



APPENDIX 3
SUB GROUPS



Introduction

The Sub Groups act on behalf of the Newcastle Safeguarding Partners (SPs) to assist them to fulfil their responsibilities under the [Children Act 2004](#), [Children and Social Work Act 2017](#) and statutory guidance [Working Together 2018](#).

The Safeguarding Partners will appoint persons to the role of sub group chairs who will support the work of the groups and report on plans and progress achieved. The chairpersons will report to the Safeguarding Partners, through the Newcastle Safeguarding Children Partnership (NSCP), on a quarterly basis. The individual groups will appoint a vice chairperson.

A quorum is represented by a representative from the three Safeguarding Partner organisations i.e. Newcastle Local Authority, Newcastle Gateshead Clinical Commissioning Group and Northumbria Police. Members who are unable to attend will ensure they have a representative to attend on their behalf.

The sub groups will have dedicated business support funded by the Safeguarding Partners and provided through Newcastle City Council.

The individual groups determine the frequency they need to meet to progress their work.

Business Group

The Business Group will act on behalf of the SPs to:

- Inform the strategic direction on safeguarding children in Newcastle
- Identify key priorities for safeguarding
- Oversee the effectiveness and work of the wider sub groups and task and finish groups
- Inform agenda items for the NSCP meetings
- Challenge and support organisations, services and partnerships in fulfilling their roles and responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people
- Develop, implement and monitor the SPs business plan and ensure the production the SPs annual report
- Support funding applications linked to safeguarding activity
- Secure the involvement of all relevant partners and ensure there is clear communication processes
- Act as a conduit for information sharing on national and local issues, including the evidence base for effective interventions
- Analyse management information and contribute to inspection processes
- Ensure the involvement and participation of children, young people, parents and carers in the work of the NSCP
- Oversee licensing activity

Case Review Group

The Case Review Group is responsible for:

- Considering cases to establish whether the criteria for a Child Safeguarding Practice Review (LCSPRs) are met
- Commissioning of LCSPRs and overseeing the process and quality assurance
- To maintain an overview of all out of area LCSPRs where Newcastle partners have been asked to provide information
- Undertake learning reviews on cases that do not meet the criterial for a LCSPR
- Consider learning from local and national reviews and the Child Death Overview Panel
- Ensure learning from all case reviews is widely disseminated and embedded within policy, procedure, training and practice

- Contribute to other reviews as required e.g. Youth Justice Board learning reviews, safeguarding adults' reviews, domestic homicide reviews, drug related death reviews

Learning and Improvement Group

The Learning and Improvement Group is responsible for:

- Developing and reviewing policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Newcastle upon Tyne
- Working with regional partners and [Tri.x](#) to develop a bi-annual procedure update plan.
- Considering the implications for training and procedure from new policy, legislation, research, Local and National Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews
- Identify multi-agency training and learning priorities for safeguarding children
- Evaluating the effectiveness of training and learning outcomes on practice
- Overseeing the work of the Trainers Group
- Co-ordinating themed multi-agency audits to be undertaken by a multi-agency audit group
- Co-ordinating a partner's 'practice week'
- Providing advice, support and guidance to other agencies on the effectiveness of their safeguarding arrangements
- Undertaking analysis of local performance information and identify areas for further enquiry
- Co-ordinate bi-ennial safeguarding audits (S11/S175)
- Set up task and finish groups as required to undertake specific pieces of work

Newcastle Education Safeguarding Partnership

Working Together (2018) recognises that schools, colleges and other educational providers have a pivotal role to play in safeguarding children and promoting their welfare. Co-operation and buy-in to the new arrangements are vital for success. Once designated as a relevant agency, schools and colleges, and other educational providers, in the same way as other relevant agencies, are under a statutory duty to co-operate with the published arrangements¹

¹ HM Government (2018) Working Together to Safeguard Children. Chapter 3. Pg. 77

Newcastle Education Safeguarding Partnership provides the mechanism for the Safeguarding Partners to fulfil the requirements of Working Together (2018) and enables representatives from all schools, colleges and other education providers in Newcastle, to engage with the work of the Safeguarding Partners by:

- Helping to shape procedure and guidance
- Feeding back to the Safeguarding Partners on implications of decisions and practice relating to safeguarding in schools
- Feeding back on areas of safeguarding activity identified and undertaken by the partnership
- Identifying strengths and gaps
- Reviewing impact of policy and practice
- Providing an opportunity for schools to identify and share best safeguarding practice
- Contribute to inspections on issues related to education as and when required
- Ensure that all schools are represented within the wider partnership
Improving practice across all Newcastle schools
- Consider issues raised by the Safeguarding Partners

Joint Children's and Adults Missing, Slavery, Exploited and Trafficked Strategic Group

The joint Missing, Slavery, Exploitation and Trafficking Group will be known as the M-SET Group and is a sub group of the Newcastle Safeguarding Children Partnership and the Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board. Its purpose is to:

- Implement and monitor the joint multi-agency sexual exploitation strategy and action plan
- Improve outcomes for children and young people who go missing from home and education
- Be assured that arrangements for issues such as human trafficking, criminal exploitation, sexual exploitation, modern slavery etc. are robust and effective
- Ensure effective links with other strategic and service plans to prevent duplication
 - Ensure that recommendations and learning from new policy, legislation, research and guidance are acted upon
 - Influence and contribute to the commissioning of services for children, young people and adults
 - Develop and monitor performance management data

- Develop and maintain links with other relevant partnerships tackling associated issues e.g. forced marriage, domestic abuse, trafficking; modern slavery
- Contribute to regional collaboration and working

Joint Community Engagement Group

The joint Community Engagement Group is a sub group of the Newcastle Safeguarding Children Partnership and the Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board. The purpose of the group is to involve local people in Newcastle in initiatives and developments relating to safeguarding children and adults. The vision is to ensure that local communities, community and voluntary sector organisations and statutory services work together to plan, design, develop, deliver and evaluate safeguarding initiatives and strategies. This is achieved by:

- Using evidence-based approaches to what works well
- Being clear about which decisions people in local communities can influence and how this happens
- Recognising, valuing and sharing the knowledge, skills and experiences of all partners, particularly those from the local community
- Making each partner's goals for community engagement clear
- Respecting the rights of local communities to get involved as much or as little as they are able or wish to
- Establishing and promoting social networks and the exchange of information and ideas (on issues such as different cultural priorities, practices and values)

Task and Finish Groups

Task and finish groups provide the opportunity to work on a specific area of work related to the strategic priorities or an area of activity where we already know that some improvement is required. Each group will develop clear aims and objectives and will formulate an action plan for improvement. Progress is monitored quarterly by the Safeguarding Partners through the NSCP and reported on by the group lead.