and cases and was impacted upon by the quality of the assessment. The plan was sufficient to address risk in the majority of cases.  |
| Inter -agency working     | There was evidence of a joint approach to concerns raised by agencies and effective identification of risk  |
| Childs voice, involvement | There were examples of individual agencies capturing the child’s voice and direct work being undertaken. There was some evidence the child views had informed the plan however this was not consistent across the cases audited and the child’s lived experience was not clear on the whole |

#### **4.5 Early Help**

NELC continues to deliver a locality family hub model grouped into four areas, based on whole ward boundaries. The offer integrates family support, health visiting, school nursing, youth services and non-statutory youth offending and brings together wider partners who support children, young people and families, such as Police early intervention across wards of highest demand.

Each locality has a specialist lead in a themed area (as noted above), team manager/s, case supervisors and families first practitioners (FFP's), distributed across the localities dependent upon need. Practitioner skills, knowledge and experience range from the early years, parenting and family support, missing, exploited and trafficked young people and skills to support young people at risk of offending.

Significant work has continued across the partnership to take a whole family approach in keeping with the Troubled Families programme and major progress has been made in relation to payment by results in the year which totalled 717 successful claims (£573,000). This all supported continued high levels of resource within Locality Family Hubs.

During this year, the service has aligned more closely to Children's Social Care and has supported the management of a significant spike in demand providing interventions to those families most at risk. This has accounted for approximately 48% of the Locality family Hub resource during this period.

This has been a challenging period and has only highlighted further that Prevention and early help needed to be refocussed in North East Lincolnshire. To this end work commenced towards the end of the year with a broad range of partners to start to review our position in relation to Strategy, partnership, practice, data and performance. This resulted in the creation of a Transformation Plan with the following four priorities

- Strategic Development and Planning
- Workforce and Practice Development
- Building Better Partnerships
- Smarter Use of Data and Resources

We continue to take a whole system, place based approach to our collective issues and aim to work with children, young people and families together to address these, in order to make the most of the resources we have and offer the best deal to our communities. Family hubs also work across the threshold of need, providing consistent professional support at every level.

#### **The Offer – how well have we done it**

NELC and their Partnership have adopted an outcomes framework with 5 areas of focus: Feel safe and are Safe, Health and well-being, Strong Economy, Sustainable Communities and Skills and Learning. The Family Hub priority outcomes focus on prevention and safeguarding; that every child is brought up by supportive and nurturing families. Further focused outcomes include Health & Wellbeing and Skills & Learning.

Highlight reports for each of the themes (Early years, strengthening families, Vulnerabilities and Out of Court and Diversion are completed on a quarterly basis and cover Early Years 0-5.

Sitting behind these outcomes are a number of key indicators to measure progress. Those indicated as primary indicators for Family Hubs are:

- Number of children showing a good level of development age 5
- Incidence of abuse
- Domestic abuse rates
- Crime rates

Setting out these outcomes and indicators offer Senior Managers the information needed in order to performance manage.

It is important to add that the end of the Year and the start of the global pandemic led to a significant change in the way Early Help was delivered for a period. A significant shift towards virtual support was created to support and enable families and professionals to safeguard children.

A risk stratification of all families who may be considered as vulnerable followed and a team of Early Help staff formed a Virtual Support Hub offering support advice to over 3000 households during the lockdown period.

#### **4.6 Contextual Safeguarding**

Ensuring an effective multi-agency response to children and young people at risk of Child Exploitation has been a key focus for the local authority and for partner agencies. There has been a recent review of the singular strategies with these been revised, with a singular adolescent strategy encompassing all areas of adolescent risk and exploitation. This strategy focuses on the local authority, moving forward, implementing a contextual safeguarding approach in our response to extra familial harm.

Tackling child criminal exploitation is a high priority for the local authority; the risk is ever changing, which can complicate the issue, making it apparent that in order to tackle this, a multi-faceted approach to child exploitation is required. The nature of the extra familial harm and the children, who are targeted by such groups, requires there to be unity of strategy and resource to ensure that the risk to these children is managed, and that there are clear and safe exit strategies for these children once in an exploitative situation. Partnership working with police has strengthened in the last year, ensuring that we are taking a victim led approach to exploitation, whilst also ensuring that perpetrating adults and places of concern are being actively disrupted- all of which seek to further safeguard the children at risk of exploitation.

There is a clear process in place around exploitation which has been rolled out to partners. This covers those children who are low risk and in need of preventative work, through to those children who are at our highest risk of exploitation. This requires a close partnership with the early help localities to ensure that required work around vulnerabilities is available and actioned, when required, with the aim of reducing the prevalence of the concerns. The process includes the discussion of children at a weekly vulnerability screening, OVM (Operational Vulnerability Meeting) and MACE. MACE is co-chaired by strategic leads within Children's Social care and Humberside Police and is the key driving force behind the child criminal exploitation strategy.

The Local Authority was successful in 2018 a bid made to the Home Office, Trusted Relationships Funded Project, this has resulted in the local authority, been one of only 12 in the Country to receive this funding, and has led to the formation of and implementation of a project that works with children who are victims of exploitation, trafficking and modern day slavery. The specialist project aims to tackle the regional drivers of Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE), namely low aspiration, substance misuse and involvement in the illegal drugs market. Interventions are delivered by practitioners with small caseloads on a one to one and group work basis, alongside signposting to sports, arts and cultural activities. A dedicated NEET worker will address the connection between CCE and being in alternative education provision. The project adopts a trauma informed approach with the aim of helping victims achieve positive destinations in relation to education and leisure, aiding exit from exploitative situations and creating positive relationships with organisations and individuals that are not professionals working within statutory services.

Further to the above the following progress has also been made:

- Adolescent risk Strategy is now complete.
- Missing Coordinator post has been agreed and commenced role within the MASH, this will allow a more coordinated timely response to missing.
- Child exploitation vulnerability tracker is being utilised. The CEVT is ensuring that we are accurately assessing the needs of our most vulnerable children and young people. This tracker enables scoring to assess in the first instance what the level of risk is and to then continue to map their journey. This will assist in all appropriate plans.
- We now have an amalgamated tracker which includes CSE, CCE and Missing (all vulnerabilities).
- Completion of a contextual screening document for use within the MASH, to ensure that extra familial harm is being considered at the first possible point.
- The Threshold of Need document has been further developed to include indicators and risk factors around children and contexts within extra familial settings and around exploitation.
- There is a high level of in house and partnership training which is being delivered around exploitation and contextual safeguarding. This is currently primarily around raising awareness and understanding the signs and symptoms and will be further developed to ensure more skill based workshops to upskill practitioners within this field.
- Close partnership with youth offending and detached youth practitioners to ensure that resources and activities are occurring within the community, taking the activity to the child. Example of this partnership work includes the recently developed process for persistent missing children.
- Close cross border working with other local authorities, both within the region and nationally.
- Development of a language toolkit which is to support the victim led approach for children who are being/at risk of exploitation- plans in place for this to be wider distributed and delivered to partners.

#### What is the impact of this work?

- Partnership working is strengthening the identification of those children who are at risk of or are currently been exploited. Not only is this resulting in better identification of children at risk, but the significance of this is reflective in our day to day approach in safeguarding children in a more timely and partnership led manner.
- Strong working relationships with external agencies including schools, Police and Youth Offending service leading to several joint initiatives, including targeted Police operations, the delivery of multi-agency training and awareness raising in schools, contextual approaches to safeguarding including peer mapping, hotspot identification and safety mapping.
- NRM's submitted have successfully identified victims as Modern-Day Slaves attracting additional victim support for them, particularly supporting in those children who are in the transition between children and adult services.
- The operational delivery mechanism against the agenda of exploitation and trafficking allows for dedicated work with those at risk.
- The implementation of the GRAFT team is resulting in high levels of engagement with the children who we are most concerned about.
- Children are receiving targeted work around child criminal exploitation at the most appropriate level for them, dependent on the level of risk identified.
- Children who are being trafficked and exploited both in and out of our area are being increasingly identified and safeguarding responses occurring in a timely manner.
- A recent quantitative and qualitative study into the project has identified the following:
  1. The data indicates a relatively high level of engagement with the service. The average number of practitioner contacts was 11, and an average of 3 disclosures per participant

over the duration of their engagement, with the majority still engaged at the point of the data pull (62%).

2. While causal claims cannot be made, changes in risk status for individual cases offer suggestive evidence that risk status changed over time. 22% of the cohort reduced their risk, and 46% of the cohort reported feeling safer as a result of the programme. Linked to this, 36% of the total cohort had achieved an exit from an exploitative situation. Risk increased by one level for 16% of the cohort, which may also be attributed to the successful development of a trusted relationship, given the majority of disclosures were made by this group.

#### Required development/ next steps

- Partnership bid joint with Humberside Police is to be made to Research in Practice and the University of Bedfordshire in order to build upon and continue to strengthen the local authority response to exploitation and contextual safeguarding.
- Embedding the tertiary model around exploitation into alternative education provisions and mainstream settings.
- Exploitation lead has recently become a core member of the safeguarding adults board in order to support in the transitional safeguarding remit- plans are in place for a Exploitation transition protocol to be developed with Children's Social Care, Humberside Police and Adults Social Care before October 2020.
- The development of an Edging Away from Care team which will primarily focus on adolescent risk, exploitation and contextual safeguarding.
- Further embed the actions as outlined within the 'Adolescent Risk/ Extra Familial Safeguarding Strategy 2020-2023
- Further development of the training offer to incorporate skills based workshops for practitioners.
- Strengthening of partnership working with the community and voluntary sector so that 'contexts' where harm occurs can be better addressed.
- Seek to obtain data analysis support - we are keen to develop thematic mapping reports and an impact measures database so that we can report on themes and specific actions that may inform agency planning/intervention.

#### **4.7 Safeguarding Training**

The SCP Learning, Development and Evaluation Strategy outlines our focus on continuous development, using evidence-based research and is informed by learning from multi-agency audits and local and national safeguarding reviews, as well as best practice. Our training is reviewed annually as a minimum and new training needs across agencies are identified.

Our membership of the Yorkshire and Humber Multi-agency Training Co-ordinators Group (YHMAST) enables us to develop key networks across the region and have input into and benefit from the sharing of resources and expertise as well as the hosting of regional events. In November 2019, delegates from North East Lincolnshire attended YHMAST regional masterclasses on Pornography, Sex, Pressures and Social Networks in Sheffield.

Safeguarding training is delivered to a range of organisations across North East Lincolnshire, including the third sector, where we have developed positive relationships and engagement with our training programme.

In 2019/20, the Safeguarding Children Partnership held an extensive range of single and multi-agency training courses, consisting of 18 different face to face courses, all delivered by local experts. A suite of safeguarding e-learning training at an awareness level provided a blended approach to our learning offer and was crucial when Covid-19 restrictions came into effect in March 2020 and we were not able to hold face to face training events.

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Total Number of Training Events Held                                     | 106         |
| Total Number of People Attending Face to Face LSCB Safeguarding Training | <b>1810</b> |
| Number of Safeguarding E-Learning Courses Completed                      | 565         |
| Total Trained from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020                         | <b>2375</b> |

Evaluation data relating to all face-to-face training evidences an increase in practitioner knowledge and confidence and an increase in skills. Learners attending training in the Safeguarding Children Partnership priority areas of Sexual Harm, Neglect and Domestic Abuse assessed that their knowledge and confidence had increased by an average of 3 points on both factors, from the beginning to the end of the course, which is a positive outcome of their learning experience and indicates how practitioners will change or adapt their working practices as a result.

*Impact of training, what practitioners told us:*

Sexual Harm training

- More aware that there is often a story behind the young person’s presentation, actions and behaviours.
- When triaging interventions, will be clearly able to identify child exploitation and measure progress.
- Provided a new outlook in that those repeatedly missing can sometimes be overlooked.
- Understanding and recognising behaviours and pattern of vulnerable children in CSE or CCE.
- Much more aware of exploitation and will always consider whether there are elements of this in what I’m seeing.

Neglect Training Pathway

- Will allow me to identify and be confident with neglect as I now understand the process of the Graded Care Profile.
- Given me more confidence to challenge and focus on the child and their voice.
- Look to use more information from other agencies and professionals. More confidence in using the tool now.

Domestic Abuse training

- Will ask more questions when taking initial referrals. Check mother’s safety as well as a child’s. Greater knowledge of where to signpost clients.
- Now have the tools to identify and understand how people are affected (by domestic abuse) and may react towards the abuser or helpers.
- Will not let barriers/attitudes prevent me from pushing for action. Won’t think ‘it can’t happen to that family’.

**4.8 Children Looked After and Care Leavers**

The number of children looked after continued to rise throughout 2019-20, increasing from 462 in April 2019 to 576 at the end of March 2020. An increase of 25%. This represents a rate of 167 CLA per 10,000 population. The England average is 68.

In March 2020, 66% of CLA had remained in the same placement for 2.5 years or more, almost in line with the England average of 68%. 7% of CLA had experienced 3 or more moves in year, which is better than the England and statistical neighbour average of 10% and the regional average of 11%.

90% of CLA had a health assessment in year, which is in line with the England average of 90%. 95% had a dental check in year which is better than the England average of 85%.

71% of care leavers aged 17-18 were in education, employment or training (EET), with is better than the 64%. 43% of care leavers aged 19 -21 were in EET, which is less than the England average of 52%.

The Corporate Parenting Programme was introduced in January 2020, bringing together the multi-agency work for children looked after and care leavers into a structured programme of work governed by the CLA Strategic Group and Corporate Parenting Board. The aim of the programme is to continue to focus on delivering services which contribute to improved outcomes for CLA and care leavers.

Next steps:

- Introduction of a Reunification and Discharge Team to review over 200 CLA. The team will work to discharge care orders for children placed with parents, and long term care orders can be explored into Special Guardianship Orders which will also remove them from care.
- Improve the partnership approach with businesses to improve ETE for care leavers.
- Introduction of a court liaison manager to reduce the number of court applications and increase the success of those that are made.
- Redefine and embed the permanency planning process.
- Introduction of a Family Values project for recruitment of foster carers, and improved use of Valuing Care to drive best value for CLA outcomes in placements.

## **5) Working with Other Partnerships**

### **5.1 Inter Board Working**

The NEL SCP, Community Safety Partnership and Safeguarding Adult Board strengthened existing working relationships by forming a quarterly Tri board in March 2020 in order to ensure a coordinated response to the Covid 19 pandemic. The Tri board now meets quarterly and has a terms of reference and work plan with a focus on shared priority areas of focus including domestic abuse, transition and exploitation. In addition to the ore partnerships there are other specialist multi-agency boards and groups that co-operate and collaborate to ensure the well-being children in NEL.

- Corporate Parenting Board
- Early help strategic Board
- Place Board
- Youth Justice Board
- Together for all Board

### **5.2 Together for All and Safeguarding Children Partnership Arrangements Conference July 2019**

A joint conference was held to formally launch the NEL SCP arrangements alongside the launch of the Together for All – Developing the curriculum including restorative practice, trauma informed schools. A number of practice workshops were held including voice of the child, child exploitation, understanding thresholds and shaping local priorities for children and families. The feedback and evaluation from the event informed the on -going development of the partnership and of the SCP priorities.

### **5.3 Domestic Abuse**

Reducing the harm for children who live in households where there is domestic abuse remains a priority area of focus for the SCP due to its impact and potential to cause lasting harm for children and families across the community and domestic abuse continues to be one of the key drivers of demand across children’s services. Work to tackle the prevalence of domestic abuse across the borough continues to be embedded in the strategic ‘One System’ approach, underpinned by the One System Domestic Abuse Strategy 2018/21. The strategy is focused around the following areas:

**PREVENT** – *Cultivating an environment that prevents domestic abuse and brings about a continual reduction in incidents across North East Lincolnshire, by raising awareness, encouraging victims to report earlier, and tackling the culture of acceptance.*

**PROTECT & PROVIDE** – *Nurturing an environment where sustainable high-quality provision, early intervention and wide-ranging support services are accessible in order to protect and provide for victims and their families.*

**PURSUE** – *Deploying the full weight of the criminal justice system to bring perpetrators swiftly to justice, whilst also offering support to those who want to change their behaviour.*

The strategy in turn is reinforced by a comprehensive action plan that is overseen and monitored by the One System Delivery Group, which co-ordinates an extensive range of partnership activity.

The SCP identified the following measures in respect of support provided to children affected by domestic abuse

#### **Number of children supported through DART**

- A total of 17 young people and mothers completed the Domestic Abuse Recovery Together (DART) group in 2019/20.

#### **Number of Operation Encompass disclosures made**

- A total of 1,638 Operation Encompass notifications were made to schools in 2019/20 which enabled appropriate support to be provided to children. Schools have continued to embrace Operation Encompass since its introduction in 2017 and work continues to ensure it is fully embedded in NEL.

#### **Number of children living in households where there is a MARAC victim**

- A total of 655 children were identified as in the household where there is a MARAC victim during 2019/20 and supported through the MARAC process.

#### **Number and % of children at universal plus, vulnerable (Early Help), complex (Child in Need) and severe (Child Protection) of the Child Concern Model where DA is a factor.**

- A total of 333 referrals were made to Children’s Assessment and Safeguarding Services (CASS) where the main category of referral is domestic abuse during 2019/20.
- Domestic abuse referrals as a % of total referrals to CASS averaged at 9% in 2019/20.
- *Note: The breakdown of this data into the number and % of children at the different threshold levels of need is currently unavailable.*

#### **What has been achieved in 2019 to 20 and what difference has it made?**

- ✓ The NSPCC ‘Together for Childhood’ programme continues to focus on preventing domestic abuse within the East & West Marsh wards. The ‘Theory of Change’, co-created with partner agencies identifies a range of initiatives for preventing domestic abuse, backed by research and proven theory. This has been fully integrated into the ‘One System’ Approach action plan and a task & finish group has been set up to progress the ‘Prevention of Domestic Abuse’ workstream.
- ✓ The ‘Young and Safe’ programme of work, funded via the Home Office Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) bid, has continued to work with young people through its dedicated specialist team of domestic abuse practitioners. This work includes:

- A Lead Practitioner providing tailored 1:1 casework to young people at risk of domestic abuse to reduce the risk of further vulnerability and supporting FFP's within localities, providing a wide range of interventions.
- Step Up (Teen centric) programme, supporting young people who are displaying violence within the home.
- Domestic Abuse Youth (DAY) – multi-media programme aimed at raising awareness of Domestic Abuse & Sexual Exploitation for young people over 14 in a relevant and exiting way, running within the Staying Close Project (Care Leavers).
- ✓ The Domestic Abuse Recovering Together (DART) programme continues to form part of the Locality/Prevention and Early Help Offer. This 10-week recovery programme for children aged 7 - 14 years and their mothers, aims to overcome the impact of DA, build, and develop parent/child relationships through joint group work sessions.
- ✓ Operation Encompass has been rolled out across all schools throughout the borough. It continues to allow Humberside Police to inform schools that a domestic abuse incident has taken place in the family home while the child was present the previous evening / weekend. This gives the school context if a student is withdrawn or disrupted and allows them to support the child with increased understanding.
- ✓ Women's Aid continued to support victims at all levels of risk of domestic abuse, and their families. They are commissioned by NEL's housing related support to provide Refuge and Outreach & Resettlement Support and also provide a range of added value services via the Women's Centre and within the community that are not directly funded, including a children's support service, drop-in sessions, dispersed move-on accommodation, courses for victims/survivors of DA such as the Freedom Programme and 'Own my Life', as well as other training, support and volunteering opportunities. They accepted a total of 647 referrals in 19/20.
- ✓ Grimsby and Scunthorpe Rape Crisis Limited (The Blue Door) provided Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) provision, supporting high risk victims of DA. A total of 3,457 contacts were made with clients in 19/20.
- ✓ Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) arrangements continued to ensure all necessary safety measures around high risk victims and their families were in place through a structured multi-agency process. A total of 548 cases were heard at MARAC in 19/20.
- ✓ The MARAC Steering Group continues to develop, manage, and monitor MARAC, reporting progress to the 'One System' Approach Group on a regular basis leading to improvements in practice.
- ✓ The ReForm non-convicted perpetrator program continued to manage risk to victims and families, increase safety and reduce incidents, thereby improving outcomes around perpetrators being able to sustain non-abusive behavior. It began taking referrals for the additional 'Who's in Charge' program (aimed at parents whose children are abusive / violent) in April 2019.
- ✓ Funding for the Target Hardening scheme was extended to allow provision to continue during 19/20. The scheme supports vulnerable victims of crime who need improved or enhanced security carried out at their home address. In 2019 there were 1,063 referrals, 57% of which were DA related.
- ✓ Sustained publication of consistent domestic abuse messages via the Social Marketing and Communications plan, which were seen and read throughout the Borough.
- ✓ Work on the development and implementation of a comprehensive 'Workforce Development' programme in relation to DA has been ongoing, with a focus around equipping practitioners with the knowledge and confidence to work safely with families and perpetrators. The SCP

accredited Domestic Abuse Level 1 & 2 training continues to be available for practitioners and reviewed on a quarterly basis to ensure it stays up to date and relevant.

Required development/ next steps

- A full refresh of the Domestic Abuse Strategy is planned for 2020/21 to in order to strengthen the delivery arrangements and better understand the resources required to deliver the strategic objectives, to inform a new commissioning arrangement.
- The outcomes of the, 6-month evaluation of DART programme, planned to commence in Jan 20, will be reviewed to improve practice and inform future delivery.
- An evaluation of Operation Encompass is required, as identified by the DA One System Approach Delivery Group. This will be led by Humberside Police and will include an evaluation on how the information is being used by schools/academies to support the child when a disclosure is made under the scheme.
- Finalise work on the refreshed strategy regarding workforce development in relation to domestic abuse and implementation of the Framework Workforce development.
- Non-convicted perpetrator contract – The full Professional Development Programme, including delivery of half-day training sessions and Train the Trainer training will be provided in 2020/21.
- A full refresh of the DA Communications and Marketing Plan and identification of a number of key areas of focus will take place from 2021, once the refresh of the DA Strategy is complete.

**5.4 Prevent**

The NEL SCP were a key partner in the development of the NEL Prevent strategy and its aim to reduce the threat to the UK by stopping people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism by focusing on the following three objectives:

- Challenge the **ideology** that supports terrorism and those who promote it
- Protecting vulnerable **individuals** from being drawn into terrorism through appropriate advice and support
- Supporting sectors and **institutions** where there is a risk of radicalisation.

Story behind the baseline

This year the Multi Agency Prevent (MAP) Group for NE Lincs was formed under the chairmanship of the local authority. This was in line with national guidance and ensures that Prevent is delivered at a local level with oversight of the Humberside Gold Group. The MAP Group has already completed a self-assessment and is seeking assurance from partners on the delivery of their individual action plans. The number of Prevent referrals in NE Lincs have dropped to a worrying level. There is no clear indication why, the referral process has remained consistent however no cases have reached Channel since December 2018 up to February 2020. Work is ongoing with partners to ensure awareness raising of the Prevent referral process is embedded in practice within organisations and refresher training is completed where necessary. The biggest reduction in referrals were from education and the local authority and specific work is ongoing in both these areas.

There remain concerns that partners are not recognising those individuals who have unclear or no ideology. The number of referrals of these individuals have also reduced significantly.

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>How much has been done?</b> | <p>Online training has been promoted through the MAP Group and currently scoping of agency training is ongoing to assure the MAP Group that Prevent remains a priority amongst its partners. A ‘Champions network’ within the partner agencies has been formed, led by Humberside Police.</p> <p>An online resource package has been developed and rolled out across NEL. This has been in conjunction with a poster campaign and utilising social media.</p> |
|--------------------------------|---|

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>How well has it been done?</b>     | <p>The uptake of the online training appears good with agencies reporting positively on the quality of the national product however assurance of the number of workers utilising the training and the frequency of refresher training is still subject of audit. The Prevent champions have attended a one-day course and receive regular updates by way of a newsletter.</p> <p>The development of the online resources has been welcomed by agencies and the continued use of social media ensuring the Prevent agenda maintains a presence online.</p> |
| <b>What difference has been made?</b> | <p>Feedback received indicates agencies are refocusing on Prevent and the development of the Champions network has been instrumental in updating people’s knowledge of the developing threats and trends.</p> <p>Positive feedback has been received from agencies and in March 2020 Channel received its first referral since 2018.</p>  |

Required development/ next steps

- Increase partners responsibility to identify ideology and provide counter narrative to challenge potential lone actors early.
- Ensure partners are cognisant of any use of the “dark web” by members of the public and what the purpose of this use is.
- Proactive targeting campaign with a focus on young people. Promote internet safety and parental controls to limit extremist content / circulation.
- Be aware of far-right activity developing into XRW activity and where the boundaries are.
- Ensure members of the public are reporting XRW concerns as confidently as Islamic Extremism.
- Target under -18s with pro-active counter narrative / messaging in spaces they frequent.
- Promote the use across Humberside of Grimsby Town FC’s initiative around respect and tolerance, including work around Football banning orders.
- Increase partner liaison about the Home-Schooling numbers and potential links to radicalisation.

**5.5 Modern Day Slavery**

The NEL SCP were a key partner in the development of the NEL Modern Day Slavery partnership alongside the Safeguarding Adult Board and Community safety partnership. Strategy Nationally local authorities, support agencies, police and the wider community have identified thousands of victims of modern slavery of both sexes and all ages. The Home Office estimates that there may be as many as 13,000 victims in the UK alone.

In 2019, within the UK there were 10,627 potential victims of modern slavery referred to the NRM: a 52% increase from 2018. Of the potential victims referred in 2019, two-thirds claimed that the exploitation occurred in the UK only, whilst 26% claimed that the exploitation took place overseas only.

Just over half of referrals were for individuals who claimed they were exploited as adults, whilst 43% were for individuals who claimed they were exploited as minors. The most common type of exploitation for both adults and minors was labour exploitation.

Potential victims from the UK, Albania and Vietnam were the three most common nationalities to be referred in the NRM. The majority (91%) of NRM referrals were investigated by police forces in England. Between 2019 and 2020 there were four referrals in respect of children.

### Story behind the Baseline

In NELC there continues to be improvements in the response to MDS. The creation of a multi-agency modern slavery strategic group, a strategic plan with an underpinning action plan, designed to improve practice in the identification of potential victims as well as continued engagement with all partner agencies, have ensured that addressing the issue of modern slavery is a priority.

It is recognised that there is further work to do however this year has seen progress well beyond expectation. In NEL there were 23 referrals to the National Referral Mechanism from end March 2019 to end March 2020. 65% were in respect of young people with criminal exploitation being the highest category. The disproportion number of children referred into the NRM is contributed to by the success of the Graft Project and work done with children subjected of CCE, however one of the objectives of the strategic group is addressing the low number of adult potential victims being identified.

### Overall Performance

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>How much has been done?</b>        | NE Lincs is a member of the Humber Modern Slavery Partnership. It now has its own modern slavery strategic group, a strategic plan and underpinning action plan. Awareness training has been embedded into the safeguarding training and six awareness events were held in 2019/2020 with over two hundred people attending including 60 frontline practitioners responsible for assessment of potential victims. A range of posters and communications have been delivered, a Practitioners Guide and an online resource package has also been developed. |
| <b>How well has it been done?</b>     | The response to Modern Slavery is still in development but with the creation of the assessment process, awareness raising, training and a multi-agency approach to the issue the authority now has a more coherent, structured approach to deal with this issue.   |
| <b>What difference has been made?</b> | Those victims identified can now be assured of an effective pathway to support from the authority and into the NRM process. More people are aware of the signs of slavery and practitioners are trained to assess and refer.   |

### Areas of Development

- Continued awareness raising of the issue.
- Development of a refreshed problem profile
- Operational capability to identify victims and offenders.
- Modern Slavery Champions
- Business Engagement

## **6) Learning from Reviews**

### **6.1 Child Death Review Process**

Locally the Child Death Review Partners that have statutory responsibility for ensuring child death reviews are undertaken is the NELC 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 is undertaken jointly through the Northern Lincolnshire child death arrangements.

The NEL SCP received the 2018/19 CDOP annual report in May 2020. In addition the NEL SCP receive child death data as part of the quarterly performance report. The learning from the child death review panel will feed into the NEL Safeguarding Assurance and Improvement Group (SAIG).

In 2019/20 the combined CDOP North and North East Lincolnshire reviewed 10 child deaths. During 2019/20 none of the 10 child death reviews were assessed as having modifiable factors. England figures for 2019/20 not available at time of writing. None of the cases reviewed by Northern Lincolnshire CDOP in 2019/20 were subject to a serious case review

### Key Learning Summary

During 2019-20 two CDOP reviews were held. Due to the statutory processes involved in gaining all relevant information about the circumstances of a child's death, there can be a considerable lag between the date of death and the date of the CDOP where the death is reviewed and signed off. The date of death and the date of the concluded review often fall within different financial years. Within this time, the significant changes to the organisational management of the CDR process and to the eCDOP and the information gathering processes contributed to the time lapse between CDOP's being held. This was further compounded by the restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 crisis. Moving forward in Northern Lincolnshire, it is anticipated that future CDOP meetings will be more efficient, whilst upholding the child and the grieving family as the central focus of the review.

### Progress on implementing the Recommendations from 2018/19 includes:

1. An End of Life pathway is in development to support families in cases where the baby/child has an assessed life limiting condition and where the need for Hospice intervention is required. Care plans will be put in place at the earliest opportunity. Maternity services, the Paediatric consultant and hospice will work to ensure an advanced care plan is agreed and implemented as soon as possible post-delivery.
2. ECDOP has been used to across Northern Lincolnshire to record meetings and attendees, capture case notes and record outcomes regarding reasons for the death and modifiable factors. There is still learning around the use of ECDOP and there have been some issues which are flagged to QES the system administrator.
3. The Child Death Executive Partners published their plan for the reviewing of child deaths in time in June 2019. An MOU was signed by partners across the Humber Coast and Vale STP to ensure the appropriate number of deaths could be reviewed to ensure lessons learnt and themed reviews can take place.

### Required development/ recommendations for 2020/21

1. All staff who have a responsibility for caring for children are aware of the child death review process through the provision of bespoke training.
2. Families who have been bereaved receive timely and appropriate information regarding the child death review process. Local information should be produced to support families and provide complementary information to 'When a child dies: information for parents and carers'
3. The Key Worker role is clearly defined and the most appropriate professional is identified quickly and has the appropriate knowledge of how to support a bereaved family acting as the conduit between the process and the family.
4. Establish a robust system for capturing feedback from bereaved families as to how they felt the child death review process has been delivered.
5. Assess the effectiveness of the current Child Death Overview Panel arrangements.
6. Undertake further analysis of the circumstances of premature births.

## **6.2 Learning Lessons Reviews**

Two referrals were made to the SCP for a Learning Lessons Review during 2019/20 , both were known to services. The following emerging practice themes have been identified.

- Agencies have a good understanding of local harmful sexualised behavior processes.
- Inconsistent use of the escalation process.
- Understanding of agencies roles within the Strategy discussion.
- Childs lived experience being fully understood by all involved agencies.
- Consideration of DNAs in the context of safeguarding

In addition, a joint practice learning audit was commissioned jointly by the Director of Children Services and by the director of Adult Services in respect of the effectiveness of local transition arrangements from children's to adult services

| Themes                                  | Emerging issues  |
|---|--|
| Multi agency working                    | Consideration of the wider context of the cases in managing the risks to the child and family as a whole   |
| Parental engagement/ voice of the child | Effective challenge where engagement from parents in the assessment and plan   |
| Case management and review              | The local transition protocol not fully embedded resulting in the late involvement of adult services.  |
| Legal Framework                         | Lack of understanding and application of Fraser competence/ the Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA) or Mental Health Act 1983 indecision making for the individuals |
| Prevention and Early Help               | Late diagnosis to either learning disability, mental illness, or mental disorder prevented agencies from developing clear support plans                        |
| Wider Services                          | Identified gap in provision in relation to support for young/ adults with autism.  |

The actions and recommendations from the learning reviews and impact on practice are being overseen by the Safeguarding Assurance and Improvement Group. The above findings have informed the revision of the transition protocol and an action plan is being implemented which will lead to improvements in practice across children's and adults services.

### **6.3 Practice Reviews**

There were no serious incident notifications to the National Practice Review Panel During 2019/20 and as such no rapid reviews undertaken, or recommendations made in respect of Practice Reviews. Practice review guidance was developed and published in line with Working Together 2018. Subsequently the SCP have carried out two rapid reviews and are in the process of undertaking a practice review which was endorsed by the National Panel.

## **7) Analysis of 2018/19 priorities/outcomes**

### **7.1 NEL SCP Outcomes**

The NEL SCP initially adopted the three LSCB priorities, Neglect, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Harm as part of the 2018/2019 SCP Local Arrangement Plan. A full review of the SCP statutory functions and requirements was undertaken which led to the development of the Scrutiny and Assurance Framework and identification of two outcomes in April 2020. The SCP governance structure has been greatly strengthened in order to deliver the two outcomes.

The NELSCP two outcomes and focused outcome statements that it aims to achieve during 2020/2021:

- **The safeguarding partnership is robust and effective**
  - We understand the needs of the population and act to deliver on unmet need.
  - Practitioners tell us they are confident in local processes and understand what is out there to support children and their families.
  - Agencies and individuals understand their respective roles, thresholds and collective

- responsibilities.
- We learn when things go wrong and embed changes to improve practice across the system.
- There is a high level of support and challenge in the multi-agency system.
- **Children are and feel safe.**
  - Children in NEL receive services that are designed to ensure timely, safe and effective care and support.
  - The Children’s Safeguarding Partnership is apprised of significant events.
  - Children tell us they feel safe.

## **7.2 Sexual Harm**

|         |                          | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 |
|---------|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| NEL     | % Sexual abuse (initial) | 4       | 4       | 3       |         | 5       | 2       |
| NEL     | % Sexual abuse (latest)  | 4       |         | 3       | 3       | 5       | 2       |
| England | % Sexual abuse (initial) | 5       | 5       | 4       | 4       | 4       |         |
| England | % Sexual abuse (latest)  | 4       | 5       | 4       | 4       | 4       |         |

## **7.3 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**

Partnership working is strengthening the identification of those children who are at risk of or are currently been exploited including sexual exploitation. Ensuring an effective multi-agency response to children and young people at risk of Child Exploitation has been a key focus for the local authority and for partner agencies. There has been a recent review of the singular strategies with these been revised, with a singular adolescent strategy encompassing all areas of adolescent risk and exploitation. This strategy focuses on the local authority, moving forward, implementing a contextual safeguarding approach in our response to extra familial harm.

## **7.4 Familial Sexual Harm**

There are low numbers of recorded crime investigations in respect of familial sexual harm where the child is a victim. This is also going to be impacted by data quality. There is an identified gap in respect of safeguarding training around familial sexual harm which is a key element of a review of workforce development and safeguarding training.

## **7.5 Harmful Sexualised Behaviour**

Processes for HSB are well established. Good multi-agency attendance at Assessment Intervention Moving On Model (AIM) panel meetings. Increased assessment capacity within the localities to carry out AIM work was undertaken

## **7.6 Neglect**

There has been a reduction in the number of referrals in respect of neglect and a steady reduction in the percentage of children subject to neglect on Child Protection Plans. NELSCP are committed to the use of the Graded Care Profile 2 in providing a baseline assessment of neglect and in informing the child’s plan. Reducing the harm for children who are suffering Neglect continues to be a key area of focus for the SCP. The Neglect Matters Strategy is no quick fix and that eradicating Neglect in NE Lincs will only be achieved by working together over a sustained period of time.

|  | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| % of referrals where neglect was the primary need code | 18.32%  | 21.06%  | 21.72%  | 20.81%  | 21%     | 12.74%  |

### Children who were the subject of a child protection plan at 31 March 2020

|         |                     | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 |
|---------|---------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| NEL     | % Neglect (initial) | 67      | 52      | 50      | 45      | 52      | 48      |
| NEL     | % Neglect (latest)  | 68      | 53      | 48      | 45      | 51      | 42      |
| England | % Neglect (initial) | 45      | 46      | 48      | 48      | 48      |         |
| England | % Neglect (latest)  | 45      | 45      | 48      | 47      | 48      |         |

## 8) Independent Scrutiny and Assurance

The SCP commissioned an independent Scrutineer Stuart Smith from March to May 2020. In addition the SCP have developed and implemented the Scrutiny and Assurance Framework which includes the development of Professional Scrutiny Officers who have a level of independence. Further independent scrutiny will be undertaken in the form of peer reviews and commissioned reviews in respect of specific themes.

### **8.1 Scrutiny Activity**

The independent scrutineer attended SCP Executive and Full Boards. Feedback was provided in respect of key governance documents and challenge provided around gaps in the data set and the sufficiency of capacity to deliver the scrutiny and assurance framework.

### **8.2 Evidence of effectiveness**

- The development and effective implementation of the SCP and Scrutiny and Assurance Framework will enable the SCP to meet its statutory functions
- There are robust governance arrangements in place that enable the SCP identify and respond to emerging risks and challenges. These include the SCP Forward Plan, Risk Register and Challenge Log
- Relationships are good and mutually supportive, including openness to challenge.
- The SCP have fully considered the challenge by the independent scrutineer in ensuring its governance arrangements are robust and it is in a position to deliver the two SCP outcomes.

### **8.3 Areas for monitoring**

- The need to further embed the SCP core data set and performance reporting in ensuring the Board are fully sighted on risks, challenges, opportunities and practice improvement.
- The need to further ensure the Scrutiny and Assurance Framework and Action Plan and assess its effectiveness in achieving the two SCP outcomes.
- For the SCP to be fully sighted on the embedding, application, understanding and effectiveness of local thresholds in ensuring children and families receive the right level of intervention at the earliest opportunity.

## 9) SCP Strategic Outcomes 2020/21

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Outcomes</b>           | <b>The SCP will further embed the two strategic outcomes and associated focused outcome statements/measures across the partnership. This will include further embedding the core data set and scrutiny and assurance framework and developing a greater understanding and interpretation of data and performance information to improve practice</b>  |
| <b>Outcome 1</b>          | <b>The safeguarding partnership is robust and effective</b>   |
|                           | We understand the needs of the population and act to deliver on unmet need.   |
|                           | Practitioners tell us they are confident in local processes and understand what is out there to support children and their families.  |
|                           | Agencies and individuals understand their respective roles, thresholds and collective responsibilities.   |
|                           | There is a high level of support/ challenge in the multi-agency system.   |
| <b>Outcome 2</b>          | <b>Children are and feel safe</b>   |
|                           | Children in NEL receive services that are designed to ensure timely, safe and effective care and support.   |
|                           | The Children's Safeguarding Partnership is apprised of significant events.  |
|                           | Children tell us they are safe  |
| <b>Areas assurance</b>    | <b>Working with other partnerships on shared priorities</b>   |
| <b>Domestic abuse</b>     | Reducing the harm for children who live in households where there is domestic abuse remains a priority area of focus for the SCP due to its impact and potential to cause lasting harm for children and families across the community. The SCP will continue to work with the Safeguarding Adult Board and Community Safety Partnership to oversee the impact of the domestic abuse strategy and One System domestic Abuse group in delivering this |
| <b>Transition</b>         | We will work in partnership with the Safeguarding Adult Board to oversee the further development of transition arrangements from children's to adults services in ensuring there are effective.   |
| <b>Child Exploitation</b> | Tackling child exploitation and ensuring multi agency arrangements are effective in recognising children and young people at risk will continue to be a key area of focus the SCP. This will include overseeing the development and implementation of the parentship element of the Adolescent risk strategy  |
| <b>Training</b>           | We will review the current safeguarding children arrangements in assuring they are aligned to the two SCP outcomes and equip practitioners with the necessary knowledge and skills to recognise and respond to risk and need  |
| <b>Voice of the child</b> | We will further embed the Voice and Influence Strategy in ensuring that agencies have robust mechanisms in place to both capture and act on the voice of the child which leads to improved outcomes for children and young people   |

## 10) Appendices

### Appendix 1: Budget out turn

#### **Appendix ii) - The Annual Income and Expenditure of the Board (Financial Year 2019/20)**

##### **CORE INCOME**

Made up of contributions from

|                              |                  |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Humberside Police            | £25,000          |
| Clinical Commissioning Group | £31,600          |
| CAFCASS                      | £600             |
| NEL Council                  | £97,000          |
| CRC/ Probation Service       | £2,200           |
| SCP Ear Marked Reserve       | £33,100          |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>          | <b>£ 188,200</b> |

##### **STAFFING**

LSCB Board Manager  
LSCB Administrator  
50% Strategic Safeguarding Manager, Children's and Adults

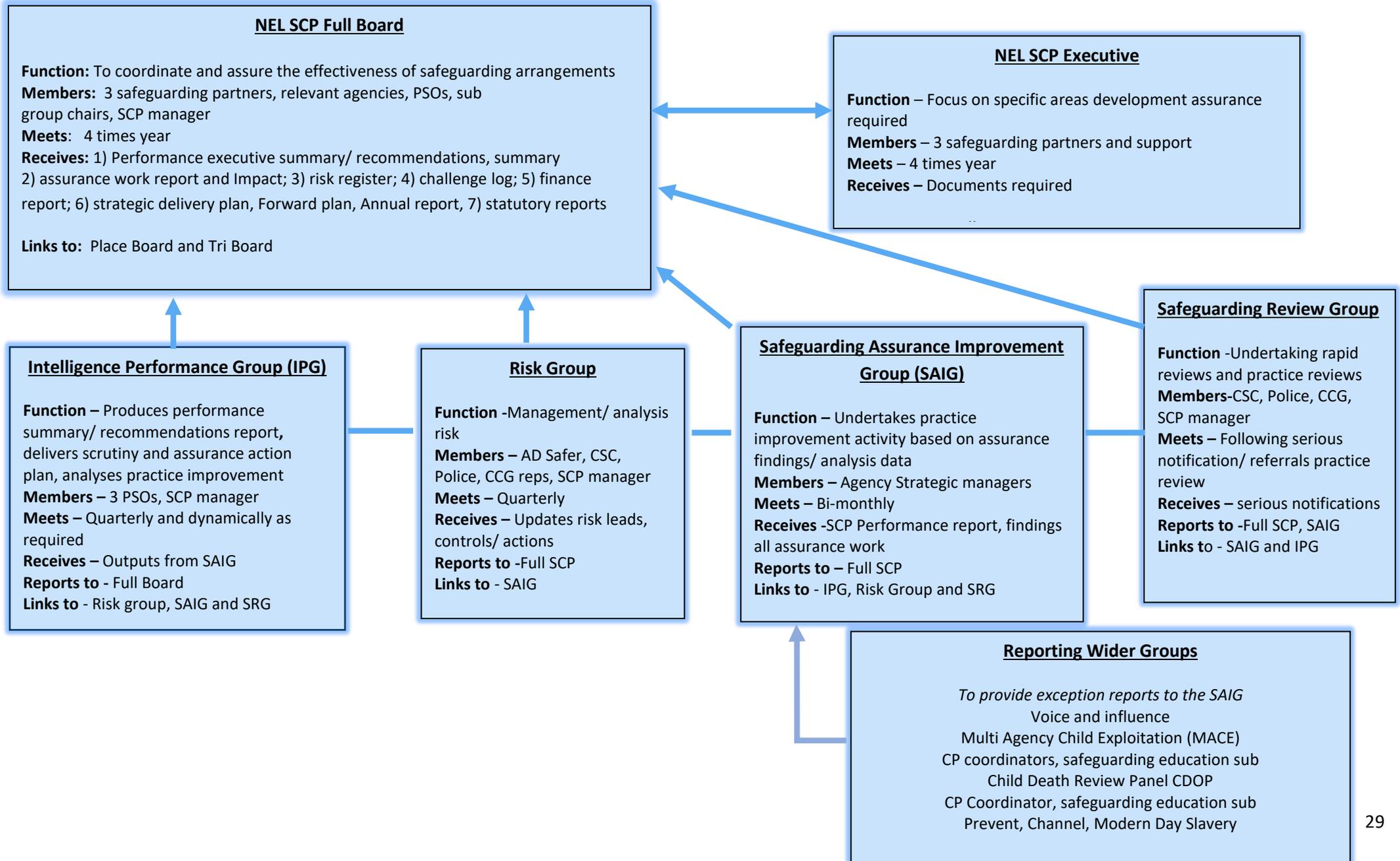
**TOTAL STAFFING** **£98, 500**

##### **OVERHEADS AND MANAGEMENT ON-COSTS:**

Accommodation, IT, Running Costs **£82,500**

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE** **£181,000**

## Appendix 2 Governance Structure



## **NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP**

### **Alphabetical Glossary of Acronyms**

#### **A**

**A&E:** Accident and Emergency  
**ABC:** Acceptable Behaviour Contract  
**ACPO:** Association of Chief Police Officers  
**AIM Model:** assessment intervention moving-on model  
**AOB:** Any other business  
**ASB:** Anti-social behaviour order  
**ASBO:** Anti-social behaviour order

#### **B**

**BAC:** Behaviour and Attendance Collaborative  
**BLA:** Becoming looked after  
**BSO:** Business Support Officer  
**BSS:** Behaviour Support Officer

#### **C**

**CAFCASS:** Children and Families Courts Advisory and Support Services  
**CAHMS:** Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services  
**CAN:** Child Abduction Notice  
**CAPITA:** Multi Agency sharing database for children  
**CBT:** Cognitive/behavioural therapy approach  
**CC:** Children's Centre (now known as Family Hubs)  
**CCG:** Clinical Commissioning Group  
**CCM:** Child Care Management  
**CDS:** Children's Disability Service  
**CDOP:** Child Death Overview Panel  
**CEOP:** Child Exploitation & Online Protection Centre  
**CfCiC:** Corporate Parenting Board and Council  
**CHP:** Children's Health Provision  
**CLA:** Child Looked After  
**CPHP:** Children's Public Health Provision  
**CIN:** Child in Need  
**CP:** Child Protection  
**CP Alert:** 'Missing Person'  
**CPB:** Corporate Parenting Board  
**CP Plan/CPP:** Child Protection Plan  
**CPS:** Crown Prosecution Service  
**CSE:** Child sexual exploitation  
**CRB:** Criminal Records Bureau  
**CRC:** Community Rehabilitation Company  
**CSC:** Children's Social Care  
**CSRS:** Children's Safeguarding and Reviewing Service  
**CQC:** Care Quality Commission

## ***D***

**D of E:** Duke of Edinburgh Award  
**DfE:** Department of Education  
**DA:** Domestic Abuse  
**DASH:** Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honour Based Violence Assessment  
**DASM:** Designated Adult Safeguarding Manager  
**DBS:** Disclosure and Barring Service  
**DEWS:** Drugs early warning signs  
**DKM:** Construction education provider  
**DV:** Domestic violence

## ***E***

**EHA:** Early Help Assessment  
**EHCP:** Education, Health and Care Plan  
**EHE:** Electively home educated  
**EI:** Early intervention  
**EMAS:** East Midlands Ambulance Service  
**ESCR:** Electronic Social Care Record  
**EUSS:** European Union Settlement Scheme  
**EWO:** Education Welfare Officer

## ***F***

**FDAC:** Family Drug & Alcohol Court  
**FE:** Further Education  
**FF:** Families First  
**FIS:** Family Information Service  
**FGC:** Family Group Conference  
**FGM:** Female genital mutilation  
**FH Services:** Family Hub Services  
**FIM:** Future In Mind  
**FNM:** Family network meeting  
**FNP:** Family Nurse Partnership  
**FOI:** Freedom of Information Requests  
**FRS:** Family Resources Services  
**FSW:** Family support worker  
**FTA:** Failure to attend  
**FTO:** Foreign travel order

## ***G***

**GRAFT:** Gaining Respect and Finding Trust  
**GP:** General practitioner

## ***H***

**HE:** Higher Education  
**HCPC:** Health and Care Professions Council  
**HSB:** Harmful sexualised behaviour  
**HV:** Health visitor

## ***I***

**IAG:** Information, Advice and Guidance

**ICPC:** Initial Child Protection Conference  
**IDVA:** Independent Domestic Violence Advisors  
**IFA:** Independent Fostering Agency  
**IFS:** Integrated Family Services  
**IHA:** Initial health assessments  
**Integrated Front Door:** point of contact for children's services  
**IRO:** Independent Reviewing Officer  
**ISA:** Independent Safeguarding Authority  
**ISVA:** Independent Sexual Violence Advisors

## **J**

**JCP:** Jobcentre Plus

## **K**

**KPI:** Key performance indicator

## **L**

**LA:** Local Authority  
**LADO:** Local Authority Designated Officer  
**LGP:** Legal Gateway Panel  
**LPR:** Local practice review  
**LPRP:** Local practice review panel  
**LPFT:** Lincolnshire Partnership Foundation Trust

## **M**

**MACE:** Multi Agency Child Exploitation  
**MARAC:** Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference  
**MASH:** Multi Agency safeguarding hub  
**MISPER:** Missing person  
**MGM:** Maternal Grandmother

## **N**

**NCB:** National Children's bureau  
**NEL:** North East Lincolnshire  
**NELC:** North East Lincolnshire Council  
**NELCCG:** North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group  
**NELSCP:** North East Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership  
**NELSEN:** North East Lincolnshire Special Education Needs  
**NFA:** No fixed abode  
**NFA:** No further action  
**NLaG:** North Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust  
**NRM:** National referral mechanism  
**NSPCC:** National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children  
**NPS:** National Probation Service

## **O**

**OVLU:** Our Voice, Listen Up

## **P**

**PA:** Personal Advisor  
**PAMS:** Parenting Assessment  
**PCF:** Professional Capabilities Framework  
**PCT:** Primary Care Trust  
**PDUs:** Police Disclosure Unites  
**PEH:** Prevention and Early Help  
**PEI:** Prevention and Early Help Intervention  
**PLO:** Public Law Outline  
**PPU:** Police Protection Unit  
**PSHE:** Personal Social Health Education  
**PSW:** Principal Social Worker  
**PVPU:** Protecting Vulnerable Persons Unit

## **Q**

**QA:** Quality assurance  
**QAN:** Quality Assurance Notification

## **R**

**RBs:** Registered bodies  
**RCGP:** Royal College of General Practitioners  
**RHA:** Review Health Assessments  
**RJ:** Restorative Justice  
**RoSHO:** Risk of Sexual Harm Order  
**R&R:** Relationships and Resilience  
**RP:** Restorative Practice

## **S**

**SA:** Single Assessment  
**SAB:** Safeguarding Adults Board  
**SALT/SLT:** Speech (and) Learning Therapist  
**SCP:** Safeguarding Children Partnership  
**SEN:** Special education needs  
**SEND:** Special education needs and disability  
**SENART:** Special Educational Needs Assessment and Review Team  
**SHPO:** Sexual Harm Prevention Order  
**SOS:** Signs of Safety  
**SRFYP:** Safe relationships for young people  
**SRO:** Sexual Risk Order  
**SSA:** Safeguarding Support Advisor  
**SSD:** Social Services Department  
**SSSS:** See something, Say something  
**STRAT:** Strategy Meeting – a multi-agency meeting to determine if significant harm is met and whether a Section 47 is required  
**SWE:** Social Work England (specialist regulator)  
**S45:** Section 45  
**S47:** Section 47 child protection enquiry

## **T**

**TAF:** Team around the family

**TOR:** Terms of Reference

**U**

**UASC:** Un-accompanied Asylum Seeking Child

**V**

**VANEL:** Voluntary Action North East Lincolnshire

**VoC:** Voice of the Child

**W**

**WT:** Working Together 2018

**X**

**Y**

**YA:** Youth Action

**YOI:** Young Offender's Institution

**YOS:** Youth Offending Service

**YP:** Young Person

**YPSS:** Young People's Support Service

**YWS:** Young Witness Services

**Z**