

CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 7
15 JANUARY 2024	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Jon Chapman: Chair of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Ray Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children’s Services	
Contact Officer(s):	Joanne Procter Head of Service - Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board	Email: Joanne.procter@peterborough.gov.uk

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

RECOMMENDATIONS	
From: Jon Chapman: Chair of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board	Deadline date: N/A
<p>It is recommended that the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee members are asked to note the contents of the annual report. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 The Children and Social Work Act 2017 places a responsibility on the three safeguarding partners in each local authority area, these being the local authority, the local Integrated Care System and the chief officer of police, to make arrangements to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in their area.

Within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, the three safeguarding partners are supported in fulfilling this responsibility through the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board. The three safeguarding partners are also required by statute (Children and Social Work Act 2017, S18) to publish an annual report detailing their progress.

This report is submitted to the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee for information purposes.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee members with a summary of both the work of the Safeguarding Children Partnership Board and the work of the sub committees and highlight the significant events from April 2022- March 2023.

3.2 This report is for the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph No. 2.1 Functions determined by Council:

- 1. *Children's Services including*
 - a) *Social Care of Children;*
 - b) *Safeguarding;*
 - c) *Children's Health*

3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 The annual report summarises both the work of the Safeguarding Children Partnership Board and the work of the sub committees and highlights the significant events from April 2022- March 2023. It recognises areas of good practice and presents information about partnership safeguarding.

Safeguarding is about people, their safety, wishes, aspirations and needs. The partnership has been active in identifying and learning lessons through the Children's Safeguarding Practice Review subgroup. We have published three case reviews within the time period covered by this review. The learning from these reviews has been identified and disseminated through various activities including briefings, workshops and learning lessons training. All of the cases have recommendations, these recommendations are made into action plans. Progress against the actions is monitored through the Board and follow up assurances of the impact of the recommendations takes place. In addition, every two years we undertake an in-depth review of the themes arising from our case reviews. This provides an additional layer of assurance and allows us to identify repeat themes. The dissemination of the learning is explored in greater detail within the report.

In the time period covered by this annual report we have focussed on our priority areas, child neglect, sexual abuse and child exploitation. We have updated and developed resources including training, toolkits and strategic documents. We have engaged our workforce to try and gain a better understanding of the barriers and issues faced by front line practitioners when working in these three areas of abuse. This feedback has been used as a central feature of the work we have undertaken.

The national Centre for Expertise on child sexual abuse has been a key member of our CSA workstream and acted as a critical friend in the work we have undertaken. Their insight and input have been invaluable in taking this work forward.

We have worked with all of our partner agencies over the last 12 months, particular examples include education colleagues and the education development of safer space and safer corridors toolkits. We have also worked with our community safety partnership colleagues across the county to develop and pilot cuckooing pathways, assisted with the production of child exploitation awareness films and delivered community awareness sessions. We have also been instrumental in delivering problem solving training across the partnership.

A lot of development work has been undertaken in the last 12 months, our focus in 2023-24 will be on evaluating the impact of the work we have undertaken. Planned evaluation and impact activity includes;

- Feedback from Children and young people
- Feedback from practitioners
- Multi-agency audits
- Single agency self-assessment (S.11) audit
- Development of dataset
- Evaluation and impact of training and resources

Our multi-agency safeguarding training programme has continued to be well attended. Just under 2,000 people accessed training and the virtual briefings have been viewed a total 23,000 times in the time period covered by this report.

The virtual training continues to be greatly received with 99% of professionals reporting that they felt that the safeguarding virtual training content met their training needs (up 1% from last year) and 99% of professionals said they would recommend the courses to other people.

The report has been brought to the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee for information purposes.

5. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 5.1 The report, in its entirety, links to the Prevention, Independence & Resilience (Children's) and Places & Communities priorities.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 No consultation was required as part of this work.

7. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

- 7.1 To provide members with an enhanced understanding of the work of the Safeguarding Children Partnership Board in 2022-23.

8. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 There is a statutory requirement for the annual report to be produced.

9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 9.1 As detailed above there is a statutory requirement for the annual report to be produced.

10. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 10.1 *There are no financial implications arising from the report*
Legal Implications

- 10.2 *There are no legal implications arising from the report*
Equalities Implications

- 10.3 *There are no equalities implications arising from the report*

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 11.1 Non-Applicable

12. APPENDICES

- 12.1 Appendix 1 - The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board Annual Report 2022-23.

Appendix 1

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FORWARD

We are pleased to present the annual report of the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Safeguarding Children's Partnership Board for 2022-23. This is presented on behalf of the three statutory partners and the local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

The annual report outlines the key activities and achievements of the Board and its partners over the last year. You will see in the report that we have continued to work on our priority areas this year. The multi-agency safeguarding training has continued to develop and grow, front line practitioners' voices have been captured through a series of consultation surveys and forums and quality assurance and scrutiny activity has taken place. One of the key roles of the Board is to ensure that partners continue to work together effectively and this has been evidenced throughout the year. We continue to work closely with other partnerships to ensure that the work is delivered jointly and consistently and there is no duplication or gaps.

Safeguarding is about people, their safety, wishes, aspirations and needs. The partnership has been active in identifying and learning lessons through the Child Safeguarding Practice Review subgroup. We have published 4 reviews within the time period covered by this report. The learning from these reviews has been identified and disseminated through various activities including briefings, workshops and learning lessons training. The dissemination of the learning is explored in greater detail within the report.

In the last year, the Board has continued to work closely with both statutory and wider partners to scrutinise how safeguarding issues are addressed, gain reassurance that they are dealt with appropriately and provide a forum for sharing best practice across the partnership. It has also ensured that safeguarding children remains a key focus for agencies across the County.

Finally, we would like to thank all members of the Board for their professionalism, commitment and support. We would also like to say thank you to all agencies and frontline staff for the incredible work that they do to keep children safe from abuse and neglect.

Elaine Redding

(Interim) Executive Director, People and Communities



Carol Anderson

Chief Nurse



Cambridgeshire & Peterborough



Vicki Evans

Assistant Chief Constable



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire

ABOUT THE BOARD

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, set in statutory guidance that the three safeguarding partners (Local Authority, Chief Officer of Police and Integrated Care Board) must work together with relevant agencies to safeguard and protect the welfare of children in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Locally, we have established multi-agency safeguarding arrangements which span two local authority boundaries. The membership of the board is made up of the following organisations/agencies:



What we do

The purpose of the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements are to support and enable local organisations and agencies to work together in a system where:

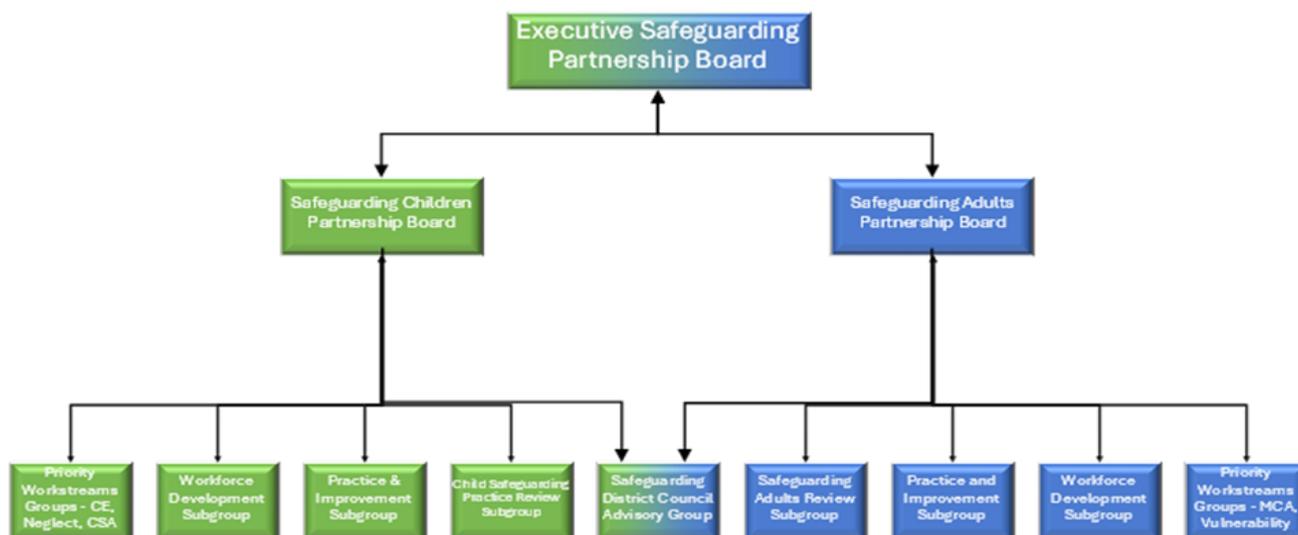


Funding for the Board is made up of contributions from the two Local authorities, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, ICB, CCS. CPFT, NWAFT, Papworth, CUH and Probation.

We do this by:



The local safeguarding arrangements have several Boards and subgroups that oversee the safeguarding partnership. The most senior Board is the Executive Safeguarding Partnership Board, which is made up of membership from the 3 statutory partners (LA, ICB and Police). In addition, there are members from public health and the voluntary sector. The Executive Safeguarding Board considers both the children’s and adults safeguarding agenda. The Safeguarding Children Partnership Board sits directly below the Executive Safeguarding Partnership Board and has wider partnership membership (Appendix 1 details those agencies who are members of the Board). The diagram below details the current safeguarding partnership governance structure.



The Safeguarding Children Partnership Board has maintained its links with other groups and boards who impact on child and adult services this year. This ensures that aspects of safeguarding are considered by the other statutory boards and there is a co-ordinated and consistent approach.



DEMOGRAPHICS



The county of Cambridgeshire covers an area 1,309 sq miles in the East of England bordering Lincolnshire to the north, Norfolk to the north-east, Suffolk to the east, Essex and Hertfordshire to the south, and Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire to the west. The county is divided between Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council, which since 1998 has formed a separate unitary authority. In the non-metropolitan county there are five district councils, Cambridge City Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Fenland District Council, Huntingdonshire District Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council.

Snapshot of Peterborough



49% Male



51% Female

542

Assessed as Homeless

24

Rough Sleepers

104

Traveller caravans on authorised and non authorised sites

12,323

Contacts raised during the year

2528

Referrals initiated

20%

Of referrals were re-referrals

2035

Single Assessments completed

89%

Single Assessments completed within timescale

558

Section 47s completed

38%

Of Section 47s led to an Initial Child Protection Conference

2226

Early Help Assessments initiated

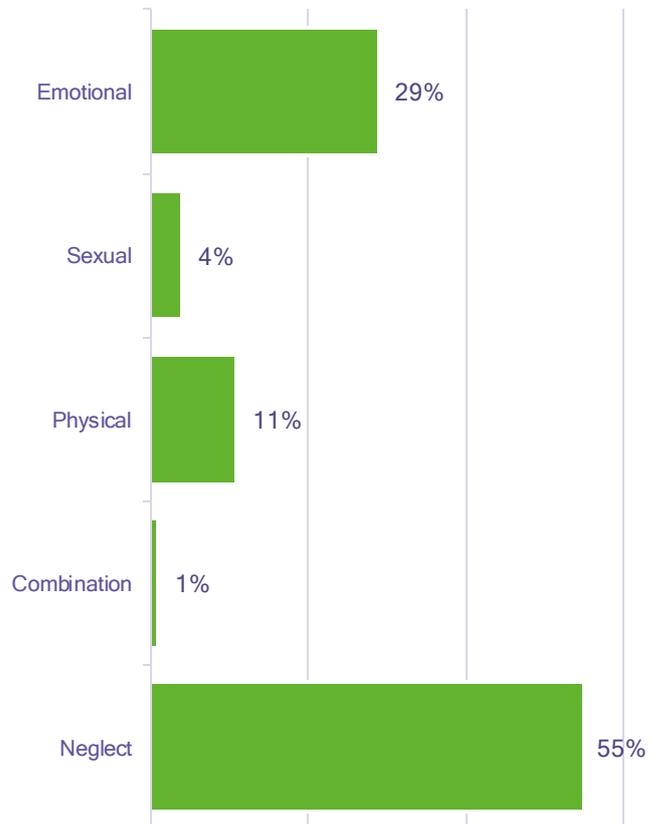
136

Children subject to a Child Protection Plan

412

Children in Care

Category of Abuse on CP Plan



226

Number of missing from home episodes

226

Number of missing from care episodes

Above information received from local authority performance team

Snapshot of Cambridgeshire



49% Male



51% Female

1258

Assessed as Homeless

51

Rough Sleepers

1644

Traveller caravans on authorised and non authorised sites

24,581

Contacts raised during the year

4,310

Referrals initiated

20%

Of referrals were re-referrals

4,367

Single Assessments completed

53%

Single Assessments completed within timescale

1,324

Section 47s completed

30%

Of Section 47s led to an Initial Child Protection Conference

5,334

Early Help Assessments initiated

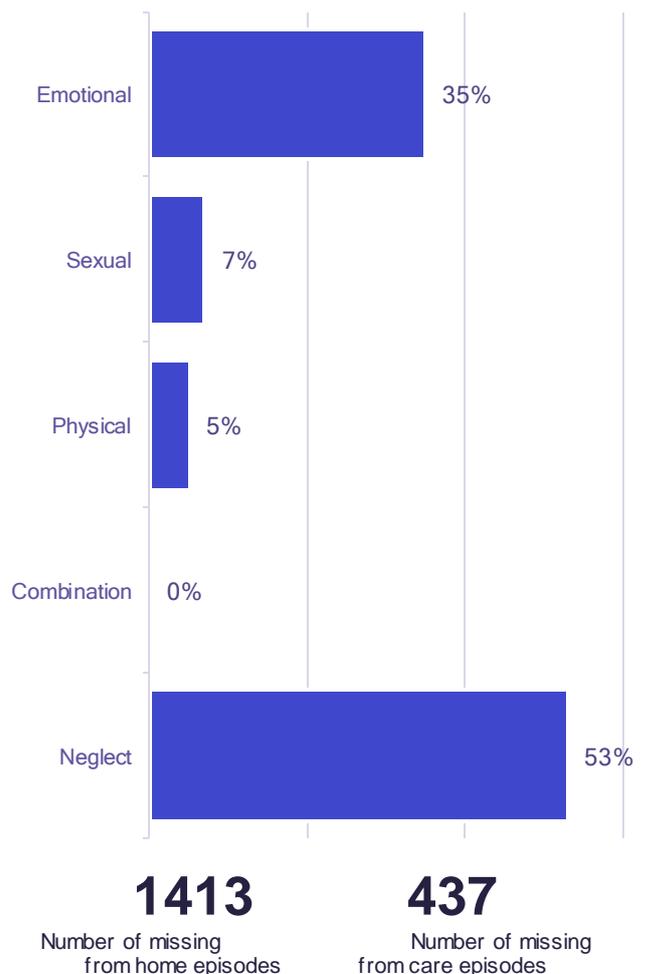
287

Children subject to a Child Protection Plan

655

Children in Care

Category of Abuse on CP Plan



Above information received from local authority performance team

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP BOARD PRIORITIES 2022/2023

Each priority work area has its own dedicated work stream and action plan, progress is reported as part of a standard agenda item at each Safeguarding Children Partnership Board meeting. This ensures work is progressed and activity is held to account.

Priority One: To understand what the neglect landscape looks like across the county and embed the neglect strategies and tools across the partnership to achieve better outcomes for children and their families

Neglect continues to remain the most common form of child abuse across the UK. Partners across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough aim to ensure that there is early recognition of neglect cases and that from early help to statutory intervention there should be appropriate, consistent and timely responses across all agencies. A multi-agency neglect workstream has been established to progress this area of work. In the last 12 months we have put the following actions in place;

Delivery of parenting courses through targeted support

Early years knowledge hub updated with neglect resources

Single agency neglect audits undertaken by CSC - including audits of children on Child Protection plans for neglect

Development of community team initiatives targeted at easing pressures associated with cost of living

Damp and mould review undertaken of every property by social landlord

Increased access to foodbanks

Development of a suite of neglect training for practitioners to access

Developed and disseminated a neglect 7 minute briefing

Commenced a review into the partnership neglect assessment tool

Commenced a practitioner survey into good practice and barriers to working with neglect

Commenced rewrite of partnership neglect strategy based on feedback from quality assurance activity, practitioner feedback and reviews

Our introduction to Child Neglect virtual training (Sway) received 2,154 views

Our virtual training on the Graded Care Profile received 1,472 views

Our virtual training on safeguarding and No Recourse to Public Funds received 214 views

102 people attended our virtual and in person neglect training

A lot of development work has been undertaken in the last 12 months, our focus in 2023-24 will be on evaluating the impact of the work we have undertaken. Planned evaluation and impact activity includes;

Feedback from Children and young people

Feedback from practitioners

Multi-agency audit of neglect cases

Single agency self-assessment (S.11) audit

Development of neglect dataset

Evaluation and impact of training and resources

Priority Two: To understand what the sexual abuse landscape looks like across the county and embed the child sexual abuse strategy and tools across the partnership to achieve better outcomes for children and their families

The last four decades have been witness to a changing landscape of language and framings for Child Sexual Abuse (CSA). The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board recognises the need for cases of CSA to be acknowledged and addressed and as such it is one of the core objectives of its work. A multi-agency child sexual abuse workstream has been established to progress this area of work. In the last 12 months we have put the following actions in place;

SARC paediatric pathway reviewed, refreshed and relaunched.

Using our local sexual behaviour tool virtual training (Sway) received 1,211 views

Our sexual violence and safeguarding virtual training (Sway) received 266 views

Our online abuse virtual training (Sway) received 156 views

Our FGM resource virtual training (Sway) received 794 views

National Centre of Expertise on CSA, member of our workstream group and acting as a critical friend in our development work.

Work on CSA and safe relationships reviewed to ensure appropriateness of language and content

Frontline practitioner workshops held to understand the current barriers to working with CSA

Benchmarked existing CSA strategy and now in process of refreshing

National Centre of Expertise on CSA working with CPFT regarding cambs pathways and CSA

Practitioner briefing on CSA developed and launched

National Centre of Expertise on CSA worked with CSC to deliver specific training on

- (i) Supervising cases of CSA (2 day)
- (ii) Introduction to Intra-Familial Child Sexual Abuse
- (iii) Intra-Familial Child Sexual Abuse for Social Workers (2 day)

Process within MASH strengthened so that no case that comes in with sexual abuse as the referring reason is closed without oversight of the service manager

All secondary schools across Cambs and Peterborough have received an updated Safer Corridors Action Toolkit - providing opportunity for work to be completed with students around challenging the culture throughout the school - in more informal times/areas. This is to eliminate sexual harassment in a school

Safer Spaces Action Toolkit has been launched for primary schools. Every Cambs and Peterborough primary has received a copy to use in school. The toolkit is for use with Key Stage 2 pupils

Single Online Home' reporting mechanism for reporting of rape and sexual assault through a dedicated pathway

A lot of development work has been undertaken in the last 12 months, our focus in 2023-24 will be on evaluating the impact of the work we have undertaken. Planned evaluation and impact activity includes;

Development of new strategy and resources based on feedback from activity detailed above

Feedback from children and young people

Feedback from practitioners

Multi-agency audit of CSA cases

Single agency self-assessment (S.11) audit

Development of CSA dataset

Evaluation and impact of training and resources

Priority Three: To agree a multi-agency approach to identifying, assessing and responding to cases of child criminal exploitation. To develop an effective approach to identifying at risk groups and preventing them from being exploited

Child Exploitation (CE) is increasingly being recognised as a major factor behind crime in communities in the UK; it also victimises vulnerable young people and leaves them at risk of harm. A multi-agency child exploitation workstream is in place to progress this area of work. In the last 12 months we have put the following actions in place;

Developed and piloted a contextual safeguarding model which includes working in partnership with our Community Safety Partnerships through their problem solving groups. Successful pilot, model to be launched 2023/24

Development of fire break course aimed at children involved in exploitation. Working alongside Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue services to learn new skills and develop confidence. 9 courses run and approximately 108 students completed the course.

Continued to provide a fully updated and refreshed 6 weekly online training session 'Working with Child Exploitation'

Supported Peer Group and Places within Cambridge City Community Safety Partnership as a trial to implement a contextual safeguarding framework. We are now rolling this process out more widely across authority areas

Launch of cuckooing pathway piloted in Peterborough with a view to implementing across both authority areas. The launch includes an academic review in partnership with Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge

Production of two local films called 'Cambs against County Lines' rolled out across all secondary education settings in response to child and practitioner feedback of needing something local, the production was managed through Cambridge City CSP and funded by the OPCC.

Cambs Against County Lines also delivered to Cambridge United staff and at a primary school Parents' Forum.

Delivered 'Train the Facilitator' sessions to enable school staff and youth workers to use the Cambs Against County Lines film with their children and young people. These have been delivered to people across Cambs and Peterborough, as well as YOS staff and staff at primary schools

Created an info flyer about County Lines for parents - this was in consultation with parents of primary school children who had requested it. This has been emailed to schools and is on the Cambs and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board website.

160 partners trained in problem solving over 4 sessions hosted by Cambridgeshire Police in support of contextual safeguarding

'Kids Safety Net' project launched across both authority areas in partnership with NSPCC and Healthy Schools. The project aims to raise awareness for both children and adults about keeping safe online. We have had face to face conferences for everyone as well as online resources and a poster competition

Development of animated primary school awareness packs concerning Child Exploitation, this was as a direct result of feedback from teachers and children that they needed something similar to 'Cambs against County Lines' but pitched at a younger audience

Working alongside Huntingdonshire CSP to raise awareness of exploitation to parents and carers by holding evening drop-in sessions and providing resources

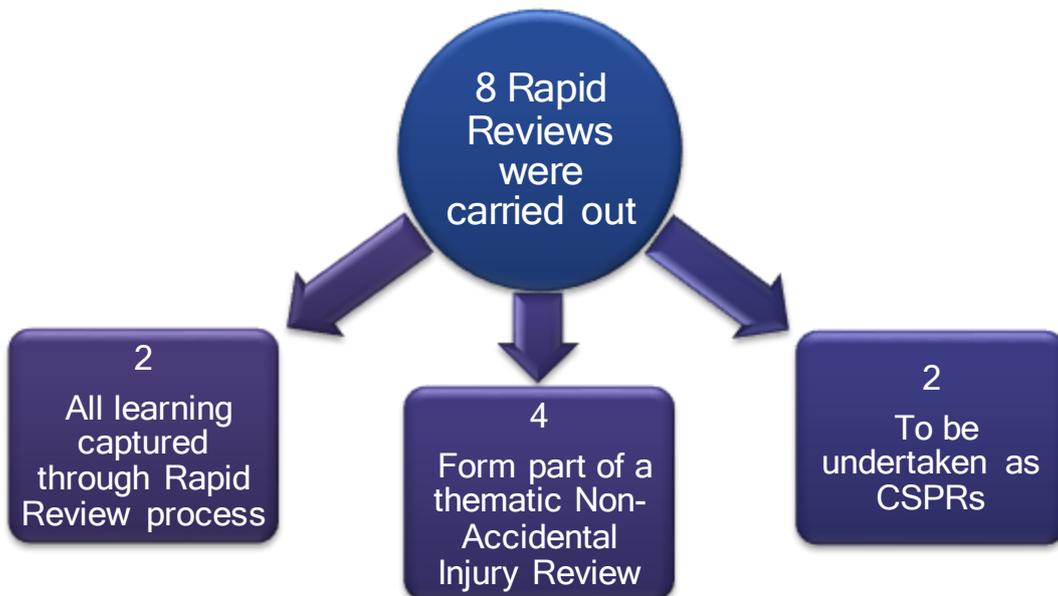
The OPCC has supported through funding the County Lines (Dex) materials. We are sharing this with our Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs) as part of an overall training package

LEARNING FROM PRACTICE REVIEWS

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has a strong culture of wanting to learn lessons from practice, evidenced through our local approach to undertaking learning from a range of cases. This includes looking at those cases that meet the statutory criteria for a local child safeguarding practice review (CSPR) but also having the flexibility to consider cases that do not meet the statutory criteria but involve systems learning. Within the partnership we undertake;



In the timescale covered by this report;



3 CSPRs were published between April 2022 and March 2023

Stephen

Child Death caused through
Physical abuse

Domestic Abuse

Abusive Head Trauma

Nadia

Suicide

Mental Health

Historical Sexual Assault and
ongoing Mental Health concerns

Child D

Sexual Abuse

Neglect

No Recourse to Public Funds,
effect of Covid and lockdown

Main themes arising from our review activity

All recommendations and actions arising from our case reviews are monitored through a live action tracker. Progress against these actions are monitored at each CSPR sub group meeting and agencies are held to account for their progress.

At the completion of each case review a series of resources, including practitioner briefings, training slides and 7 minute briefings are produced and disseminated across the partnership. In addition, lessons learnt are disseminated through the various workstreams and workshops are held with practitioners.

The following themes were identified through our CSPR's

Child Factors

Over half involved
children under 1

Just over half were
males

Increase in cases
involving significant
harm rather than
death

Majority of cases
were physical
abuse, followed by
neglect and CSA

Parental / Carer Factors

Mental health concerns

Alcohol and substance misuse

Moving between LA areas

Domestic abuse

Professional Factors

Lack of information sharing

Little evidence of lived experience of the child

Lack of professional curiosity

Lack of escalation/challenge

Relevant agencies not at strategy discussions

Good Practice

Evidence of trusted relationships (often with school staff)

Continuity of professionals

Flexible approach to working



CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH CHILD DEATH OVERVIEW PANEL

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CDOP were notified of 46 deaths of children and young people during the period from 1st April 2022 until 31st March 2023. There has been a 33% increase in the number of child deaths in comparison to 2021/22 although there are no clear themes to account for this increase.

CDOP held a thematic review of child deaths by suicide from 2019 – 2022. The group used the NCMD's 'suicide in children and young people' report (October 2021) which identified the common characteristics of children and young people who died by suicide. The identified characteristics were discussed for each of the deaths by suicide locally to ascertain whether they applied to each of the children reviewed. A total of 11 cases were reviewed, which was the same number as the previous thematic review carried out in 2018.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE STATUTORY SAFEGUARDING PARTNERS

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Authority Children Services

- To strengthen the response to CSA :
 - Implemented a process where a Service Manager in the IFD must give management oversight on any case where sexual abuse is a factor.
 - workshops on assessments have been updated to ensure CSA and risk assessment tools are highlighted.
 - In-house learning now includes sessions on: Modern Slavery and Trafficking; main Safeguarding Children offer; L&D have commissioned bespoke training on CSA from the Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse.
 - Bespoke briefing notes for the whole service on CSPRs where sexual abuse has been a factor have been produced by QA to supplement material distributed by the Safeguarding Board.
 - Promotion of external learning opportunities via PSW and L&D – e.g. Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse workshops and briefings; Making Research Count offer; local events on Child Sex Trafficking with Anglia Ruskin University (following a collaboration on a research project over the past 2-3 years with the presenter) alongside curated learning guides on each QA audit briefing and workshop
- Learning from CSPR's has been strengthened and workshops were held during early 2023 with over 120 attendees from across children Services.
- A number of complaints were received into children's social care during 2022, relating to the assessment process. As a direct response a child and family assessment leaflet was produced to assist families in gaining a better understanding of the assessment process.
- There is a well embedded EDI offer through monthly sessions, ensuring the workforce embraces diversity and has a safe space to discuss any pertinent EDI matters.
- The family hubs have been established to offer early targeted support to children and their families .
- A RAPS team (rehabilitation back home team) has been established in Peterborough with an aim that more children in care can be successfully and safely returned to their families. The team is in its infancy but already a number of children have been identified as potentially being

able to return home and work is progressing to support this. Within Cambridgeshire this team has been long established with good outcomes.

- The quality assurance service continues to carry out a wide range of activity to support practice improvement. A robust audit programme is in place and learning is disseminated widely across all services. This ensures that managers and leaders have a clear line of sight to practice, and that good practice is identified as well as areas for development.
- During 2022 Children and Young People worked on the 'Every Word Matters' project, looking at the language used around children with social care experience, sharing views and feelings on certain words and suggesting alternatives. In addition to supporting each participation group to provide their feedback on the project, focus groups for three different age groups in the October half term to gather views from young people were held. The focus groups included an engaging lyric writing workshop led by a local award-winning Music Practitioner and Rap Lyricist.
- The annual Virtual Art Exhibition was held in October 2022 and comprised of 39 pieces of art submitted by children and young people in Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. Many of the art pieces were produced in workshops and were later gifted to local family contact centres so they can be enjoyed by children and families who use those spaces.
- The CiCC continue to meet in person on a monthly basis to work on their own projects as well as look at consultation requests, meet professionals and give feedback on services. Consultations during 2022/2023 with children and young people in care have included a co-production request in relation to the Virtual School website revamp and looking at an ePEP App to seek views from children and young people about their educational progress and support needs.
- The CiCC invited the Peterborough Youth MP to a meeting to look at what wellbeing meant to them. The Youth MP will feed their discussion into UK Youth Parliament research on health and wellbeing which will directly inform their national priorities.
- The Young Inspectors completed re-inspections of some of the Supervised Contact Centres in the October half term, to ascertain whether their recommendations had been implemented by the service. The Young Inspectors were also involved in creating a mural for one of the centres alongside local artists during the October 2022 half term. The group has demonstrated its commitment to the project and was recognised by being nominated for, and winning, the Coram Voice 'A National Voice' Participation award on 25 October 2022.
- The Young Trainers continue to deliver training to prospective foster carers and have received excellent feedback from attendees. The Fostering Service reported that some prospective carers widened the age range of children they would like to work with to include teenagers, following the training and discussion with young people.

NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Integrated Care Board

Over the past year Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group has transitioned into an Integrated Care Board. A statutory NHS organisation responsible for developing a plan for meeting the health needs of the population, managing the NHS budget and arranging for the provision of health services in the Integrated Care System (ICS) area. This includes effective joint working with partner agencies, professionals and voluntary groups so that vulnerable groups in the community are protected from harm, encompassing a "think family" and "making safeguarding personal" approach.

The role of the Safeguarding People Team is to provide support to the health system and provide ongoing monitoring and assurance of safeguarding practice. The team work proactively to identify and respond to local safeguarding needs alongside regional and national priorities. These include learning from the National Safeguarding Practice Review Panel reports, new legislation such as the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and Serious Violence Duty 2022 and practice developments.

Please see below a summary of some of the safeguarding people team activity this year:

- Task and finish groups are established across health providers locally in Mental Capacity and Serious Violence to ensure robust implementation.
- The team have established a health training subgroup to implement a local training passport to support NHS practitioners who move between providers, development of a safeguarding apprenticeship role and a safeguarding specific student nurse placement.
- Between April 2022 - March 2023 the Safeguarding People team responded to a total of 284 enquiries, 168 of which related to safeguarding adults, 86 to safeguarding children, 7 to children in care and 23 in relation to MCA/DoLS. The most common themes for enquiries were neglect (52 enquiries), domestic abuse (32 enquiries) and physical abuse (25 cases).
- The Safeguarding People team had 538 interactions with Primary Care staff in relation to safeguarding, via safeguarding lead forums, training sessions or for 1-1 case discussions.
- The Safeguarding Primary Care Nurses have completed a Primary Care specific Section 11 and adult safeguarding assurance audit with 100% compliance, learning from this will direct future support, supervision, and training development. Guidance has also been produced to support virtual consultations to ensure the voice of the child/ vulnerable adult is considered in all consultations.
- The Designated Doctor has led the partnership board workstream on child sexual abuse to improve identification and response to children who have experienced child sexual abuse.
- The ICB safeguarding team continues to support and embed the learning following significant incidents and local and national safeguarding practice reviews across the system.

The Designate Nurse for Children in Care continues to ensure that the health needs for children in care are addressed. A small sample questionnaire was completed to gather feedback from children in care and their experience of Child in Care health reviews, the overwhelming response was that young people preferred face to face appointments as opposed to virtual/telephone calls.

As the Safeguarding People Team move into 2023-24, they will continue to align their priorities with that of the Joint Forward Plan and the Partnership Safeguarding Board and will continue to influence the system wide culture, ensuring that safeguarding is everyone's business and that staff have the right skills and knowledge to recognise and report safeguarding concerns.

Cambridgeshire Constabulary

- 18% increase in the number of Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) offences than previous twelve months (July 2023). Successful prosecutions continue to trend upwards mainly down to the hard work and dedication from all involved in Safeguarding Children.
- The response to Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) has led police forces nationally to demand improvements in our own performance and approach. The enduring partnership

support has been invaluable in guiding our response to these challenges and generating new, positive initiatives and successful outcomes.

- Last year we have seen two of our VAWG campaigns receive national recognition, The campaigns were named the regional winners in two categories at the inaugural Policing Violence Against Women and Girls' Recognition awards.
 - 'Know Violence Against Women', which focused on encouraging men to identify and call out misogynistic, harassing and sexually violent behaviour, won in the Making Spaces Safer category.
 - While the force's joint campaign with White Ribbon UK and two local football teams, which brought men and boys together to think about how they can make a positive difference and achieve equality and safety for women and girls, won in the effective working with children and young people category.
- Following the success of our Vulnerability Focus Desks which have been established for well over a year now, we have expanded them to include our Prevention Hubs and Out of Court disposal teams (Prevention Vulnerability Desks). Situated North and South of the county with a duty officer, they are there to assist our frontline staff in ensuring positive outcomes can be achieved for victims when a charge is not possible.
- Children exposed to DA continue to be specifically identified and supported within enhanced protocols, capturing the Voice of the Child, and protective steps are then initiated while one of the three OPCC funded perpetrator programmes, focuses on Child to Parent Violence and institutes a diversionary programme to greatly reduce the risk of reoffending and harm.
- Our Missing Exploited and Trafficked (MET) Hub now the CE Hub continues to work with the Local Authority SAFE Team and our own Young Persons Early Intervention Officer in order to engage with children at risk of exploitation and divert them from a cycle of harm, abuse, and criminality.
- Our dedicated Child Abuse Investigation and Safeguarding Units continue to produce remarkable results despite unprecedented demand and are responsible for embedding learning from Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews. They also lead on providing vital child protection and child death protocol training across the constabulary.
- Co-ordination and governance of this activity is supported through the Constabulary's VAWG strategy which is well embedded. This contains four strands: Project Kaizen (Domestic Abuse); Project Eleos (Serious Sexual Offending); Project Boyd (Offender Management); and Project Artemis (CSE / CSA).
- As we look ahead to the next twelve months, we remain confident that through our partnership structures, oversight, and critical friend challenge within the Board we will meet the above challenges successfully.



SCRUTINY AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

Requirement for independent scrutiny

Working Together 2018 stipulates that the partnership has a duty to show **there is independent scrutiny** to provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area, including arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding cases. This independent scrutiny can form part of a wider system which includes the independent inspectorates, single assessment of the individual safeguarding partners and the Joint Targeted Area Inspections.

The table below evidences the methods of scrutiny of the partnership arrangements across both adults and children's

What we scrutinise	Activity
Single agency operational practice	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of single agency and multi-agency practice • Decision making • Professional challenge/ escalation • Impact/outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single agency quality assurance activity. • Single agency inspections. • Serious incidents. • Performance management information.
Partnership working and multi-agency practice	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single agency and multi-agency practice • Decision making • Professional challenge/ escalation • Impact/outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent scrutiny of Case reviews through independent chair of the case review groups. • Head of Service for Safeguarding Partnership Boards chairs some of the case review panel meetings. • Independent authors for case reviews. • JTAI and other inspections. • S11 self-assessment and adult equivalent – this includes agency challenge sessions. • Regular QA assurance activity undertaken by business unit staff, including audits, surveys, thematic reviews, dip samples and case reviews. • Surveys and consultations with children and young people, parents and professionals. • Multi-agency workforce development feedback and impact process.

Multi Agency Scrutiny and Assurance Activity

Single Agency Performance Commentary is completed by partner agencies on a quarterly basis, and includes information regarding what is working well and areas of concern within their agency. This process has worked well, and as a result we have seen a number of positive impacts including,

improvements in dental pathways, improvements in information sharing, improved agency engagement and pooling of resources.

Section 11 Self-Assessment Audit. This audit is undertaken, in line with the Children Act 2004, every two years, to ascertain if agencies across the partnership are effectively safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in accordance with their section 11 statutory responsibilities. The audit commenced in March 2023 and findings will be reported on in the 2023-24 Annual report.

Section 11 practitioner survey. This survey is undertaken alongside the S11 self assessment audit and we use the findings to see if they concur with what agencies have told us in their self assessment audit. We have a strong history of practitioner engagement with this survey and usually receive over 500 responses from across the partnership. The staff survey was circulated in March 2023 and findings will be reported on in the 2023-24 Annual report.

Mock JTAI Child Exploitation Audit- This audit was commenced in February 2023 and concluded in April 2023 and findings will be reported on in the 2023-24 Annual report.

Thematic Review of the Child, Parent and Professional Themes found within Local Rapid Reviews and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews from January 2021- March 2023 – This audit focussed on the themes arising from local rapid reviews and case reviews. The local findings mirrored those identified in national research. These included the areas already described on pages xx – xx of this report. The findings from the audits have been shared with the CSPR sub group and actions put in place to address the areas of improvement.

Multi Agency Training Annual report – An analysis of the training delivered in 2022, through the safeguarding children partnership board workforce development programme has taken place. The findings are discussed in more detail in the section below.

All audit and quality assurance activity results in recommendations and actions. Progress against the actions is monitored and tracked to ensure that they are actioned.

MULTI-AGENCY SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

2024 people attended the Boards training

Virtual Briefings (Sways) were viewed 22,917 times

99% of attendees reported that they felt the safeguarding training met their needs

100% of attendees said the training met the course aims and objectives

99% of attendees said the delivery of virtual training worked for them

98% of attendees said delivery of training was viewed as clear, helpful and engaging

99% of attendees stated that they would recommend the training course to others

100% of attendees rated the organisation of training as Good or Excellent

Evidence of impact

“

The training gave me the confidence and knowledge to formulate management plans for complex cases

100%

Attendees said their knowledge had improved as a result of attending the training

“

I now know what information to include in my DASH referral and how this is used. Since completing the course I have used the information I learnt and my referrals are much better quality

“

In my day-to-day assessment of needs / Observation / I am being more vigilant whenever carer or family are giving information related to patient and monitor behaviour / Awareness during conversations to pick up on any indication of potential exploitation

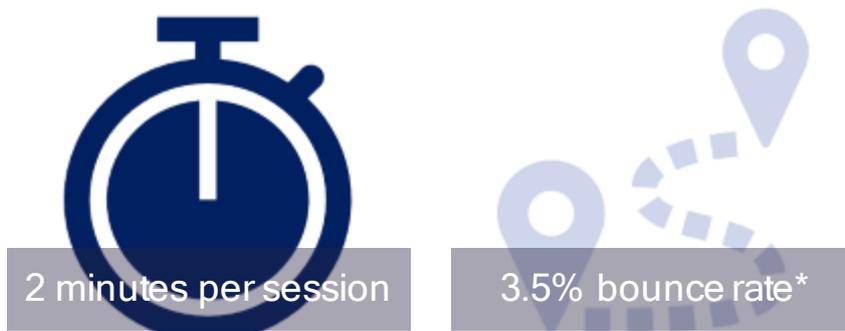
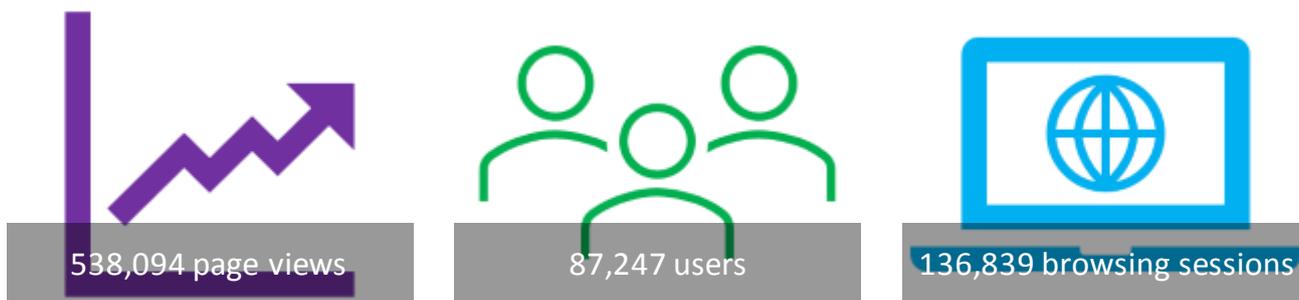
“

I am now working in collaboration with other agencies to support individuals at risk of of abuse and am more confident in knowing where further support can be obtained

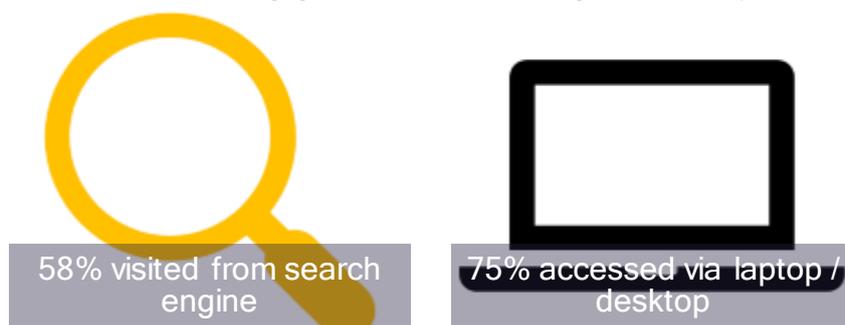
“

I now know which tools to use and am using them!

WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA



* Bounce rate represents the percentage of visitors who enter the site and then leave rather than continuing to view other pages within the same site. Bounce rate of 40% or lower is considered good, higher bounce rates indicates improvements are needed to engage visitors and encourage them to explore the site.



Apart from the home page, the 'Making a Referral' page was the most visited page on the site, followed by Multi-agency Training page and our virtual SWAY briefings pages.

Feedback from visitors includes:

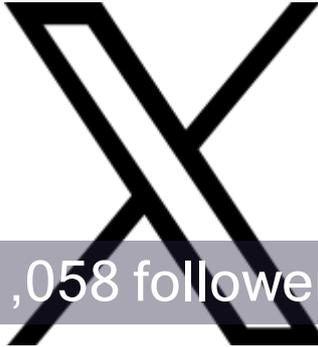
- *Its really easy to use, very clear and content is good.*
- *Easy to manoeuvre around the website*
- *Breadth of training resources available and are easily accessible*
- *the clarity, layout and range of information available far exceeded what was expected*

Our social media presence

The CPSPB uses Twitter, Facebook and Instagram for all sorts of communications from the latest safeguarding news to events that the Safeguarding Partnership Board are hosting.



580 followers



1,058 followers



140 followers

If you haven't yet followed us, please do!



@cplscb



@cplscb



@cpsafeguardingboard

APPENDIX 1 - LIST OF AGENCIES REPRESENTED ON THE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP BOARD

- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Authorities including
 - Children Social Care
 - Public Health
 - Elected Members
 - YOS
- Clinical Commissioning Group
- Cambridgeshire Constabulary
- Education
 - Primary School
 - Secondary School
 - Further Education
- East of England Ambulance Service
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust
- Cambridgeshire Community Services
- Royal Papworth Hospital
- North West Anglia Hospitals
- Cambridge University Hospital
- Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
- Ely Diocese
- Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue
- Cambridge District Council – representing District Councils
- Cross Keys Homes – representing Housing
- National Probation Service
- CAFCASS
- Healthwatch (Voluntary Sector)
- Department for Work and Pensions

APPENDIX 2 - GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
CAFCASS	Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
CCE	Child Criminal Exploitation
CCS	Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust
CDOP	Child Death Overview Panel
CE	Child Exploitation
CICC	Children in Care Council
CP	Child Protection
CPFT	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust
CPP	Child Protection Plan
CSA	Child Sexual Abuse
CSC	Children Social Care

Term	Definition
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
CSPR	Child Safeguarding Practice Review -
CUH	Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
DA	Domestic Abuse
DASH	Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment and Honour-Based Violence
DASV	Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
DoLS	Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards
EDI	Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
ePEP	electronic Personal Education Plan
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
ICB	Integrated Care Board
ICS	Integrated Care System
IFD	Integrated Front Door
JTAI	Joint Targeted Area Inspection
L & D	Learning and Development
LA	Local Authority
MAPPA	Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements
MASH	Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub
MCA	Mental Capacity Act
MET Hub	Missing, Exploited and Trafficked Hub
NCMD	National Child Mortality Database
NSPCC	National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
NWAFT	North West Anglia Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
OPCC	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
PSW	Principal Social Worker
QA	Quality Assurance
RAPS	Reunification and Placement Stability
S.11	Section 11 of the Children's Act
SARC	Sexual Assault Referral Centre
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
YOS	Youth Offending Service



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SCAN ME