

Enter

**North Yorkshire  
Safeguarding  
Children  
Board**  
working together to safeguard children



Annual  
Report  
**2016-17**



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## Foreword

It is a pleasure to write this foreword for this Annual Report. As ever it has been a busy year for the Board.

The dominant event of the period has been the undertaking of the National Review of Safeguarding Boards by Alan Wood. We believe that we had already re-organised the Board and its sub-committees to make it both effective and efficient – whilst being consistent with the national guidance (Working Together to Safeguard Children [WTSC] 2015).

We have met to discuss the implications of Wood and agreed that we will maintain business much as it is whilst being guided by the following principles:

- Maintaining quality
- Independent scrutiny
- Involvement of 'partners' and 'agencies'
- Involving young people
- Involving the community
- Best possible link with City of York

We await the next iteration of Working Together to Safeguard Children, probably in April, 2018, so we can ensure that our plans and principles are compliant with governmental requirements.

Meanwhile our core concern is ensuring that the children and young people of North Yorkshire are protected as effectively as possible. We believe that we are doing well in achieving this core task – whilst of course facing many complex challenges.

The primary challenges during this period were perhaps as follows:

**First**, whilst we have made great steps in raising awareness and recognising Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) the challenges of caring appropriately for survivors are becoming more apparent.

**Second**, we have continued our work around mental health and young people – perhaps the greatest challenge of this decade. At the extreme end of this continuum is the tragedy of suicide – which unfortunately is all too frequent.

**Third**, we still face the challenge of responding to abuse in institutional settings – both recent and non-recent events.

**Fourth**, we have to be well-informed and nimble in our response to the ever changing nature of on-line abuse.

All these issues are covered in more detail in this Report.

All safeguarding boards are embedded in effective inter-agency partnership. This feature is a real strength of the NYSCB – all agencies and our lay members are actively engaged and respond effectively to the demands we place on them. It is a tribute to all professionals in child welfare that services have maintained a rigorous focus on the welfare of children and young people – as resources have become more and more stretched.

By the time of the next annual report we will be clearer about the expectations of government – my task is to make sure that the NYSCB are well-placed to respond to these challenges.



**Independent Chair NYSCB,  
Professor Nick Frost**

# Demographic of North Yorkshire

## North Yorkshire Overview

North Yorkshire is the biggest geographical county in England at 803,761 hectares (approximately 3,100 square miles). Although the county is large, it is sparsely populated with approximately 602,700 residents based in a variety of urban and rural communities. North Yorkshire stretches across the country from the North Sea coast to within 12 miles of Morecambe Bay, and from south of the M62 to the edge of Teesside.

Most of the children resident in North Yorkshire have a rural upbringing with farming being the main industry. Children growing up in the county enjoy the beautiful countryside although many children and young people also grow up in the many market towns and smaller communities within the county. Due to the sparse nature of most of the county, children and young people can feel isolated due to the long distances they have to travel to meet friends or use amenities.

280  
maintained  
primary schools

28  
maintained  
secondary schools

4  
pupil referral  
service maintained  
secondary schools

26  
primary  
academies

13  
secondary  
academies

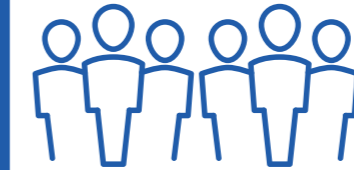
1  
pupil referral  
service academy

# England's Largest County

803,761  
Hectares

602,700  
Residents

3,103<sup>2</sup>  
Miles



6  
Clinical Commissioning Groups

7  
main NHS providers of acute hospital services, community services and mental health services



9 special schools

1 special needs academy for 2 - 16

- A countywide multi-agency Youth Justice Service
- North Yorkshire Police
- The Learning and Skills Council

# Chapter 1: Strategic Vision, Transformation Project, Subgroups

## Vision

*"We will listen to the views of children and young people and work together to ensure they feel safe and North Yorkshire is a happy place to live."*

## Our Priorities

### Priority One:

to coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area

### Priority Two:

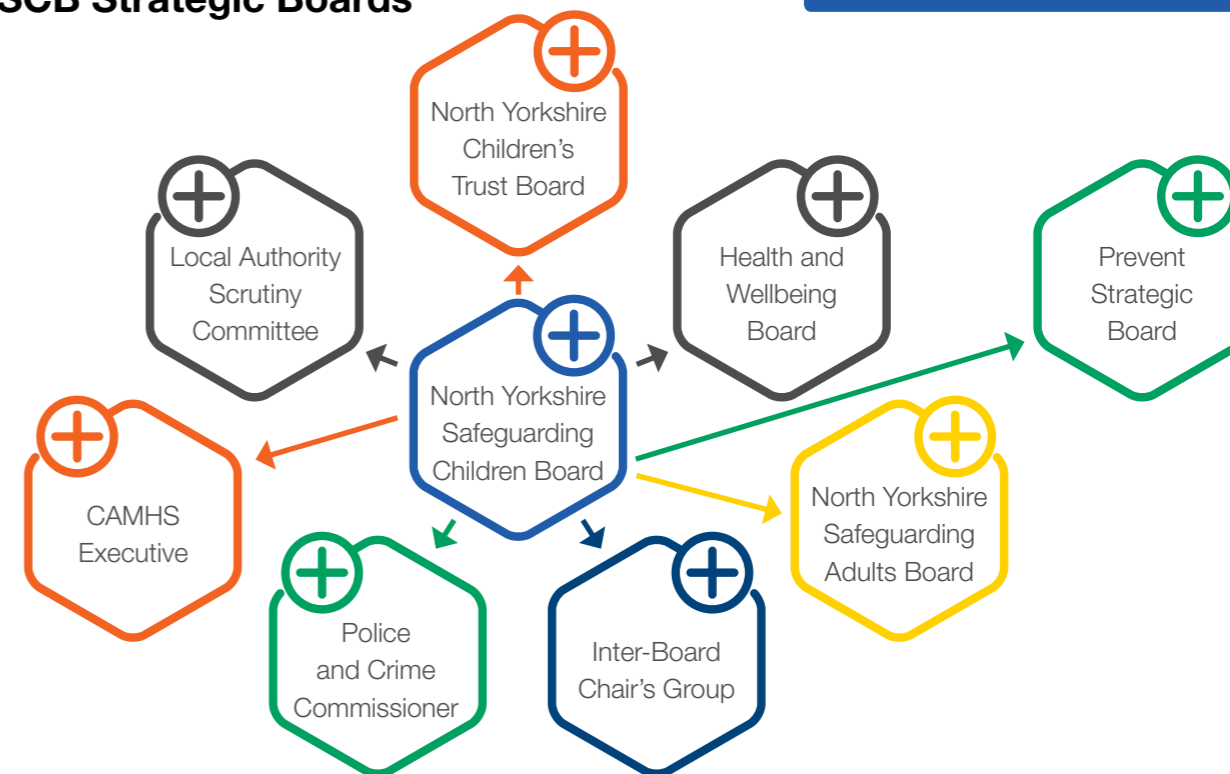
to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes



## Our Principles

- Ensure our partners share information to improve multi-agency practice to safeguard children
- Maintain an environment of continuous learning and improvement
- Increase staff morale and confidence, enabling good practice
- Be responsive to the changing environment of safeguarding both at a national and local level
- Actively monitor, promote, coordinate and evaluate the work of the statutory partners that help, protect and care for children in the local area

## NYSCB Strategic Boards



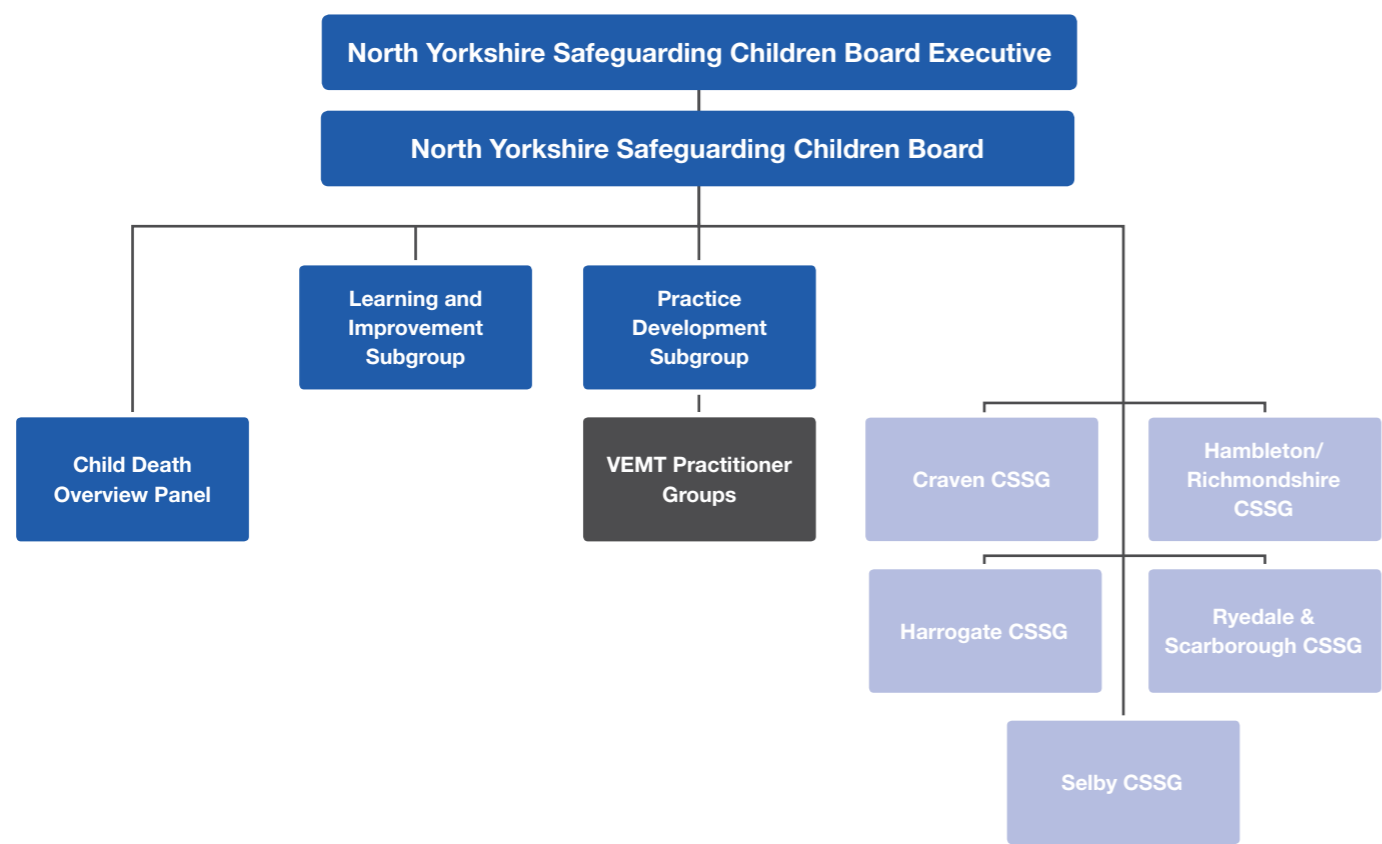
## Transformation Project:

In April 2015, the Local Government Association (LGA) published research commissioned to consider the operation of Local Safeguarding Children Board's (LSCB's) nationally. The report considered how processes and different Board structures impact on effectiveness including Board's which had an Executive for example and which utilised differing numbers of subgroups and arrangements for the work of the subgroups to be conveyed to the Board. Discussion groups within the research found that in some areas the 'split' between the work of the Executive, subgroups and the Board could be both enabling and in some cases was considered to inhibit cohesion and engagement. The research identified the importance of considering efficiency in line with democracy and the engendering of shared ownership; with the efficacy of the board to complete business without distancing some members and avoiding meetings becoming 'repetitive, which risks members becoming disengaged.'

In line with this research and the publication of the Wood Report in May 2016, the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board (NYSCB) undertook significant research and considered the potential to realign the number of subgroups without adversely affecting capacity, performance or output. A series of reports were considered by the Board at the end of the 2015/16 financial year which considered existing arrangements for effective delivery of products and progress against the business plan, against the potential for a more streamlined approach which would assist partners in reducing the number of meetings which require attendance. Considerations included strategies for debate which ensure that colleagues would remain fully committed to engagement in tasks emanating from the NYSCB business plan and motivated to ensure that tasks were completed and the NYSCB continues to

be effective in challenging and monitoring progress against the business plan and developing and maintaining healthy professional multi-agency partnerships.

The new arrangements replaced a structure which constituted quarterly meetings of; the Executive, Board, six separate subgroups, in addition to a number of operational task and finish groups undertaking specific pieces of work. The new arrangements came into operation in May 2016 and have been successful in ensuring that the NYSCB is able to continue to 'coordinate and ensure the effectiveness' of the work undertaken by partners and to create an environment of cooperation, high challenge and high support to the partnership; it has enabled colleagues to work together to ensure that multi-agency partnerships in North Yorkshire continue safeguard and protect children.



The NYSCB Executive, Board and Subgroups meet once per quarter in May, July, October and January. The NYSCB Executive provides strategic direction to the Board, with representation from NYCC Children and Young People’s Service, North Yorkshire Police, Clinical Commissioning Groups, Providers and the Probation Service.

The NYSCB Board and subgroup meetings have multi-agency representation by key partners providing services to children, young people and their families, this includes:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Children and Families Service, CYPS, NYCC</b></p> <p><b>Lead Executive Member for Children’s Services</b></p> <p><b>Health and Adult Services</b></p> <p><b>North Yorkshire Police</b></p> <p><b>Yorkshire Ambulance Service</b></p> <p><b>Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust</b></p> <p><b>NHS England</b></p> <p><b>Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust</b></p> <p><b>Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven Clinical Commissioning Group</b></p> | <p><b>York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust</b></p> <p><b>CAFCASS</b></p> <p><b>NSPCC</b></p> <p><b>National Probation Service and Community Rehabilitation Companies</b></p> <p><b>Ministry of Defence Welfare Service</b></p> <p><b>District Councils</b></p> <p><b>North Yorkshire and York Forum</b></p> <p><b>North Yorkshire and York Clinical Commissioning Groups</b></p> |
|--|---|

## Learning & Improvement Subgroup

The Learning and Improvement Subgroup seeks to identify, report and act upon any appropriate examples of local, regional and national learning through the Learning and Improvement Framework.

During 2016/2017 the Learning and Improvement Subgroup has:

- Developed and maintained an audit programme which identifies the themes and types of safeguarding audits the NYSCB undertakes each year.
- Undertaken an audit of single agency audit activity to identify the nature of audits carried out within agencies and identify any learning which can be shared across the partnership. This audit also contributed to the NYSCB’s understanding of the safeguarding landscape and helped focus the Board’s audit programme.
- Put procedures in place to ensure that single agency audit information is discussed in the Learning and Improvement Subgroup and is shared across the Board and its partners.
- Undertaken case file, learning lessons reviews and practitioner based audits on a number of themes including:
  - The Inclusion of Children and Young People in their Service Planning
  - Safeguarding Disabled Children
  - Domestic Abuse (DA)
  - Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
  - A single agency review of a school’s response to a safeguarding incident.

These audits and reviews are used to identify areas for development of new policies, procedures and practice guidance. Additionally, to inform the NYSCB’s training offer to improve practice and to provide the Board with assurance that agencies are taking appropriate actions to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of children.

- Undertaken the NYSCB’s annual audit of partner’s governance arrangements under Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 which is an annual ‘health check’ for partners and provides assurance that all agencies have appropriate policies and procedures in place to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of children and young people.
- Implemented the findings of the Schools Safeguarding Audit 2015/2016 which has led to increasing the awareness of Private Fostering (PF) and the development of a Private Fostering One Minute Guide (OMG).

- Commissioned a further audit of school safeguarding arrangements to ensure that new requirements identified in Keeping Children Safe in Education (September, 2016) are in place and also identify improvements made by schools for 2016/2017.
- Continued to develop the NYSCB multi-agency dataset, including new indicators and ways of reporting information which will be launched in 2017/2018. This information is used across partners to show multi-agency performance, identify emerging trends and potential emerging issues, as well as help inform local multi-agency activities.
- Continued to develop the NYSCB’s multi-agency training offer, undertaking training needs analysis and ensuring that NYSCB training remains current and responsive to the emerging needs of multi-agency partners.
- Undertaken a training review which has resulted in a new Learning Management System being introduced from 1 April 2017. The new training arrangements will significantly extending the reach of NYSCB training by making better use of technology and introducing 39 new e-learning courses, making training more accessible for staff across all agencies.

## Practice Development Subgroup

The Practice Development subgroup seeks to assure and contribute to the development of child safeguarding practice in line with National and the current NYSCB business plan priorities. This is achieved by providing healthy challenge and by holding practitioners to account with respect to safeguarding children practice, whilst maintaining strong links with the NYSCB Executive, Board and Learning and Improvement Subgroup.

During 2016/17 the subgroup has:

- Created and published nine OMG's (One Minute Guides)
  - [Child Death Overview Panel](#)
  - [County Lines](#)
  - [Managing Allegations Against Staff](#)
  - [Private Fostering](#)
  - [Rapid Response](#)
  - [Signs of Safety](#)
  - [Social Media](#)
  - [Trafficking and the National Referral Mechanism](#)
  - [Vulnerable Exploited Missing and Trafficked Practitioner Groups \(VPG's\).](#)

- Published five Practice Guidance
  - [Child Sexual Exploitation \(CSE\)](#)
  - [Domestic Abuse \(DA\)](#)
  - [Managing Injuries to Non-Independently Mobile Children](#)
  - [Prevent: Working with Individuals Vulnerable to Extremism](#)
  - [Private Fostering \(PF\).](#)
- Created and undertaken a NYSCB Children's Safeguarding Workforce survey in which 657 professionals responded. The aim of the survey was to better understand how front line feel about their roles and to enable the NYSCB to enable the NYSCB to better understand: staff confidence, levels of satisfaction, how continuous learning and development is promoted and understand staff morale within the safeguarding children arena.
- The NYSCB responded to key lines of enquiry for each of the following Joint targeted area inspections (JTAI's) which focused on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), Missing and Children living with Domestic Abuse.



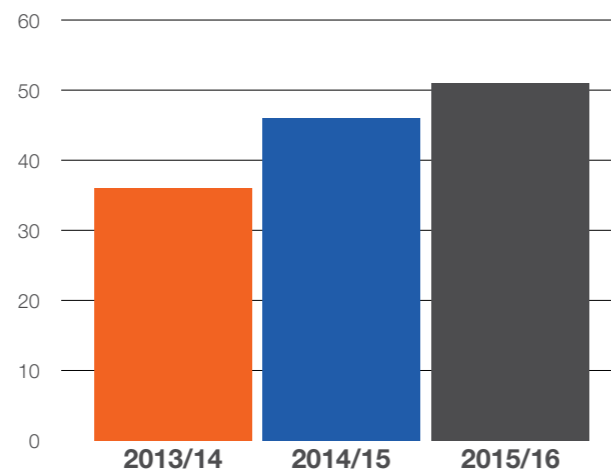
- The North Yorkshire Multi-Agency Screening Team (MAST) project has been running since April 2016 developing processes, increasing resources and working with multi-agency partners. Changes to MAST include: the updated Vulnerable Exploited Missing and Trafficked (VEMT) process will be implemented along with the new Domestic Abuse (DA), Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Healthy Child Programme processes. The North Yorkshire MAST received 'Partnership of the Year' Award by the Local Government Chronic (LGC) in March 2017. The LGC Judges' commented 'This council created an intermediate care model with sector-wide involvement and support showing tangible outcomes and reducing acute admissions'.
- Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking has become an increasingly talked about topic; the NYSCB is proud to have been instrumental in establishing the North Yorkshire and York Anti Trafficking Network which is working with a variety of partners to identify appropriate awareness, training and actions surrounding this important area.
- The NYSCB have published the 'Pink Book' which offers guidance for staff working with children and young people in North Yorkshire under the age of 18 (under 25 for those with disabilities or for care leavers) who self-harm or feel suicidal. It is targeted at professionals who work with children/young people in a wide range of settings. This resource can be used as a prompt for discussions about organisational approaches to working with self-harm and suicidal intent, or to highlight individuals' skills or training needs.
- In 2015, a Strategic Conference took place with the focus on Domestic abuse and as a result the NYSCB led the initiative to introduce Operation Encompass which, in turn was delivered by North Yorkshire Police. Operation Encompass allows the reporting to schools before 9am on a school day when a child or young person has been involved or exposed to a domestic abuse incident the previous evening. The information is given to schools to enable support to be given, dependent on the needs and wishes of the child or young person. Operation Encompass is due to go live from April 2017.



## Private Fostering

During 2015/2016 North Yorkshire Children & Families Service received 51 notifications, which equates to 11% increase in the number of notifications received in 2014/2015 (46). This reflects a continued increase in Private Fostering activity, which can be linked to a greater awareness and understanding of Private Fostering across agencies, following significant work by the board to link with schools and other agencies to promote awareness.

### Notifications of PF arrangements to NYCC throughout 2015/2016



The referral source for private fostering notifications in 2015/2016 is primarily through Schools and by internal Local Authority officers. Eight of the 13 notifications from schools were related to foreign student language study courses.

80% of children are White British. The remaining 20% of children in a private fostering arrangement are from mixed Black/Black British and Other Ethnic Group.

The age range of the majority of children in a privately fostered arrangement was between 7 and 15.

The key indicators for private fostering are for visits to be undertaken within 7 working days of the notification, or of Children's Social Care becoming aware of an arrangement; that assessments are completed within 42 days (or

completion of Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks, whichever sooner) and that visits are carried out every 6 weeks within the first year and thereafter every 12 weeks. North Yorkshire Children and Families service does not authorise any private fostering arrangement until the DBS check has been received.

18 out of 35 initial visits (51%) which had been completed at each quarter ends during 2015/16 were completed within seven working days, this is lower than the previous year where 69% of initial visits were completed on time. Although this figure is low, the annual audit of open cases has indicated a 75% achievement in this area. Nonetheless, this remains an area to focus on in the forthcoming year to improve practice.

A total of 76% of subsequent visits to children within a private fostering arrangement (57 out of the 75 subsequent visits completed) were carried out on time. This is broadly comparable to the previous year and, along with initial visits, will remain the focus of practice improvement.

North Yorkshire Private Fostering service has been judged to be 'Good' by Ofsted over a number of years. The NYSCB continues to attend and support the Local Authority's Private Fostering Group which has multi-agency representation. Private Fostering Champions promote awareness across each locality in the County. This includes links to schools, locality team events and other agency partners.

The North Yorkshire communication plan is kept under review in the Private Fostering Group. The purpose of the plan is to ensure that information about private fostering is made available to professionals and the wider public. This includes information being disseminated to agencies throughout the year as well as other communication activity such as periodic radio broadcasts.

In response to the School Safeguarding Audit for 2015/2016, the NYSCB identified the need to promote private fostering awareness within schools. As a result:

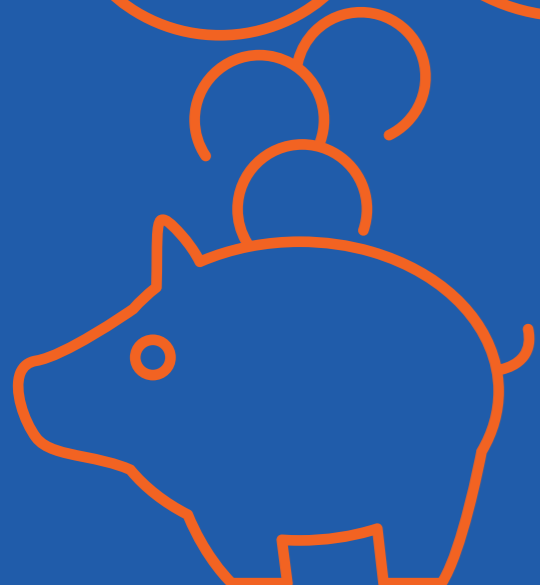
- The NYSCB Independent Chair wrote to all schools to highlight the need to ensure that all staff were aware of private fostering arrangements
- A One Minute Guide for Private Fostering was developed by the NYSCB Business Unit and issued to all partners including all schools in North Yorkshire
- Awareness of private fostering arrangements has also been included in NYSCB training including the Manager's Masterclasses, and
- The NYSCB Business Unit has also attended the Schools' Primary Leadership Network, School Improvement Network and Governors' School Improvement Network meetings to raise awareness of private fostering and the duties of professionals

# Chapter 2: Funding

The NYSCB budget is derived from contributions from a number of partners. As well as direct funding the NYSCB is also provided with services in kind by a number of agencies.



Expend Types	Budget	Total
Conference fees	£1,000	£284,800
Independent Chair	£15,000	
IT	£500	
Staffing*	£262,700	
Supplies & Services	£4,600	
Volunteers	£1,000	

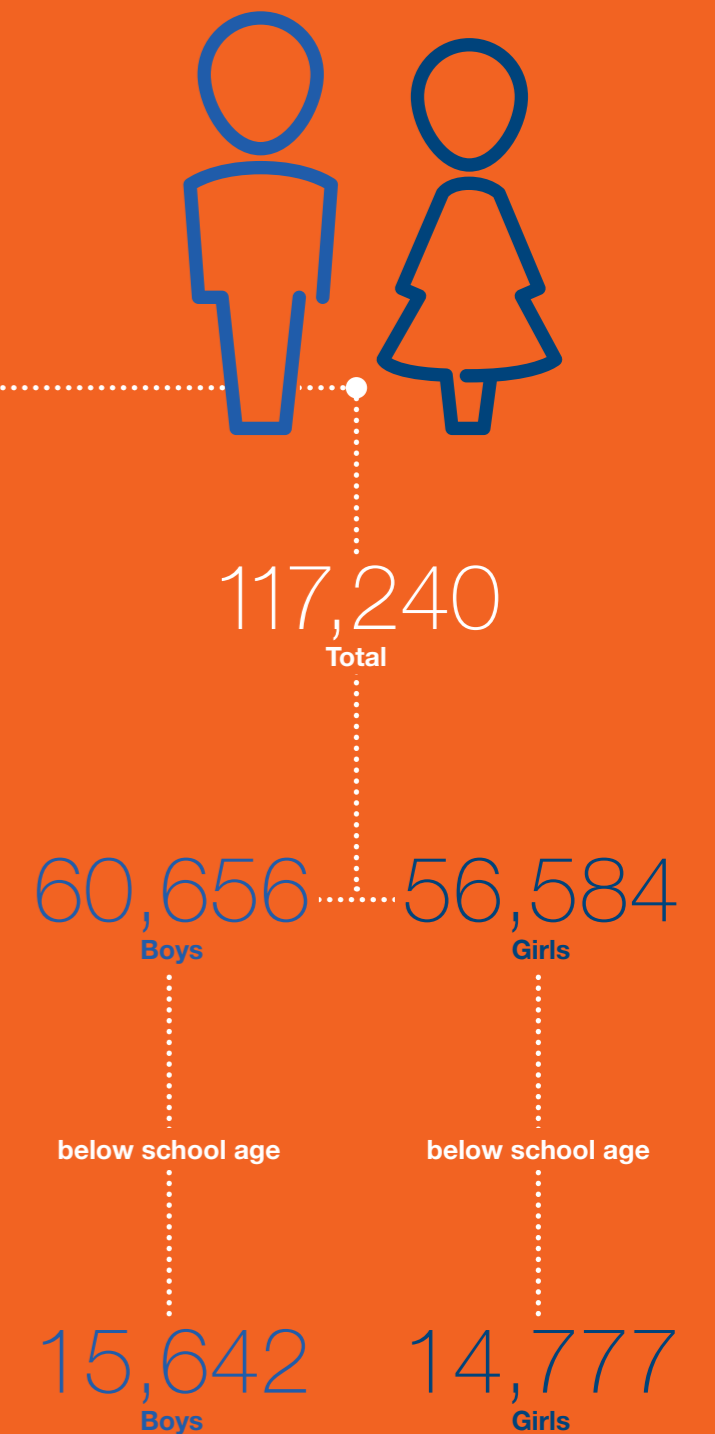


# Chapter 3: NYSCB Data

## 1 in 100: North Yorkshire Children & Young People

According to the school census undertaken in January 2016 there are a total of **79,871 children and young people in education within North Yorkshire**. The ethnicity of children recorded in the school census is predominantly white at **91.6%**. The remaining **8.4%** of children are made up of a variety of other ethnicities.

- Total number of children in living in North Yorkshire (under age 18 - mid-2016 ONS estimate) 117,240
- Total number of boys and girls living in North Yorkshire (under age 18 - mid-2016 ONS estimate)
  - Boys: 60,656
  - Girls: 56,584
- Total number of children below school age (based on ONS mid-2016 estimates)
  - All: 30,419
  - Male: 15,642
  - Female: 14,777





- Basic ethnic breakdown of CYP in North Yorkshire (January 2017 school census - Reception to Year 11): 91% of children in North Yorkshire Primary and Secondary schools are White British
- Total children in primary and secondary schools (January 2017 school census - Reception to Year 11): 74,169
- Total number of school exclusions 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 (2016/17 is based on figures from beginning of July 2017 for 2016/17 academic year):
  - Fixed Term Exclusions: 2015/16: 3,360  
2016/17: 4,222
  - Permanent Exclusions: 2015/16: 69  
2016/17: 84
- Total number of children and young people (under 18) not in education, employment

- or training (NEET) 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 (At end of 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial year, in Year 12 to 13):
  - 2015/16: 222
  - 2016/17: 225
- Total number of accidental and or deliberate injuries in North Yorkshire for 2015/2016 and 2016/2017:

		2015/16	2016/17
Inpatient admissions (No Data from Craven)	Intentional	316	392
	Unintentional	937	1116
Emergency Department attendance	Intentional	16894	24042
	Unintentional	12660	12031



- Early years settings graded good or outstanding  
NY 99% National 95% ✓
- Childminders graded good or outstanding  
NY 84% National 91% ✗
- Primary schools graded good or outstanding  
NY 91% National 91% ✓
- Secondary schools graded good or outstanding  
NY 85% National 80% ✓
- Special schools graded good or outstanding  
NY 92% National 94% ✗
- Pupil Referral Service graded good or outstanding  
NY 60% National 89% ✓

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**18.7%**  
children who had a child protection plan were placed on a plan for a second or subsequent time

**519 days**  
days from coming into care to moving in with an adoptive family in North Yorkshire compared to 558 days nationally

## NYSCB Overview of Data from April 2016 – March 2017

The data set was developed in line with the Department for Education's Children's Safeguarding Children's Performance Information Framework and has continued to drive performance across the multi-agency arena, raising questions and generating discussion around key performance indicators; covering a wide range of subjects, grouped into five fundamental areas for the Board to focus their efforts:

- How does the LSCB know agencies safeguard and promote the welfare of Children and Young People in North Yorkshire?
- How does the LSCB understand and act on risk?
- How does the LSCB know that children receive the right service at the right time locally?
- How does the LSCB know decisions are plans are timely and of a high quality?
- How does the LSCB know that the Safeguarding workforce is fit for purpose?

The dataset is shared with partners across the board through a quarterly performance report that identifies changes, patterns and trends in the data which require single or multi-agency responses allowing the Board to identify what actions are needed, as well as identifying priorities for the audit schedule and commissioning of multi-agency audits.

The NYSCB uses its data set to build a picture of the effectiveness of services and examine trends in service delivery and to identify the effectiveness of services to children and young people including early help.

The dataset also adds to the development of work plans for sub-groups and CSSGs and helps direct the focus of the Business Plan.

During 2016/17 the Learning and Improvement subgroup discussed the following themes highlighted by the multi-agency dataset. This information has enabled the multi-agency partnership to better understand the complexities of safeguarding activity and to contribute to work to address issues of potential concern and to focus the Board's activity

**Theme: Violent and Sexual offences against children have increased throughout this year. Between April 2016 and March 2017;**

- Violent Offences increased from 1,027 to 1,174 in 2016/17
- Sexual Offences increased from 520 631
- The percentage of the total number of domestic violence incidents where a child has been present has increased from 25.5% last year to 27.2% this year.

As a result of debate and discussion regarding this data the **NYSCB has:**

- Developed and disseminated NYSCB multi-agency practice guidance
- Continued to have a full presence and engagement in the North Yorkshire and York domestic abuse 'Joint Commissioning Group'
- Ensured that progress and issues reports are presented to the NYSCB learning and improvement subgroup to enable multi-agency response and challenge.
- Included information regarding to domestic abuse into all NYSCB training courses both on line and classroom
- Included domestic abuse as a significant element of the manager's masterclasses in this period.
- Supported the Government (DfE) 'Together, we can tackle child abuse campaign'
- Undertaken a thematic audit with frontline practitioners regarding domestic abuse and addressed the learning points identified.
- Included working with domestic abuse into the needs analysis to support procurement of an updated NYSCB online training package.
- Worked with the police to raise awareness of Operation Encompass

**Theme: The number of victims being identified as at risk of CSE by the police is increasing throughout the year.**

As a result of debate and discussion regarding this data the **NYSCB has:**

- Initiated work to understand why this increase has occurred
- Worked with the CSSGs to promote the awareness of the "say something if you see something" campaign with local businesses
- Work has been undertaken to update the Multi agency CSE Practice Guidance
- The Multi Agency Screening Team has been developed and is monitoring and reviewing CSE cases

**Theme: The number of children presented to A/E as a result of non-accidental injury has increased.**

As a result of debate and discussion regarding this data the **NYSCB has:**

- Worked with Health colleagues who responded to a multi-agency challenge to better understand this data. Analysis identified issues in relation to the ways that different hospitals were recording intentional and unintentional injuries has driven further analysis by colleagues in Health and pushed further development of the dataset
- Raised awareness of intentional and unintentional injuries and across the CSSGs and promoted the launch of pathways and other ongoing work to reduce childhood injuries.

**Theme: the rate of re-referrals has reduced from 22.6% in 2015/16 to 16.4% in 2016/2017 This suggests that more children and young people are receiving the right services at the right time.**

As a result of debate and discussion regarding this data the **NYSCB has:**

- Established that almost every referral to Children's Social Care now results in a Children & Families Assessment which suggests that children and families being referred to the correct service.

**Theme: 100% of both Initial and Review Child Protection Conferences have been held on time during 2016/17.**

As a result of debate and discussion regarding this data the **NYSCB has:**

- Been reassured that decisions in relation to risk are being made in a timely manner and within the appropriate multi-agency frameworks.
- Continued to ensure that issues relating to ensuring that multi-agency reports to conference are received on time and are shared with parents prior to conference have remained on the learning and improvement subgroup agenda.
- Continued to ensure the IRO annual report is been submitted and scrutinised by partners in this arena.

- Worked with IRO managers to support the transition of child protection conferences to the use of signs of safety methodology and worked together to provide a new pro-forma for multi-agency reports.
- Worked with the CSSGs to raise awareness of the need for reports to conferences to be provided in a timely fashion to ensure conferences have up to date information
- Worked with the IRO managers to develop a quality feedback process to assist in promoting good practice by agencies regarding the quality of reports to Child Protection Conferences and any areas for development.

# Chapter 4: Performance and Quality Assurance

## Safeguarding Schools Audit

In November 2015 the NYSCB undertook an audit of the safeguarding arrangements within schools across North Yorkshire. The purpose of this audit was to provide the Board with assurance that safeguarding arrangements within schools ensured the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. The audit generated a high response rate from schools across all phases of education including maintained primary, secondary and special schools as well as academies, although responses from independent schools were limited.

### The audit found that:

Arrangements to **safeguard children and young people in schools was good.**



Most schools had in place **arrangements to support their duties to prevent radicalisation and extremism**, with the remaining schools implementing plans to improve their arrangements.



There were **good arrangements in schools for safer recruitment** and staff having sufficient training and awareness of safeguarding issues, with some development work ongoing for record keeping.



**E-safety arrangements were found to be good** although some development work is ongoing to ensure that appropriate acceptable use policies are in place.



**Some schools identified the need to improve checks of visitors** to schools and the need to ensure that appropriate maintenance records of equipment are kept up to date.



A concern highlighted in the School Safeguarding Audit was in relation to recognition of Private Fostering (PF) arrangements. A Private Fostering arrangement is when a child under 16 is looked after by anyone who is not a parent or close relative for 28 days or more.

**22%** of schools reported that they did not have procedures to address concerns regarding private fostering arrangements.

School governing bodies were provided with a tool to help them identify and monitor the actions they identified to complete following the audit. The NYSCB also identified an action plan to address safeguarding concerns which has now been completed. As a result of the audit the NYSCB fed back:

- The results of the audit to schools through the Primary Leadership Network Meetings, Secondary School Improvement Network Meetings and Governor's School Improvement Network Meetings.
- All maintained schools who did not submit a response to the audit were contacted by the NYCC Assistant Director for Education & Skills to remind them of the requirement to respond to requests by the NYSCB.
- A copy of the results was sent to all schools by the NYSCB's Independent Chair.
- All schools were reminded of their duty to notify Children Social Care (CSC) of any Private Fostering arrangements they identify.
- Private Fostering has been embedded into NYSCB classroom based courses to further raise the profile of the duty to notify Children's Social Care.
- A conference was arranged with independent schools to improve awareness and communications with the NYSCB.
- The results of the audit were also included in the NYSCB's Manager's Masterclasses and Private Fostering was included as part of the autumn Masterclasses.
- A One Minute Guide (OMG) was developed and sent to all schools for cascading to staff in order to ensure that they were aware of their responsibilities when they identify a private fostering arrangement.
- The OMG was also included on the NYSCB's website and has been published through social media.

A second School Safeguarding Audit was initiated in November 2016. This audit will examine the progress made by schools in the last twelve months as well as new requirements introduced since the previous audit. The audit is scheduled for completion in July 2017.

## Section 11

Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 places a statutory duty on key agencies and bodies to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The NYSCB in partnership with the City of York Safeguarding Children Board (CoYSCB) undertakes an annual audit of the safeguarding arrangements across partners to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each agency for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area.

The audit examines a number of key areas including:

- Senior management commitment to the importance of safeguarding and promoting children's welfare.
- A clear statement of the agency's responsibilities towards children is available for all staff.
- Safer recruitment, staff roles, responsibilities and supervision.
- Training and development
- Roles and responsibilities.
- Learning and improvement.
- Service development takes account of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is informed where appropriate by the views of children and families.
- Effective inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
- Work with individual children and families.

The NYSCB findings concluded that:

- The level of compliance with Section 11 requirements has seen a year on year improvement for the last five consecutive years as the NYSCB partnership has matured.
- There is strong inter-agency working with partners and arrangements are in place to ensure the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and young people.
- Senior managers have expressed a strong commitment to safeguarding through agency strategic plans, policies and procedures. Roles and responsibilities are also reportedly well-defined and developed. Staff have an understanding of their role in safeguarding and have access to training to support them in their roles.
- There has been improvement in the number of agencies that have signed up to the North Yorkshire information sharing arrangements although there are still some agencies yet to sign up to arrangements.
- Learning and improvement is strong within the partnership. Agencies have committed to sharing information from audits and follow the guidance of the Learning and Improvement Framework. The new Board structure and the formation of the Learning and Improvement Subgroup has also further embedded this culture across the partnership.

- Areas such as training and safer recruitment are recognised by partners as key arrangements and these are in place across agencies.
- All agencies providing services to children and young people are engaged in assessment processes and most partners have in place arrangements to listen to the views of children, young people and their families in the development of services.
- There are some areas of development for agencies across the partnership where arrangements can be improved.
- Overall the Board can take assurance that agencies are aware of their duties under Section 11 and have continued to develop and improve since the last audit.

A number of actions have been identified including a revision of the Section 11 audit process to take into account how the audit is conducted, its frequency and any requirements identified in forthcoming legislation.

## The Inclusion of the Views of Children and Young People in their Service Planning:

Research undertaken by the Department for Education (DfE) in its 'Pathways to harm, pathways to protection: a triennial analysis of serious case reviews 2011 to 2014' identified one of the key themes for Serious Case Reviews was to focus on children's needs and identify vulnerable families. In accordance with Working Together (2015), it is important that the views of children have been included in any service provision. The thematic review of Ofsted Inspections of Local Authorities and Reviews of Local Safeguarding Children Boards undertaken by the NYSCB has identified the significance of listening to the views of children and young people.

The audit identified issues of good practice which included:

- An example of liaison with children's services in another county to assist in service planning
- An example of direct conversation with a young person was cited as being central to following actions which included listening to the young person regarding their view that they did not require any further support.
- The use of three houses, strong assessment and picture exercises being completed and

linking to safety planning.

- Work undertaken by medical practitioners to ensure a child who was too young to communicate directly received prompt medical attention and their health needs were assessed.

Areas for development identified by the audit included:

- Although it was found that while all partners obtained the views of children and young people, and that the Prevention Service and Children's Social Care utilised this information in service planning, there was a need for some agencies to re-examine how they obtain, record and consider the views of children and young people to ensure that they are reflected in service planning.
- Agencies to ensure that that the views of older siblings do not overwhelm or disguise the needs of younger family members.
- Across all agencies, obtaining the views of a non-verbal child was a challenge for practitioners to be able to establish their wishes and feelings to inform service planning.

The audit concluded that based on the information provided by agencies there appears to be a different approach to using the voice of the child depending on the nature of service and the agencies proximity in relation to planning services. However, overall the child's views had been obtained by agencies in the majority of cases.

The results of the audit was presented to the Learning and Improvement Subgroup in the first quarter of 2017-2018.

**As a result of the audit:**

- All agencies have agreed to ensure that their staff are aware of the need to obtain, record and consider the views of children and young people in the delivery of services to them
- The NYSCB has to ensure that awareness of the need to obtain the views of children and young people in their service planning is included in all relevant courses delivered by the Board



## Practitioner Audits

In 2015/16 the NYSCB reconsidered the way in which reviews of practice were undertaken and agreed a strategy to ensure the dissemination of learning amongst NYSCB partners. The NYSCB have continued to develop strategies to generate effective learning from National and local, multi-agency reviews of practice and Serious Case Reviews (SCR), to improve practice and outcomes for children and families within North Yorkshire.

In 2016/17 The NYSCB has:

- Considered styles of review and evaluated the most appropriate methodology for use within North Yorkshire.
- Reviewed current methodologies and review styles, whilst taking into account practitioner feedback on learning reviews in North Yorkshire to establish preferred methodologies for the undertaking of SCR and other reviews.
- Considered both the local and National context of SCR's, other case reviews, legislation and research.
- Identified and developed agreed strategies to ensure optimum learning and to enable evaluation of the impact learning in order to inform on-going development and to ensure that the NYSCB has 'a robust understanding of the quality of multi-agency child protection practice and that this information is effectively used to challenge and drive on-going improvements.'

- Board partners considered the development of the Government rationale regarding SCR's and learning as well as the recommendations for LSCB's defined within Working Together (2015) and with the Wood Report (2016). This was further considered alongside the NYSCB Learning and Improvement Framework which provided a rationale for changes in culture and in the undertaking of reviews, from a senior management led activity to a multi-agency practitioner led methodology.

The NYSCB reviews are facilitated by the NYSCB Board manager who works with practitioners and provides a full report and analysis of all reviews on completion. Routine analysis of learning from local SCR and other reviews is developed into local briefings and within a dedicated section of the NYSCB website to ensure that this analysis of learning is available to all practitioners and stakeholders which can also contribute to learning on a National level. This ensures that NYSCB is able to:

- Review cases regularly and not just those cases which meet the statutory criteria for a Serious Case Review (SCR), but also cases which may provide useful insights into the way organisations work together.
- Reviews that look not only at what happened but why.

- Ensure all actions taken that result in lasting improvements to services.
- Be transparent about the issues arising from cases, including sharing the final reports of Serious Case Reviews with the public'.

During 2015/16 the NYSCB have undertaken four thematic practitioner reviews considering:

- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).
- Safeguarding Disabled Children.
- Domestic Abuse (DA).
- A practitioner review of a case which did not meet the threshold for a serious case review but in which practitioners felt there may be multi-agency learning.

A further review was undertaken in partnership with education colleagues to consider a school response to a safeguarding issue within the school, to identify learning and to ensure appropriate support is in place for schools in regard to serious incidents.

Multi-agency action plans have been developed and are managed in the multi-agency NYSCB Practice Development subgroup which has ensured that actions are taken forward resulting in positive impact on practice and on outcomes for children. Learning generated as a result of audit and review has been disseminated by the NYSCB into:

- Improved training delivery.
- Managers master classes.
- One minute guides.
- Briefings.
- Published on the NYSCB website.
- Tweeted to partners.

The commitment of member agencies to the involvement of staff has been vital to the success of this project. Practitioners involved have been enabled to fully engage in learning events and reviews and agency report authors have been given time and support to produce reports. Partners have supported staff in respect of their participation in reviews of practice and have striven to engender supportive organisational learning cultures.

Research by the NYSCB involving practitioners who have had involvement in case reviews in North Yorkshire between 2016/17 have highlighted the value of a more participative approach in SCR's and reviews. Rather than a focus solely on a documentary reviews and one way transfer of information through practitioner interviews. It suggests that practitioners have identified significant value in being directly included in the process at an early stage as well as in subsequent briefing/workshop events. Practitioners found the experience to be:

**Worthwhile and helpful (briefing) to keep managers up to date on the latest areas of development and learning.**

**I really enjoyed this course, the presenters were really well informed and interested in the topics. I found them engaging and the event was very useful'**

**I thought this event was excellent – gave me a lot of information all entirely relevant'.**

Professionals who participated in the NYSCB practitioner audits clearly had a high level of understanding in relation to the additional risk of abuse for disabled children, young people and risks engendered by Domestic Abuse and Sexual Exploitation. It was extremely evident that they were motivated to achieve positive outcomes for children and identified a realistic and supportive group of professionals working together well to support families and for whom multi-agency communication and working is strong. Audits identified timely responses to safeguarding concerns when raised and strategy meetings taking place within statutory timeframes and being well attended by appropriate professionals.



Learning was identified regarding the progress in some cases of Child Protection plans and a lack of contingency planning if significant change is not identified within a realistic timeframe for the child. Systems need to support the development of strategies to ensure that plans are progressed expediently and timeframes are incorporated to enable professionals and families to measure change against expected outcomes to prevent children and young people remaining subject to a Child Protection plan for protracted periods. NYSCB continues to consider data regarding the number of children subject to plan for more than 15 months and has worked with partners within the independent reviewing service to undertake an audit of cases to ensure that additional consideration was given to children in these circumstances and to ensure that drift in planning was avoided. NYSCB partners agreed that these audits become a regular feature and that outcomes are reported to the NYSCB every two years.

The NYSCB has considered the development of additional training regarding disguised compliance and working with parental hostility which will be made available to colleagues within the e learning package planned for implementation in April 2017.

Consideration of Domestic Abuse (DA) within the practitioner audit appeared mostly to have been framed within a stereotypical view of a female's as victims and that multi-agency safeguarding practitioners should be offered the opportunity to benefit from opportunities to develop an understanding of all forms of Domestic Abuse including coercive control, situational couple violence, intergenerational violence and interpersonal violence in young people's relationships and develop knowledge and understanding in order to achieve effective interventions. Some practitioners continued to hold the view that separation of the partners would create safety in respect of the victim and children and in two thirds of the review cohort the couple's separation was included within the planning for the child.

Within all of the cases considered (for the purpose of the audits) there was a significant history of complex familial relationships, mental ill health and misuse of substances. These areas of learning have all been included in the development of the e-learning package to be launched in April 2017:

#### Actions generated as a result of reviews have included:

- Specific training developed regarding CSE level I and II.
- One Minute Guide (OMG) - National Referral Mechanism (NRM).
- Development of work with a group of young people being trained to deliver CSE awareness training to groups of their peers in 2017/18.
- Proposal to deliver a practitioner conference focussed on domestic abuse.
- Additional training commissioned regarding CSE and boys.
- Plan to update the NYCC 'Schools Child Protection Policy.'
- One minute guide (OMG) - Managing Allegations against Staff.
- Update of CSE Practice Guidance.
- Review of Vulnerability checklist.
- One minute guide – Vulnerable, Exploited, Missing and Trafficked (VEMT) young people practitioner groups.
- Managing Allegations against Staff Practice Guidance updated.

## Conclusion – Thematic Review of learning from Audits

Over the last 12 months the NYSCB has worked with partners to embed a change in regard of how it undertakes multi-agency reviews of practice in order that partners are able to learn together by considering decision making in context, learning together and sharing this learning with multi-agency partners. Audits were undertaken utilising the concepts of participative methodology and appreciative enquiry. This represents research based approach to reviewing cases in the form of learning activity. It explores the professional's view of the case at the time the events took place. It analyses significant events and considers decision making in context, identifies good practice and what needs to change. The approach is rooted in systems methodology, and aims to encourage participation to ensure paramount conditions to augment learning both within the review and from the resultant report.


The cohort of cases identified for review is shared with each individual agency with a request that they review their records using a template provided by NYSCB. All information provided is anonymised by the agency submitting the template and these were shared in advance of the meetings. Each frontline worker and the first line manager received correspondence about the practitioner audit, which included its aims and objectives, the terms of reference for the audit and a memorandum of understanding. Practitioners and their first line managers were asked to use this template during the practitioner audit to critically review the information collaboratively and to be analytical of their involvement with the child.

Agency reports submitted by agencies were of good quality including a good level of reflection regarding the case and in particular regarding the multi-agency work undertaken. All the case discussions were well attended and professionals participated fully allowing for detailed, confident discussions and positive professional challenge. All agency reports identified excellent working relationships and multi-agency involvement in meetings, assessments and intervention.

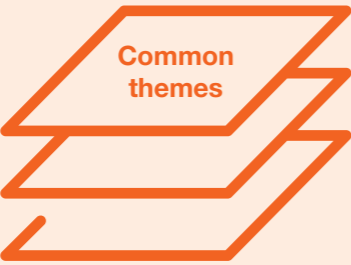


The following is information regarding what was learned as a result of the two thematic practitioner (undertaken between April 2016 and March 2017) audits which identifies common themes and learning:


**Domestic Abuse November 2016:**



- Good engagement of staff.



- History of complex family relationships.
- Mental ill health.
- Use of drugs and alcohol.
- Lack of contingency planning.
- Lack of parental consent to share information/concerns within the wider family.




- Lack of parental engagement.
- Disguised compliance.
- Resistant adults.
- Professional over optimism regarding parental motivation and ability to change.
- Plans focussed on parents.


**Domestic Abuse November 2016:**



- Excellent local working relationships.
- Determination and commitment of workers to ensure that victims and their children are safe.
- Recognition of the complexity of Domestic Abuse and the need for confident experienced practitioners in order to work assertively with perpetrators and reduce potential for disguised compliance.



- Intervention often focussed on immediately presenting factors.
- Lack of clarity regarding contingency planning in Child Protection Plans.



- Lack of wide understanding and training regarding types of Domestic Abuse and emerging research.
- Common misunderstanding that separation creates safety.
- Prevalence of stereotypical attitudes to Domestic Abuse.
- Lack of historical information regarding previous Domestic Abuse.
- Responsibility for protecting children often placed on the victim.
- Victims seeking to perpetuate a vision of a 'perfect family'.
- Better use of Achieving Best Evidence procedures and dedicated Domestic Abuse courts.
- Victims often required to leave the family home with the children.
- Knowledge and use of Domestic Violence Orders.
- Safeguarding 'language' and inherent jargon is difficult for families to understand and to take on board.
- Ability of staff to request use of the same interpreter to limit the impact on families.

# Chapter 5: Partnerships and Networks

## The Inter-Board Network

The Inter-board network is a forum for key professionals who have responsibility to manage safeguarding in North Yorkshire and the City of York. The Inter-board network meet, discuss and progress opportunities whilst strengthening and co-ordinating existing arrangements. The primary purpose of the network is to support the System Leadership Group in terms of work streams but also to identify, implement and deliver on agreed collaborative initiatives.

### Membership of the Inter-board Network includes:



## North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnerships (NYCSP)

Community Safety Partnerships (CSP's) are under a statutory responsibility to work together to reduce reoffending, to tackle crime and disorder, to tackle anti-social behaviour, to tackle alcohol and substance misuse and to tackle any other behaviour which has a negative effect on the local environment.

Integrated Community Safety Hubs have been introduced into each of the districts to enhance the services of all partners and to provide to their communities within North Yorkshire on community safety incidents.

## North Yorkshire and York Domestic Abuse Joint Commissioning Group (DAJCG)

The DAJCG has oversight of all commissioned Domestic Abuse services within North Yorkshire, ensuring that they are meeting the identified, evidenced and local needs. A multi-agency commissioner's subgroup has been established with an agreed principle of working towards pooled multi-agency budgets.

A multi-agency performance Domestic Abuse framework has been embedded, including data from a range of partners. The framework is shared across partners and partnerships, ensuring accurate reporting of activity and analysis.

## North Yorkshire and City of York Strategic Prevent Board

The Prevent Board have developed a multi-agency Prevent Practice Guidance 'Working with individuals to Extremism' which has been agreed and implemented by the NYSCB, North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board and the North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership.

An established multi-agency Channel Panel meets on a monthly basis which:

- Identifies people at risk of being drawn into radicalisation
- Assesses the nature and extent of that risk; and
- Develops the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned.

### Highlights:

- Delivery of Safeguarding Week 2016 and planning for Safeguarding Week 2017.
- Information sharing regarding key activities of respective boards and partner organisations leading to increased understanding of individual board responsibilities and activities.
- Increased opportunity for inter-board projects around key aspects relating to safeguarding, for example the consideration of learning from case reviews.
- Inter-board review of National and local safeguarding changes and good practice.





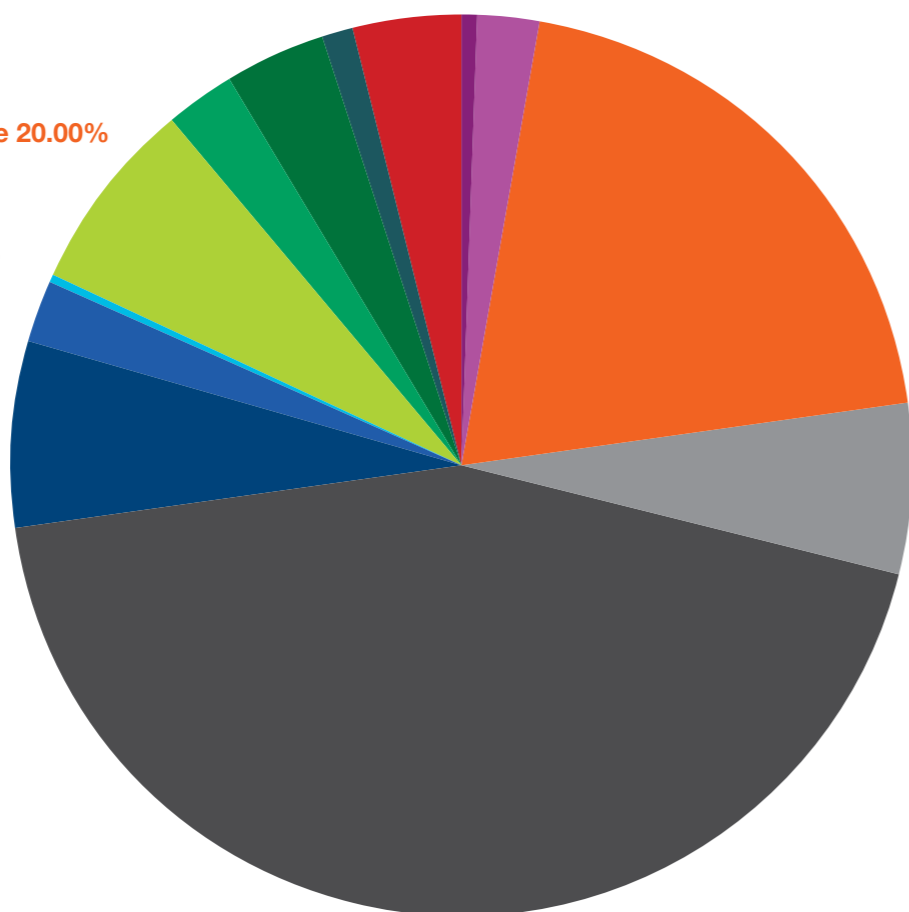
## Safeguarding Week 2016

The North Yorkshire and City of York Children and Adult Safeguarding Boards, together with the Community Safety Partnerships and IDAS, agreed to promote the safeguarding of children, young people, their families and adults in October 2016. A series of local events were held across North Yorkshire between the 17th and 21st October 2016.

Briefing sessions were designed by IDAS and the Domestic Abuse Coordinators (DACs) to raise the awareness of Domestic Abuse with professionals. These sessions were delivered in each of the five locality areas (Craven, Hambleton & Richmondshire, Harrogate, Ryedale & Scarborough and Selby) and were attended by over 300 professionals. The Pie chart below provides a breakdown of delegates by their service sector.

### Delegates by Agency

- Army 0.68%
- Army Welfare Service 2.37%
- Children & Young People's Service 20.00%
- Health 6.10%
- Health and Adult Services 43.73%
- Housing 6.78%
- Local Authority Other 2.03%
- Nursery School 0.34%
- Other 7.12%
- Other Local Authority 2.37%
- Police 3.73%
- Pupil Referral Service 1.02%
- Voluntary Sector 3.73%



Across the five areas, engagement by agencies was positive. Each of the five CSSG areas and four Local Safeguarding Adults Groups (LSAG's) contributed to the development of the safeguarding events in their respective areas.

Across all areas, anecdotal feedback was positive with the majority of delegates reporting that the domestic abuse awareness briefings were relevant to their work, that they had received new skills, would be able to apply what they had learned, and the overall awareness events in each area had been beneficial.

Marketplace events were held before and after each of the 'Domestic Abuse can affect anyone' awareness sessions. These were well attended and there was a good level of multi-agency engagement.

The impact of safeguarding week and the raising awareness of domestic abuse is difficult to measure; however the Police reported an increase in the number of incidents of domestic violence across North Yorkshire and the City of York compared with the previous year. The Domestic Abuse Coordinators reported that the number of MARAC referrals also increased which is believed to be linked to the increased awareness from the events.

IDAS reported that Safeguarding Week enabled their service to connect with a wide range of agencies and has assisted in positioning them in people's minds as the largest provider of domestic abuse and sexual violence services

in North Yorkshire. Following Safeguarding Week IDAS also reported an increase in referrals to the service, as well as an increased awareness and number of queries from a wider range of agencies.

A report regarding the impact of Safeguarding Week 2016 was presented to the Systems Leadership Group, who have agreed to hold another Safeguarding Week in October of 2017. The theme for the week has been identified as 'Safeguarding is everyone's business'.



## Vulnerable, Exploited, Missing and Trafficked, Practitioner Groups (VPG)

The VPG provide a forum to share information with multiagency partners to work to protect children who are Vulnerable, Exploited, Missing and Trafficked (VEMT). The VPGs also explore local community intelligence, community hotspots and share information around perpetrators.

### The development and implementation of the VPG has:

- Improved communication between Police, Health, Children & Families Service and other agencies.
- Engendered an improved understanding of the role and responsibility of other professionals.
- Created an environment for safe professional challenge
- Widened partners understanding of Police processes, investigations and powers involved.
- Expedient referrals to Sexual Health services.
- Ensured that NYSCB partners have a shared understanding regarding CSE.
- Opportunity for agencies to work collaboratively and to develop a shared understanding regarding risk
- Improved understanding of the local picture via information sharing.
- Made links between victims and perpetrators.
- Minimised replication between different service providers.
- Increased referrals into the Time Two Project, Hand In Hand and Parents against Child Exploitation.
- Increased communication and engagement with GP's

## North Yorkshire and York Licencing Officers Meeting

The Licencing Officers Meeting meets quarterly across both North Yorkshire and the City of York which brings together professionals working within the licencing arena to share good practice and do develop new initiatives. NYSCB have engaged with this group to increase awareness around Child Sexual Exploitation in relation to Taxi Drivers.

- The NYSCB and Licencing Officers are working collaboratively to make safeguarding children and CSE a condition of a taxi licence. A training package has been adopted by the in partnership created by Scarborough Borough Council and endorsed by NYSCB.
- As a result of attendance at these meetings Licencing Officers are now engaging with the VPG's meetings to share Information and Intelligence to protect Children in the Districts.

## North Yorkshire and York Suicide Prevention Group

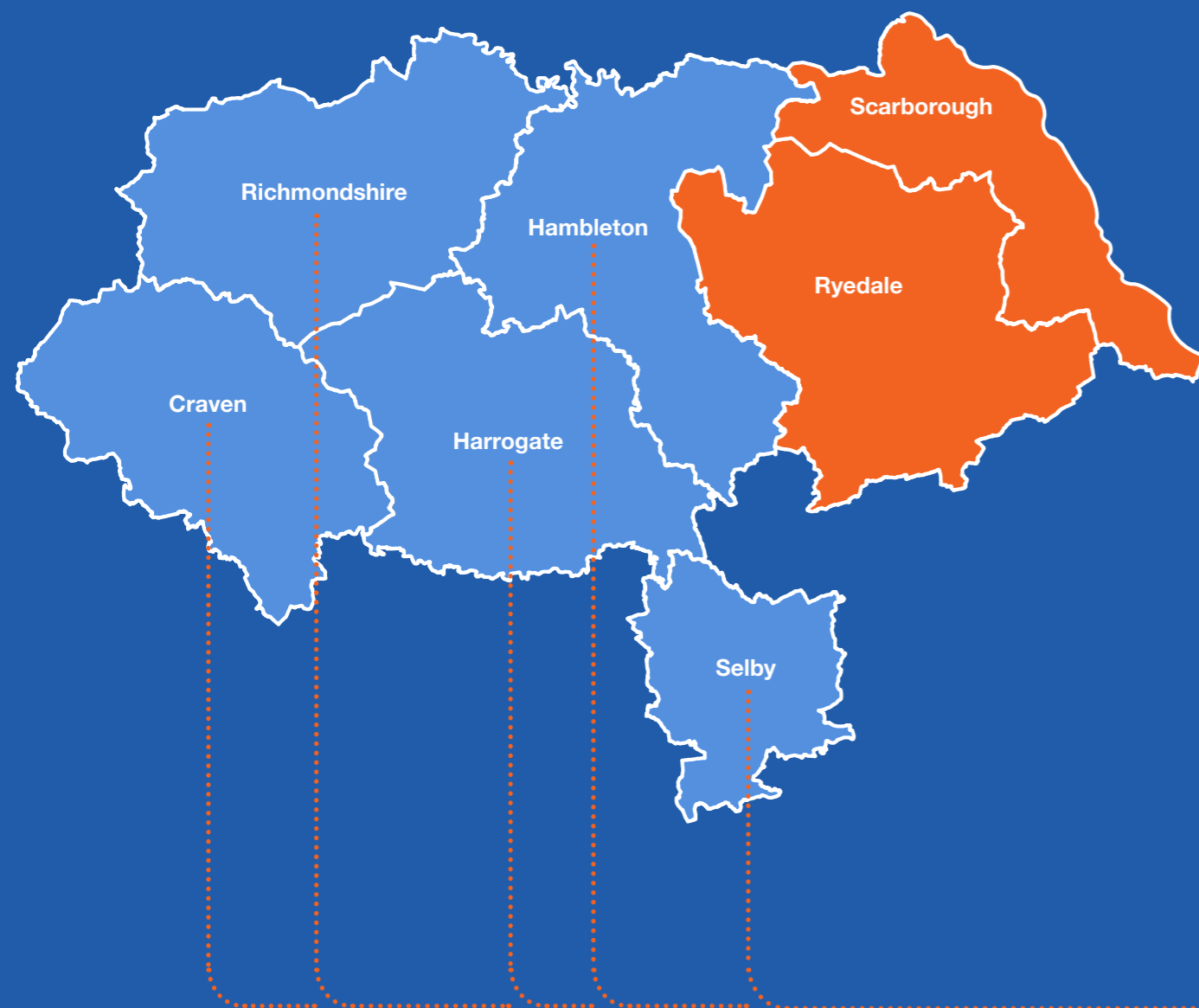
The Suicide Prevention group works across North Yorkshire and the City of York to address suicide and agree a joint strategy for suicide prevention. NYSCB attended this group initially due to a rise in the number of children deaths as a result of suicide in 2014 and have remained an active member of this group.

### Highlights:

- The NYSCB have created and launched NY Pink Book Self harm and suicide prevention.
- The Suicide Prevention Task Group has developed a strategic framework to shape, co-ordinate and strengthen the suicide prevention agenda across North Yorkshire and the City of York.
- The Task Group has matured into a strong multi-agency partnership with representation and support from key agencies including Health, Police, Children's services, Education and the Voluntary sector.
- An audit of suicides across North Yorkshire in the period 2010-2014 has been published. The findings and recommendations of the audit are being embedded and implemented across wider Council strategies and policies, such as the mental health strategy 'Hope, Control & Choice'.
- Real-time suicide surveillance has been implemented, overseen by a sub-group of the wider task group, which enables timely identification of trends or emerging issues. In addition, it provides a means to both the identification of and co-ordination of a multi-agency response to either suicide cluster or contagion.



# Chapter 6: Children Safeguarding Strategy Groups (CSSG's)



## Scarborough & Ryedale CSSG

### Background

The group is now well established with a broad membership across the locality, including:

- A nominated chair: Councillor Janet Jefferson
- Children's Trust Lead: Barbara Merrygold - Divisional Manager, East, Children & Families Service
- Safeguarding Lead: Heidi Scott Nelson - Team Manager, Children & Families Service.

### Improve information sharing in Child Protection Conferences:

#### Improve links with secondary schools:

- Area Prevention Managers offer all schools termly visits and attend the behavioural collaborative meetings; 100% of schools were offered visits last term and briefings on Operation Encompass will be on the agenda's over this next year.

## Achievements

### Raise awareness of services and pathways for professionals:

- An awareness raising day was held as part of the safeguarding event in October 2016. Partner agencies presented their services through a market place event.
- Attendance to the event was over 100 participants. Although, the event was deemed very successful it was felt that locality awareness was lost. Planning is now in place for the 2017 event with a focus on local priorities.

### Raise awareness of CSE with local businesses:

- 'Say Something if you See Something' campaign with aide memoir cards has been delivered to Scarborough Hospitality Association, local hotels, NYP police and community support officers, Holiday theme parks, Taxi and private hire vehicles, other main businesses with on-going delivery to new taxi drivers in the Borough.

## Challenges Leading to Next Steps for 2017

### Children Not in Education

- Emerging concerns regarding the number of children on limited education packages leading to increasing number of children not actively in education. Most of these young people are known to one or more local services (Police, Youth Justice, Prevention, Children and Family Services, CAMHS, private residential homes etc.) Progress to date -Monthly meetings established from September with review of meetings in April.

### Emotional well-being of children:

- Embedding and awareness of new commissioned services through 'Future in mind'.

### Opportunities Area funding:

- CSSG Representation on OAF Steering group

### Cllr Janet Jefferson (Chair, Scarborough & Ryedale CSSG)

## Craven CSSG

### Background

Reporting back on the successful work of the Craven Safeguarding Strategy Group for this past year, Cllr Andy Solloway Chair can confidently say that the group goes from strength to strength.

## Achievements

### Delivery of Safeguarding Week 2016 events:

- Safeguarding Week was a great success, raising a number of diverse issues. It was very much engaging with the public and professionals, as well as raising the profile of safeguarding in Craven.
- A local awareness raising event was held with professionals.
- The North Yorkshire Police mobile police station was used during safeguarding week to promote awareness of domestic abuse and provide drop-in centres for members of the public to obtain advice and support.

### Raise awareness of the 'Say Something if you see Something Campaign':

- The 'Say Something If You See Something' campaign continues to have a good profile and widens awareness, often among difficult to reach communities with training on CSE being provided to local businesses and the distribution of awareness raising material.

### Promote the awareness of CSE with Children and Young People:

- Worked with North Yorkshire Police to raise awareness of CSE through the use of Crucial Crew in March 2017.

### Raise alcohol awareness with children and adults:

- A range of parenting tools to reduce the impact on children living with parents that misuse drugs or alcohol.
- 'Through my child's eyes' and family focused sessions have been delivered on a one to one basis looking at the impact of substance misuse on parenting and children.
- A document for doctors has been developed, linking key services and was brought to the NYSCB and has subsequently been launched

## Challenges Leading to Next Steps for 2017

### Identify 'invisible' children and engage them:

- Chair has raised concerns over electively home educated children directly with the Department for Education
- An agreement with the Prevention Service and 5-19 service has been established whereby joint visits are offered and undertaken to parents who electively home educate their children

### Improving accessibility of health workers:

- Concerns over opportunities to access services have been identified and a plan has been developed to increase health presence at groups.

I would like to commend the various people involved in the CSSG who firmly put Craven on the map as far as this field is concerned. I have nothing but the highest regard for the often difficult and challenging work they do. Such is our success, it is good to see professionals from other organisations coming on board too

**Cllr Andy Solloway,  
Chair Craven CSSG.**



## Hambleton and Richmondshire CSSG

### Background

The Hambleton and Richmondshire CSSG has been chaired by Andrea Hobbs, NYSCB Board Member and Voluntary Sector representative and is presently chaired by James Lee, Team Manager, Children and Families.

## Achievements

### Improving timeliness and quality of reports to child protection conferences:

- The Hambleton and Richmondshire area has been the pilot area for the rollout of a new quality feedback process for reports to Child Protection Conferences which provides direct feedback to professionals regarding good practice or issues which need to be addressed.
- Single points of contact have been identified in agencies and work is ongoing with the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Service to evaluate the pilot.

### Improving inter-agency relationships with MOD:

- To improve relationships with the MOD and agencies a Safeguarding Week event was held at Catterick Garrison which focused on domestic abuse
- The event was well attended by agencies and members of the public
- Liaison with local Children & Families service in Hipswell House who have presented to over 30 Garrison Welfare Officers on the different processes and what is expected at Child Protection Conferences, etc.
- Implementation of a welfare hub, so all those in the frontline of welfare have a good understanding of how to respond to any safeguarding concerns and who should be contacted
- The links are building trust within the units and improving communications with professionals regarding concerns

### Raising awareness of local services:

- A local agency market place provided opportunities for the public and professionals to come together
- CSSG meetings now include regular updates from agencies regarding local services and issues.

## Challenges Leading to Next Steps for 2017

### Improving the emotional resilience of young people:

- The CSSG continues to support Futures in Mind and the development and implementation of the pathway.

### Reduction in the number of unintentional injuries:

- The Hambleton and Richmondshire CSSG is examining issues of intentional and unintentional injuries and have been involved in the launch of pathways and other ongoing work

**James Lee, Chair Hambleton & Richmondshire CSSG.**



## Harrogate CSSG

### Background

The Harrogate CSSG is an active local group with good multi-agency representation and commitment to progressing local priorities to improve the outcomes for children and families in the district. The group has completed a variety of actions to address issues including, self-harm and suicidal behaviour, the quality and timeliness of reports to child protection conferences and is currently looking at innovative ways to address issues for children with autism and their families.

Dr Joy Shacklock a member of the Harrogate GSSG has been appointed as RCGP (Royal College of General Practitioners) Clinical Champion Good Practice Safeguarding. It is a 1 year post which will work on some innovative projects to improve and promote safeguarding within primary care at a National level and provide resources for practices.

### Achievements:

#### Improve agency's response and understanding of self-harming behaviours:

- Task and finish group was established to identify resources, websites, apps, etc. for use with children and young people.
- Ongoing work to promote awareness and discussion with young people
- Sharing of information and embedding of the 'Pink Book'.

#### Improving performance of reporting to Child Protection Conferences:

- Task and finish group established to examine data and identify improvements in the timeliness of reporting.
- Actions have been taken by agencies to raise awareness and improve performance of reporting to Child Protection Conferences.
- It has been agreed the Harrogate District will be included in the second phase of the rollout of the new quality feedback process which will provide more current data regarding timeliness and quality of reports to Child Protection Conferences.

### Psychoactive substances:

- The group examined reports regarding the use of psychoactive substances in the Harrogate area and what could be done about them.
- It was established that this was not a widespread issue and this has now been addressed.

## Challenges Leading to Next Steps for 2017

### Develop plan regarding emotional wellbeing and resilience of school pupils:

- The group is presently examining how it can improve the emotional wellbeing and resilience of children and young people

### Harrogate as an Autism Friendly District:

- Examining how to develop Harrogate into a autism friendly district linking with peer mentoring and home educated children with autism

### Missing from home:

- The group is comparing multi-agency data to identify what the local picture is, whether there are any issues and is there a robust multi-agency response

**Justin Vaughan, Harrogate CSSG Chair.**



## Selby CSSG

In the last year the role of the Chair of the group has moved from Abigail Masperro, Independent Review Officer to Julie Hatfield, Divisional Manager, Children and Young People's Service. The Selby CSSG is served by a core group of committed members who attend the group on a regular basis.

## Achievements

### Improve knowledge of services available in the area:

- The Selby CSSG has held a professionals facing event to support safeguarding week which focused on Domestic Abuse. This event was well attended and was a good opportunity for professionals to network.
- A multi-agency marketplace aimed at sharing information regarding services in the area was held at Selby College. The event was well attended by professionals with representation from a number of different services.

### Reduce the number of teenage pregnancies in the Selby District:

- Access to services in light of high teenage pregnancy rates has been a priority identified through strategic groups.
- A task group was set up and services are already developing and improving.
- Ongoing work around Sexual Health and Teenage Pregnancy to embed the integrated approach and ensure good access to services.
- The group is working with YorSexual Health and plan about better signposting and working together.
- Pop-in centres for young people in secondary schools have been established.
- Chlamydia testing is now offered in the Selby area.

## Challenges Leading to Next Steps for 2017

### Improve access to services in the Selby District for cross boundary issues

- Cross border issues including access to CAMHS provision has been raised at a number of strategic groups and with commissioners. Due to the geography and overlapping services available in the area, this has been highlighted as an area for professionals to be aware of and the CSSG continues to monitor issues and report as appropriate

### Improve agency performance for providing reports to ICPCs and RCPCs

- A task and finish group was established to examine issues of timeliness of reports to conference.
- Issues have been identified with reporting and recording and fed back to the IRO Service
- The CSSG is engaging with the IRO service and is looking to develop reporting through the quality feedback process.

**Julie Hatfield, Chair Selby CSSG.**



# Chapter 7: Training

## North Yorkshire Safeguarding Training Data/2016-17:

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17					Change to date from 2015-16
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2016-17	
Number of Courses Planned*	107	95	45	31	36	30	142	47
Events Scheduled			45	37	53	35	170	170
Number of Courses Cancelled / Rescheduled	12	26	8**	5**	6**	1**	20**	-6
Total Courses Run	95	69	37	32	47	34	150	81
Cancellation %	11%	27%	16%	14%	11%	3%	11%	-16%
Average Courses Run			84%	86%	89%	97%	89%	89%
Delegates Attended/ Booked on courses	1472	1124	493	388	824	500	2205	1081
Average Attendance %	77%	60%	67%	72%	76%	80%	74%	14%
Conferences	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	-2
Delegates Attended/ Booked on Conferences	558	307	0	0	0	0	0	-307
Total Delegates	2030	1431	493	388	824	500	2205	774
Total Capacity for Courses Run	1910	1880	787	537	1082	627	3033	1153
% Capacity Filled (courses)	77%	60%	67%	72%	76%	80%	74%	14%

\* not including Private Fostering

\*Some courses were cancelled due to trainer illness and some as a result of insufficient delegates – this led to the NYSCB undertaking a review of training which is discussed later in this report.

Delegate Breakdown - By Number Attended	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17					Total
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
<b>Total Delegates (courses &amp; conferences)</b>	2030	1431	493	388	824	500	2205	
Children & Families			190	165	181	150	686	
Inclusion			16	13	38	6	73	
Education & Skills			2	0	3	1	6	
Strategy & Commissioning			5	2	10	1	18	
Safeguarding Unit			5	3	2	2	12	
Prevention & Commissioning			1	3	2	1	7	
<b>Total CYPS</b>	981	563	219	186	236	161	802	
HAS	19	14	5	11	130	10	156	
Central Services			6	6	4	7	23	
NYCC Other	35	9	1	0	12	13	26	
<b>Total NYCC (incl. CYPS)</b>	1035	586	231	203	382	191	1007	
<b>Total Education &amp; Schools</b>	428	387	94	104	205	138	541	
<b>MOD</b>	9	5	4	3	13	9	29	
<b>Early Years</b>	211	77	45	23	73	80	221	
<b>Police</b>	49	19	42	1	3	2	48	
<b>Housing</b>	10	11	3	0	22	0	25	
<b>Other LA</b>	17	35	16	7	13	10	46	
<b>Health / CCG</b>	120	84	13	11	25	18	67	
<b>YAS</b>	3	11	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>Probation</b>	1	3	0	1	7	0	8	
<b>Voluntary Sector</b>	53	92	23	24	19	0	66	
<b>Other / Not Declared</b>	94	129	22*	11*	62*	52*	147	
<b>Total Non NYCC</b>	567	466	168	81	237	171	657	

Online learning completion	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17					Change to date from 2015-16
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total 2016-17	
Safeguarding Children: Online Learning Basic Awareness (Basic Safeguarding) *	650	650	332	273	295	260	1160	510
LSCB Introductory Course on CSE (Basic CSE)	0	593	102	200	139	210	651	58
SUDI Box **	0	1	6	6	22	9	43	42

\* figure does not contain completions via the NYSCB website

\*\* figure does not include completions via the NHS website

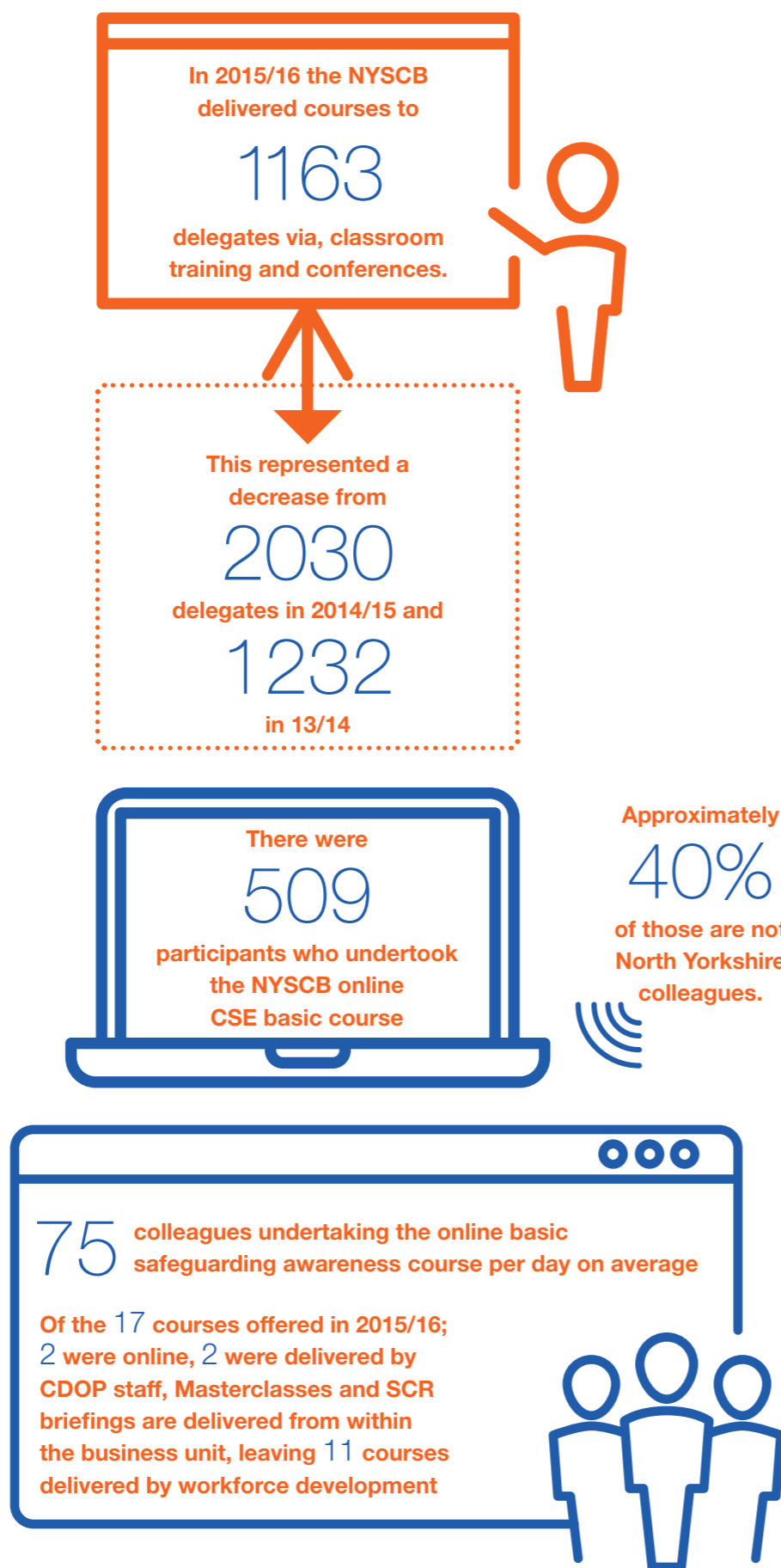
### Findings:

It is clear that overall the 1412 attendees who submitted a feedback form have found the NYSCB courses to be beneficial and relevant to their work. 91% (1290) have either agreed or strongly agreed when asked whether or not the content was sufficient to achieve the objectives, whether they had gained new skills and knowledge and if these will be applied back in the workplace.

### Training Review

The NYSCB business plan 2013/16 identified a number of objectives including: **'maintain an environment of continuous learning and improvement'** and **'be responsive to the changing environment of safeguarding both at a local and national level'** and included the following priorities:

- Ensure our partners share information to improve multi-agency practice to safeguard children, maintain an environment of continuous learning and improvement,
- Increase staff morale and confidence, enabling good practice,
- Be responsive to the changing environment of safeguarding both at a national and local level and
- Actively monitor, promote, coordinate and evaluate the work of the statutory partners that help, protect and care for children in the local area.



Some partners were underrepresented within the cohort of colleagues attending training, significantly police and education. Strategies were developed by the NYSCB to address this issue however, this has proved complex and failed to successfully address accessibility; in particular for police colleagues whose attendance was zero in quarters one, two and three. However, this rose to 18 in quarter 4, which may have been influenced by the facilitation of the 'vulnerable exploited missing and trafficked' conference in this quarter. This reduction was replicated across partners in the LA and education which reduced by 10.7 and 9.5% respectively.

The review of training considered arrangements for the delivery of multi-agency training and proposed opportunities to broaden and deepen capacity, by developing multi-agency training opportunities and building on the current suite of on line courses available. The objective of the review was to spread the training demand across partners, bringing a broader range of training perspective and experience to learning and development activities and also act as a further demonstration of partner commitment to the multi-agency safeguarding training agenda.

It was identified that the majority of partners accessed training online and it was agreed that the online training offer should be significantly expanded to offer a wider range of courses at various levels to ensure partners had access to courses which addressed their individual learning needs. In 2017, the NYSCB will offer 39 online training courses to partners.

The NYSCB has retained the potential to commission bespoke courses in line with identified need arising from Serious Case Review's (SCR's), learning lessons reviews, NYSCB data, audit, and legislation and will continue to be responsive to the training needs of partners into 2016/17.

There continues to be a requirement on the NYSCB to ensure that the multi-agency funding it receives is spent in a way which allows it to achieve its objectives and ensures value for money. There is no doubt that the training package offered by the Board is valued by partners and that the opportunity to attend NYSCB training in 2016/17 should continue. This review has identified opportunity to ensure that safeguarding children training is available to a wider range of partners and a reduced cost to the board and indeed includes some potential to income generate into 2016/17 to ensure that the NYSCB is able to sustain the level and quality of multi-agency training available to partners and to continue to build on success.

## Workforce Survey

In order for the NYSCB to achieve the principle 'Increase staff morale and confidence, enabling good practice' a safeguarding workforce survey was undertaken for front line professionals to better understand confidence, levels of satisfaction, continuous learning and development and staff morale in the safeguarding children arena. The aim of the survey was to provide the NYSCB with a baseline assessment of the workforce which can then be used to provide a focus on learning and improvement, and measure the impact of the work of the Board, with a view to improving the experience of frontline practitioners and thus improve outcomes for children and young people.

The NYSCB Practice Development Subgroup will be leading a review of the findings and will be working with partners to identify actions to improve identified areas.



**94%**

said that they feel confident that they know where to access expert help and advice regarding safeguarding children within their organisation

**92%**

said that as a practitioner they feel confident with regards to safeguarding children within their role.

**89%**

said that they have the opportunity to discuss and reflect on safeguarding children cases with a senior colleague.

**89%**

said that they feel supported to access and attend safeguarding children training appropriate to their role.

**86%**

felt supported by their line manager to work towards NYSCB procedures and thresholds to safeguard children and young people.

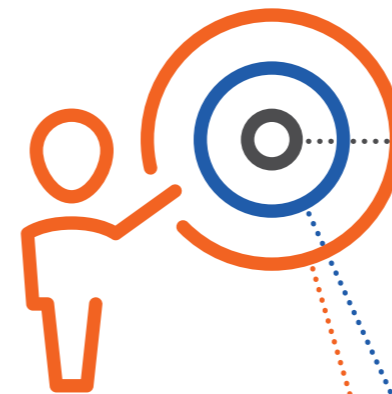
**77%**

said that they regularly discuss continuous professional development with their line manager.

**76%**

said that their organisation enables them to keep up to date with the latest learning.

## Managers Masterclasses



### Aims and objectives of Managers Masterclasses:

An update of current issues within child safeguarding and an overview of the current work taking place with North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board team.

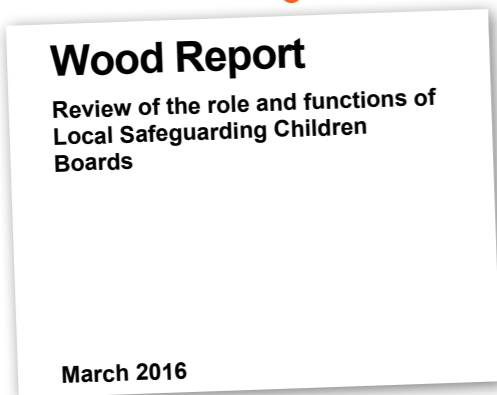
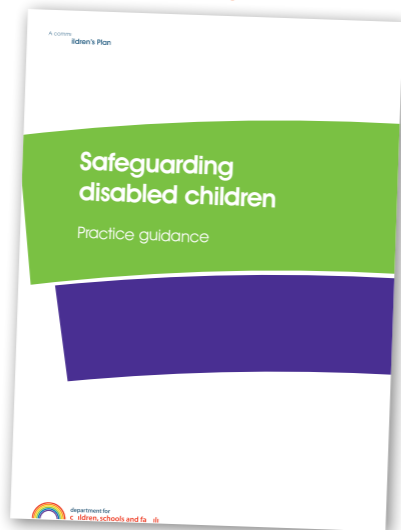
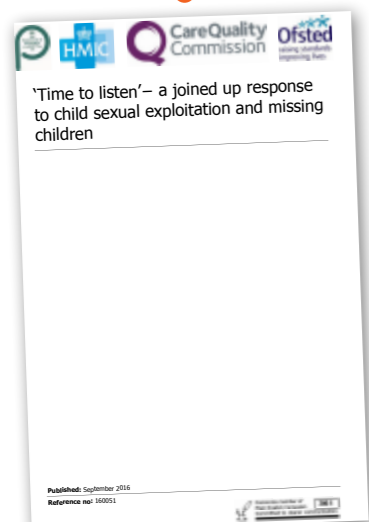
Be aware of relevant changes which impacts on safeguarding practice

To understand any changes in relevant legislation, procedures and consultations in place that impact upon the work of practitioners and managers.

Manager's masterclasses were established in 2016 to ensure that safeguarding managers were regularly supported in an opportunity to establish an overview of developments in safeguarding both locally and Nationally including research, new legislation, learning from Serious Case Review's (SCR's). Additionally to improve understanding of the work of North Yorkshire safeguarding partners. Masterclasses were aimed at managers who had responsibility for staff who would also benefit from the learning to ensure that the learning is disseminated as far as possible. The training is facilitated by members of the NYSCB business unit in conjunction with safeguarding partners who have sought to ensure that managers are empowered to challenge and support staff when reflecting on cases regarding salient safeguarding issues. Topics included in the agenda for Managers masterclasses have been identified in response to issues arising from; new legislation, findings from local and national audits and case reviews, hot topics arising from multi-agency discussion in subgroups relating to partners and identification of evidence of issues were less well understood by partners including implementation of the NRM and private fostering arrangements.



Topics have (not exclusively) included:



### Feedback

I thought this event was excellent – it gave me a lot of information all entirely relevant

I really enjoyed this course the presenters were really well informed and interested in the topics. I found them engaging and the event was very useful

Worthwhile and helpful briefing to keep managers up to date on the latest areas of development and learning

Managers Masterclasses have been delivered across North Yorkshire in both Spring and Autumn 2016.

A total of eight separate sessions provided information on a wide range of topics to in excess of 120 multi-agency colleagues with a view to potentially reaching significantly more safeguarding practitioners through dissemination in supervision and other mentoring activities. Feedback from participants has been extremely positive and has provided evidence of knowledge being used in practice for example feedback from a social worker who having attended a strategy meeting had identified trafficking, in addition to other risks and had made a referral to the NRM which she would not previously have undertaken. Education colleagues have identified a clearer understanding of the links between private fostering and their responsibility within the school environment and we are hopeful that this augmented understanding will lead to a rise on the number of privately fostered children in receipt of support across the county.

# Chapter 8: Voice of Young People

The Growing Up in North Yorkshire is a biennial survey which plays a crucial part in enabling the Local Authority, schools and NYSCB partners understand the views and concerns of children and young people across the county by using age appropriate survey. The survey covered topics such as:

- **Attitudes towards learning.**
- **Emotional health and wellbeing including resilience and bullying.**
- **Sexual Health.**
- **Substance misuse.**
- **Online safety**

The survey provides valuable information which is shared with the NYSCB and its partners to help focus and improve services for children and young people, particularly vulnerable groups. All schools across the county are invited to participate with the survey taking the views of children and young people in years 2, 6, 8, 10 and 12.

The Growing up in North Yorkshire Survey took place in the Summer Term of 2016 and the results shared with partners December 2016 / January 2017.

## Children and young people told us:

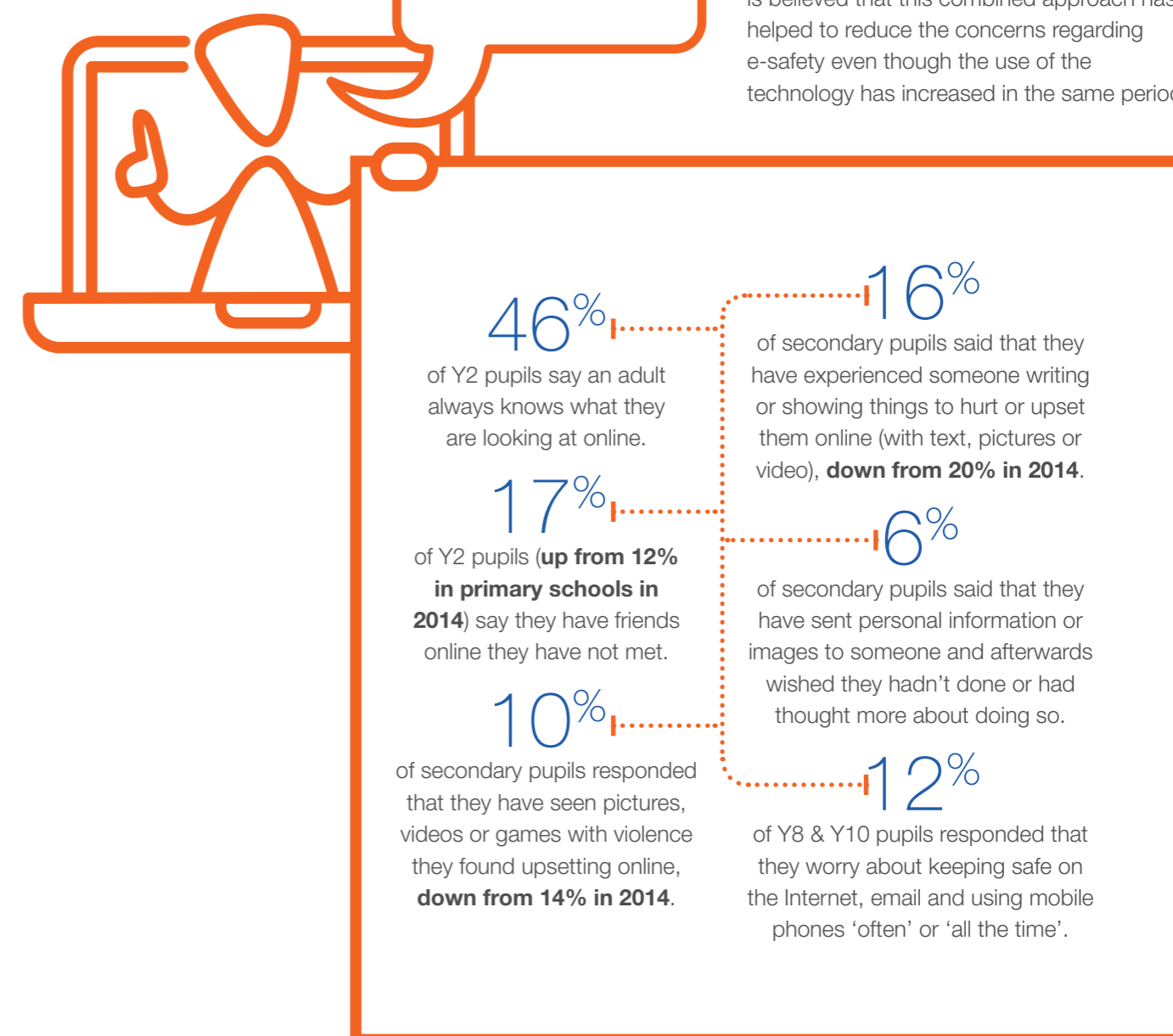
**Online safety has a big influence on children and young people and with it brings a number of risks:**

Secondary pupils are less likely now to communicate with people they have met online and don't know in real life

22% in 2014  
18% in 2016

## What we Did:

To support children and young people in the online world the NYSCB commissioned a training package for schools which explored the lives of four young people. This package was issued to schools in the first quarter of 2016 and has been used by a number of schools over the last year. The NYSCB Business Unit has also worked with colleagues in the Local Authority to develop resources for schools to use in personal, social, health and economic (PHSE) lessons and promote e-safety for key stages 1-4. It is believed that this combined approach has helped to reduce the concerns regarding e-safety even though the use of the technology has increased in the same period.



### Children and young people told us:

A key area from Growing up in North Yorkshire was in relation to sexual health for children and young people:



**52%**  
Y8 & Y10 believe there is a sexual health service for young people available locally. **31% of pupils said they know where they can get condoms free of charge, a drop from 39% in 2014.**

**10%**  
of Year 10 pupils have had a sexual relationship in the past and **7% report that they are currently in a sexual relationship.**

**53%** said 'yes' and **9%** were 'not sure' when Y10 pupils were asked if they had sex, did they always use a method of protection or contraception.

**42%**  
of Y8 & Y10 said they were treated for an accident at a clinic or hospital in the twelve months before the survey.

### What we Did:

Through the work of the CSSGs and in partnership with Health and Adult Services the NYSCB has sought to raise the awareness of sexual health services with professionals to ensure they are in a position to provide advice and guidance to children and young people on where they can obtain help. Work has also been undertaken within CSSGs to examine increases in teenage pregnancies and to challenge partners to ensure that services are accessible to young people across the county.

### Children and young people told us:

The Growing up in North Yorkshire Survey told us that **'38% of Y8 & Y10 pupils reported they worried about family problems 'often' or 'all the time.'**

The NYSCB's dataset has shown that the number of domestic incidents with children living in the household has increased over the last three years. Although not directly linked to family, the Growing up in North Yorkshire Survey also identified that approximately 8% of secondary pupils say they have been the victim of violence or aggression which is an increase from 2014 when the reported figure was 6%.

### What we Did:

In October 2016 the NYSCB, in partnership with the City of York Safeguarding Children Board, the Adult Safeguarding Boards and Community Safety Partnerships for North Yorkshire and the City of York, and IDAS undertook a series of awareness events aimed at professionals to raise the profile of domestic abuse. In addition, a number of local, public facing events were held across the county to raise awareness with the public and raise awareness of support services which are available.



## Young People Involvement

### Youth Voice Conference

The NYSCB held a consultation market stall at the NYCC Primary Student Voice Conference and the Secondary Youth Voice Conference during the Voice, Influence and Participation teams 'Youthvember'. The events allowed the NYSCB engage with 129 primary school students finding out what makes them feel safe and unsafe and 35 secondary school students finding out their biggest safeguarding worry was.



**You Said - Primary - Children reported that parents and friends made them feel safe whilst being on their own and being home alone made them feel unsafe.**

**We Did** - The NYSCB will be developing a One minute guide (OMG) which assists partners on issues regarding young people being at home alone.

**You Said - Secondary – Young people reported that Internet safety was their biggest safeguarding worry in particular 'Catfishing' (when someone creates fake profiles on social media sites to trick people into thinking they are somebody else).**

**We Did** - The NYSCB promoted 'Safer Internet Day' through social media, websites and directly with all our partner organisations

### Safer internet day (SID)

The NYSCB along with partners supported Safer Internet Day (SID) which took place on Tuesday 7th February. A media release was created: <http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/safer-internet-day-feb17> which was published in a number of local papers. The NYSCB Board Manager undertook two radio interviews on Stray FM and Yorkshire Coast Radio. Activities took place on twitter with features from Prof Nick Frost and Cllr Janet Sanderson showing their support.



### Helping Each Other

As a result of a NYSCB audit themed around CSE it was identified that there were few specific opportunities for disabled young people to discuss and to understand CSE. As a result NYSCB commissioned the National Working Group (NWG) awards finalists: 'Helping Each Other Project' to train a group of North Yorkshire young people who are members of the County's Flying High Youth Voice Project, this project is supports young people with special educational needs to have a voice and make a positive difference to their community. The Flying High members undertook a full day's training in March 2017 delivered by young people from the Helping Each Other project. The peer led training focusing on signs and dangers surrounding child sexual exploitation and will be delivered to fellow students within special schools in North Yorkshire. This project has been funded by VIP team and Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

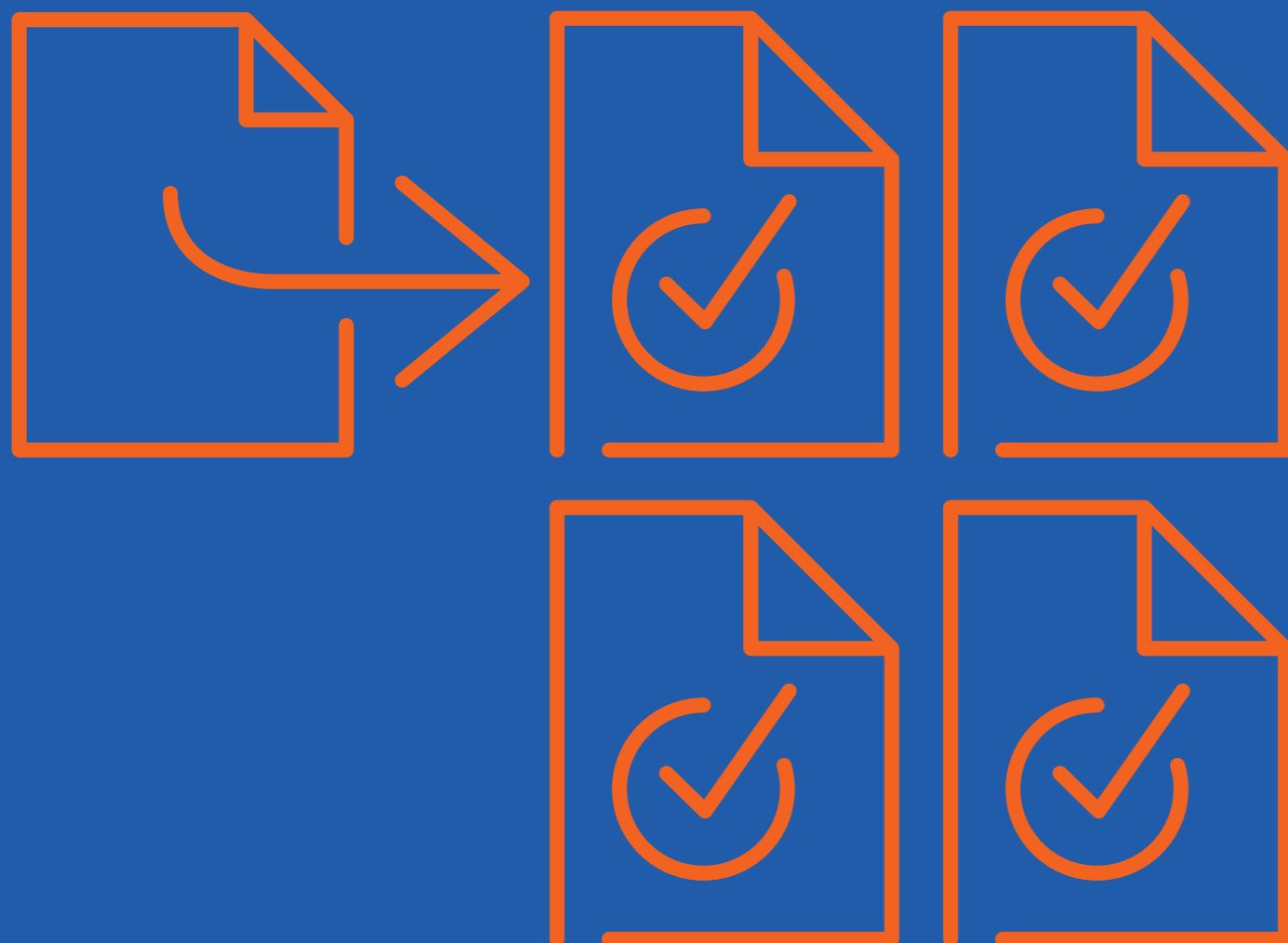
### Independent Chair attends Youth Voice Executive

Professor Nick Frost (NYSCB Independent Chair) had the privilege of attend the inaugural North Yorkshire Youth Voice Executive event held at County Hall in February 2017. The young people who attended represented youth voice organisations from across North Yorkshire; they were articulate and enthusiastic in discussing how services could be improved. Feedback from the young people suggested that they seem to feel safe and that their priorities were around accessibility in particular regarding affordable public transport, good careers and transitions, advice and engaging Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education in schools. It is reassuring to know that the NYSCB can work with such an effective group in developing our policies and practices.



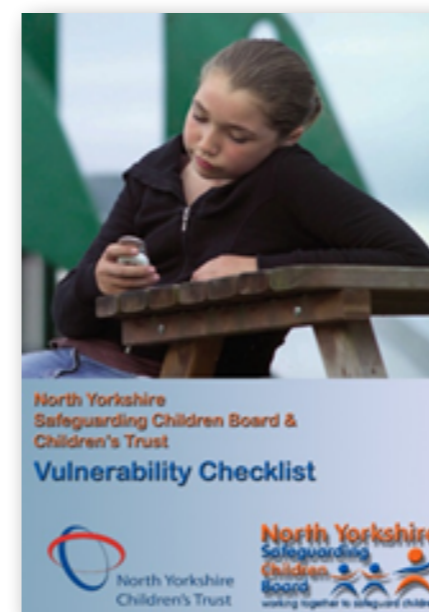
# Chapter 9: New Procedure/Practice Guidance/Campaigns and Social Media

The NYSCB maintained agreed procedures for safeguarding children across all partners within North Yorkshire. These procedures have been reviewed and updated over the last year.



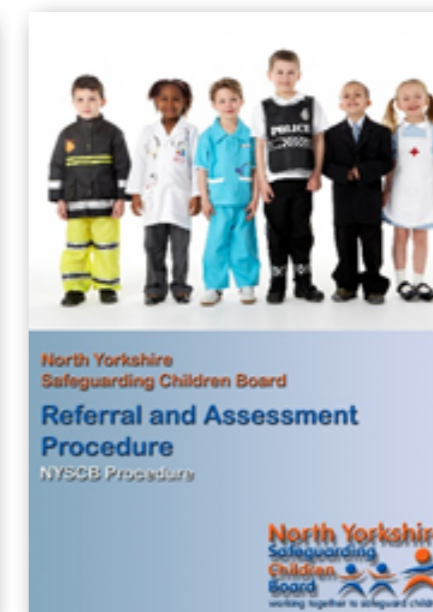
## Vulnerability Checklist

Having clear thresholds for action which are understood by all professionals, and applied consistently, including for children returning home from care ensures that services are commissioned effectively and that the right help is given to the child at the right time. To assist in ensuring consistency across partners the NYSCB has reviewed the Vulnerability Checklist which is the key threshold document used by partners to identify the appropriate level of services to be provided to children and young people.



## Referral and Assessment Procedure

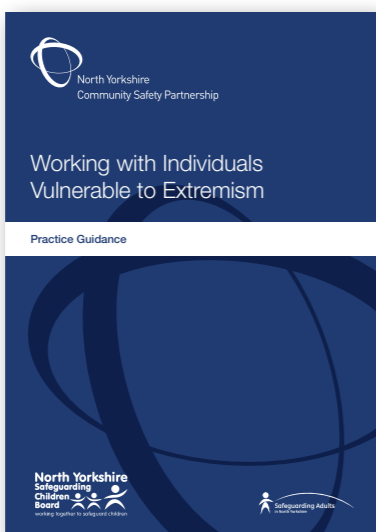
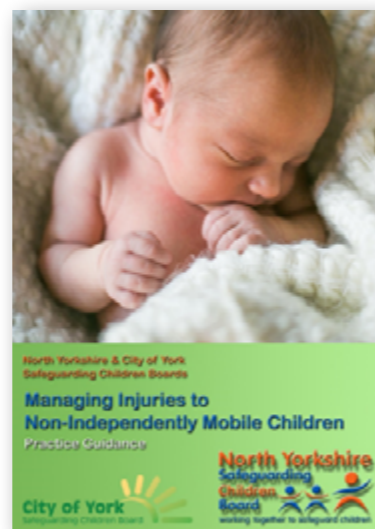
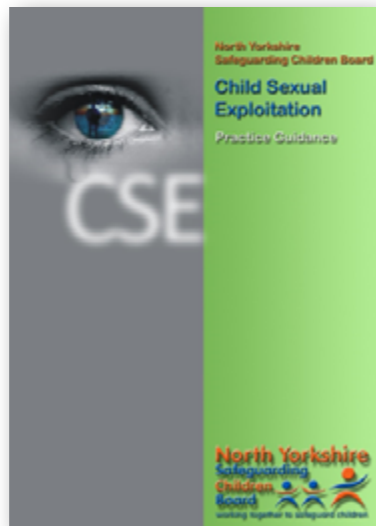
It is essential for there to be clear and consistent pathways for ensuring that children and young people are referred to services. The NYSCB referral and assessment procedure has been agreed across all partners to ensure a consistent approach for the escalation of child protection concerns with NYCC Children and Families Service.



## Practice Guidance

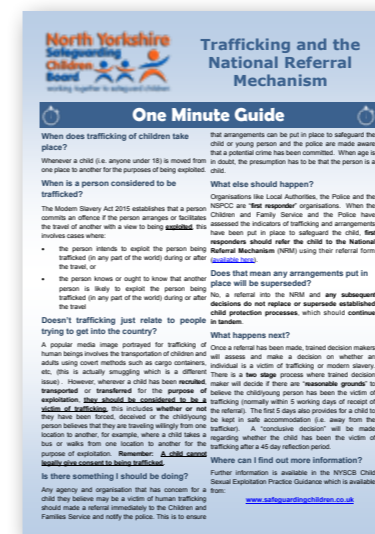
The suite of NYSCB Practice Guidance has been agreed as a framework for multi-agency working in child protection across North Yorkshire. The guidance reflects relevant legislation, current guidance from the Government and lessons from research. The NYSCB Practice Guidance is reviewed on a regular basis as well as new guidance developed. 2016/17 has seen practice guidance developed and reviewed in the following areas;

- [Child Sexual Exploitation \(CSE\)](#)
- [Domestic Abuse](#)
- [Managing Injuries to Non - Independently Mobile Children](#)
- [Prevent - Working with Individuals Vulnerable to Extremism](#)



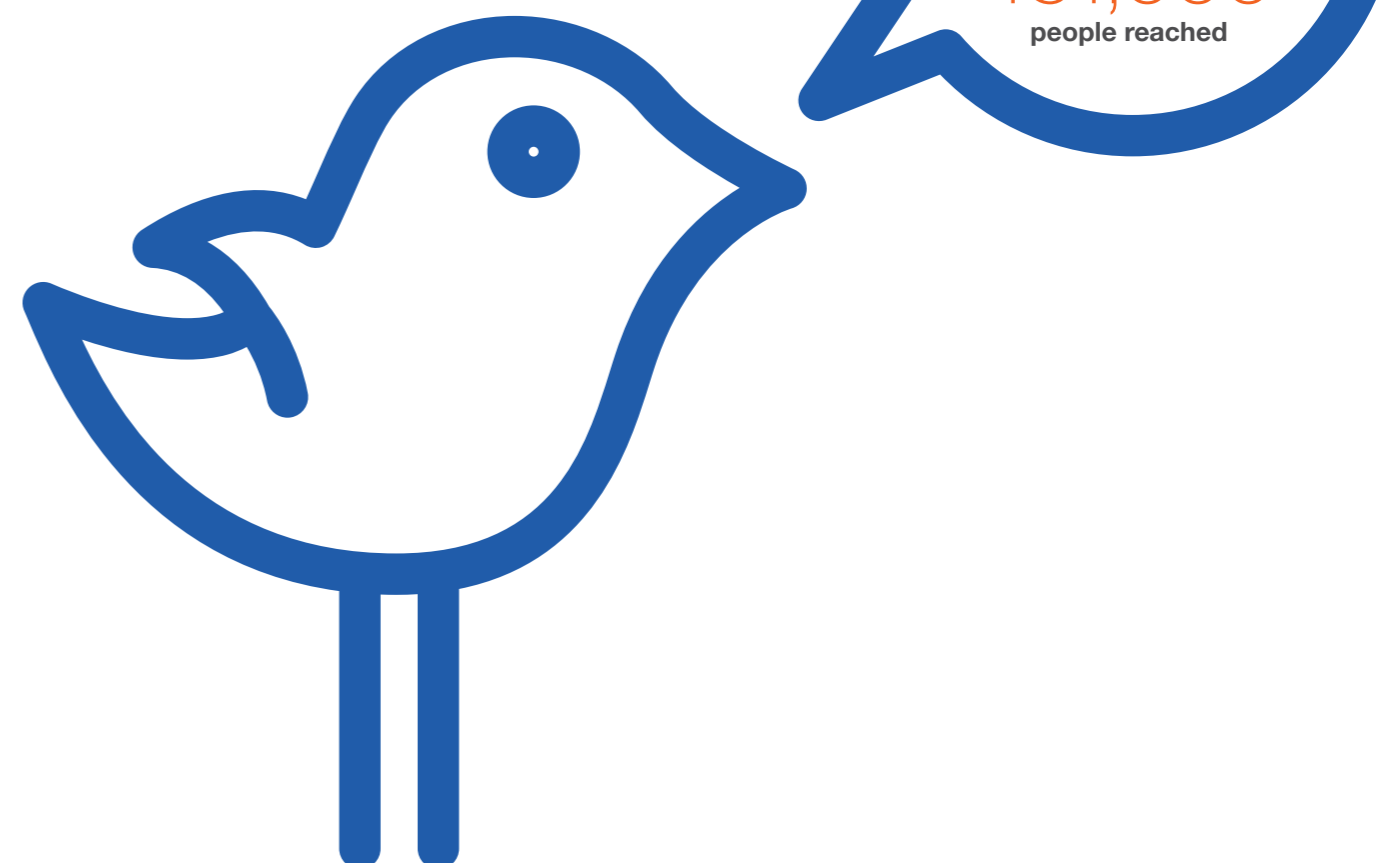
## One Minute Guides (OMG)

This year the NYSCB has introduced our One Minute Guides, also known as OMGs. The purpose of these documents is to provide bite sized briefings on key issues to quickly cascade information to individuals and teams.



## Social Media

Social Media has significantly increased the NYSCB's reach to professionals and members of the public. The NYSCB's Twitter account has 500 followers which includes professionals, schools, businesses, other safeguarding children boards and members of the public. The NYSCB's Twitter feed is used to provide important information such as changes to policies and procedures as well as links to information and resources. It is also used by the NYSCB to promote campaigns and the activities of partners.



# Chapter 10: Child Death Overview Process (CDOP)

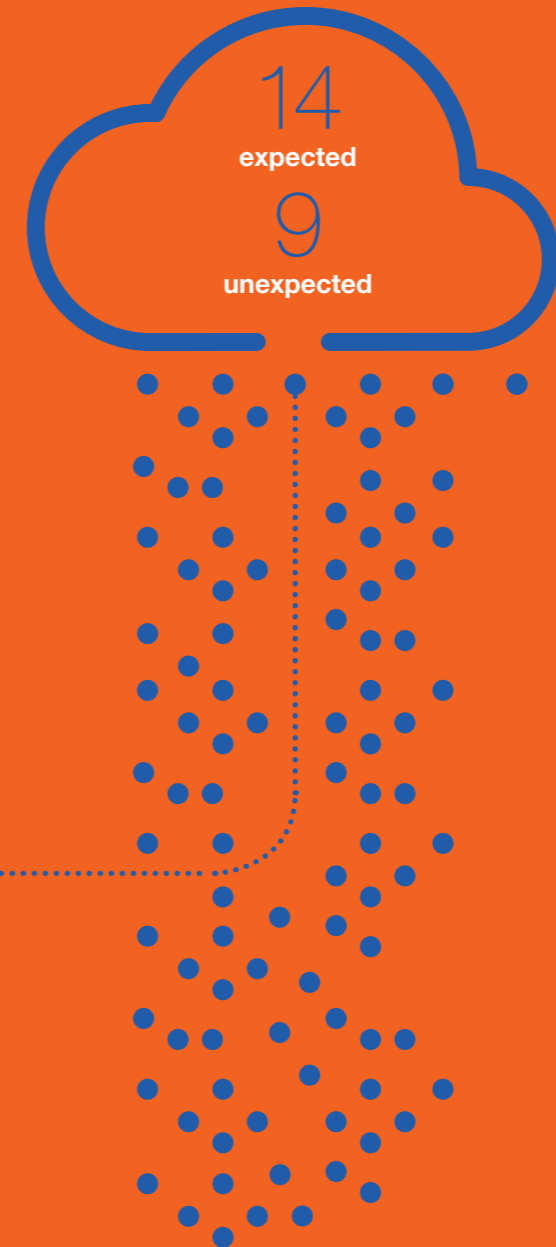
The NYSCB are committed to learning from the circumstances and factors present in each death, and to:

- Identify any changes that can be made or actions which can be taken that might help to prevent similar deaths in the future.
- Share learning with colleagues locally, regionally and nationally so that the findings will have a wider impact.
- Analyse trends and targeted interventions that can be delivered in response to findings. For example encouraging road calming measures for road traffic accident hotspots.

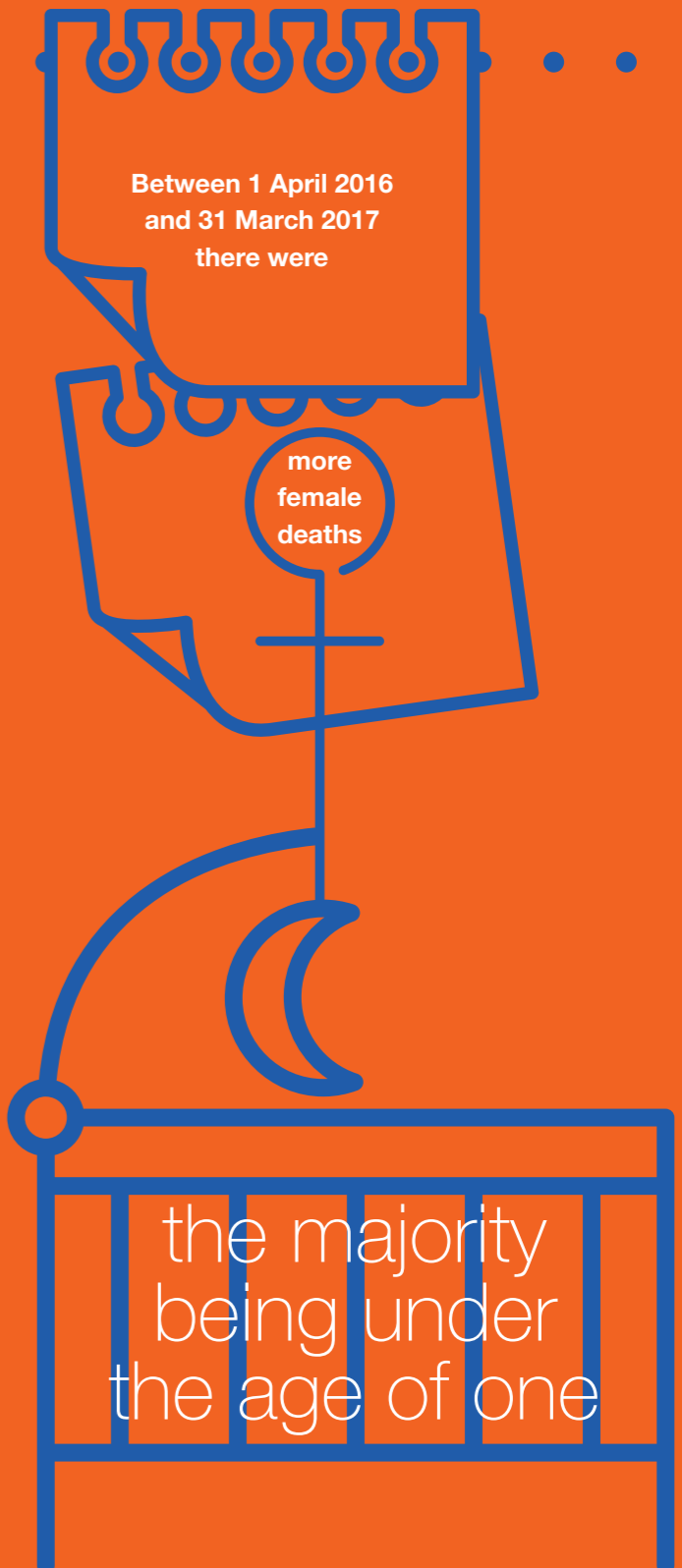


**The deaths reviewed by the panel are not about allocating blame but focus on learning and putting actions in place to prevent future deaths.**

In 2016/2017 there have been a total of 23 child deaths in North Yorkshire. Of the 23 deaths 14 were expected and 9 were unexpected. Between 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2017 there have been more female deaths than male, the majority being under the age of one. The Office for National Statistics state that infant mortality for males is normally higher than those for females; while in previous years this has been the case in North Yorkshire, the reason for the higher mortality rate of females since 2015 is not known. All of the children who died were recorded as White British. Less than 5 children who died were known to have a disability prior to their death.



When an unexpected child death occurs the lead agency i.e. Police or Consultant Paediatrician will ensure a 'rapid response meeting' takes place within 48 hours of the child's death. The aim of the rapid response meeting is to have an initial multi-agency information sharing and planning meeting/discussion. Of the six unexpected deaths the rapid response took place in five cases. In one case, while the child death did technically meet the criteria as a rapid response, the child died following surgery and it was agreed that in this case a rapid response was not applicable.



## The Child Death Overview Panel

The information presented to panel to consider is anonymised, enabling strategic leads who are representing various agencies including the Local Authority, Health and the Police consider any learning or factors that could be used by agencies to prevent future deaths of children.

It takes an average of six months for a child death reach panel for review, but each case is different and there may be a number of reasons which mean that a case cannot be progressed by CDOP. The CDOP cannot review a case where:

- There is an on-going investigation by the Police or Coroner, or
- Information has not been received from all agencies in relation to the death

## Modifiable factors

Between April 2016 and March 2017, modifiable factors were identified and as a result information was fed back to a manufacturer regarding equipment, dissemination information regarding Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SID's) and three cases were identified as having modifiable factors:

## What we have achieved in 2016/2017

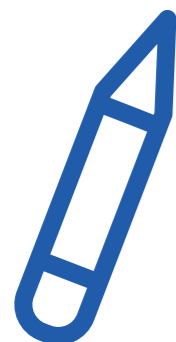
- The North Yorkshire and City of York CDOP was reviewed as part of the Ofsted Inspection of children's safeguarding services and review of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). The arrangements for the LSCB, which includes the CDOP, were considered to be 'outstanding'.
- The CDOP Coordinator has developed a range of One Minute Guides for professionals regarding the Rapid Response Process and CDOP Process which can be found on at [www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk](http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk)
- The Child Death Overview Panel has been concerned at the length of time it can take for final post mortem reports to be issued. There have been discussions with the local coroners with a view to try and resolve some of these difficulties and further consideration is being given to this matter.

- We have developed our network of contacts throughout the region and nationally which enables us to communicate effectively with other professional's working within Safeguarding to continue delivery a high quality service.
- The Designated Dr for Child Death and CDOP Co-ordinator delivered Rapid Response Training for Professionals across North Yorkshire and City of York hospitals which was undertaken by Health, Police and Social Care.
- We considered the findings and potential implications of the Alan Wood Report (2016) and have participated in consultations regarding the development of proposals for CDOPs in the future.
- We have championed the development of a Memorandum of Understanding between CDOPs to ensure that all CDOPs across the region undertake consistent procedures when an out of area child dies to ensure a more seamless process.

- We contributed to the Paediatric mortality review meetings with each of the Sudden and Unexpected Death in Infancy and Childhood (SUDIC) leads to review child deaths that has occurred at hospitals across the county to establish effective working relationships and information sharing
- We actively supported and promoted a number of national campaigns to raise awareness of key safeguarding issues including sudden infant death syndrome, safe sleep week and suicide awareness
- In order to provide more oversight and scrutiny, the membership of the CDOP has been expanded to include LAY Members from North Yorkshire and City of York Safeguarding Children Board's
- The CDOP Coordinator has attended a number of CDOP events to obtain greater knowledge and understanding of current themes and trends across the country
- We contributed to the Paediatric mortality review meetings with each of the Sudden and Unexpected Death in Infancy and Childhood (SUDIC) leads to review child deaths that has occurred at hospitals across the county to establish effective working relationships and information sharing
- We actively supported and promoted a number of national campaigns to raise awareness of key safeguarding issues including sudden infant death syndrome, safe sleep week and suicide awareness

## What we want to achieve in 2017/2018

- Continue to champion the effective sharing of information for reviewing child deaths to ensure that information is provided in a timely fashion and enable the panel develop
- Develop the CDOPs view and understanding of modifiable factors and how these are identified and used to influence practice and reduce the risk of future child deaths
- Seek to raise the awareness of CDOP processes by providing high quality training to professional's across agencies
- Further development of the Memorandum of Understanding and extend the reach across all agencies within the Yorkshire and Humber region.



During 2016/2017, the CDOP reviewed a total of **16 North Yorkshire child deaths**, eight of which occurred prior to April 2016, with the oldest case occurring in January 2015.

The CDOP has discussed **8 of the 16 child deaths** which occurred between April 2016 and March 2017. The remaining **15 cases will be discussed by the CDOP in the future months** when investigations have been completed and all information has been received from those agencies involved.



# Conclusion

2016/17 has seen the continued development of the NYSCB within the Local Authority Safeguarding Unit and has continued to benefit from the synergy of colleagues in the IRO (Independent Reviewing Officers) and LADO (Local Authority Designated Officers) teams.

The NYSCB has worked to raise awareness of safeguarding within schools. Joint work has been undertaken in the areas of safeguarding in education. The NYSCB has also engaged in new working with colleagues in the Disclosure and Barring Service.

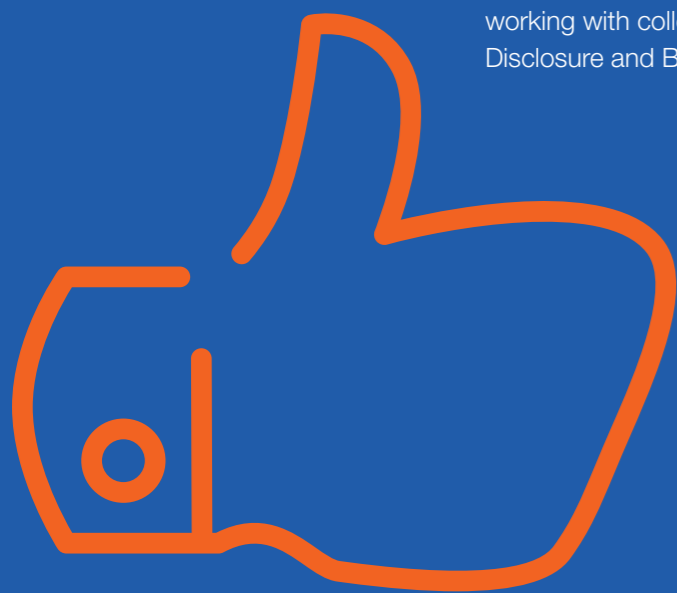
Through its work at the Executive, the Board, subgroups, CSSG's and task and finish groups:

- The data set has continued to develop and will be reviewed for further development in 2017/18 to ensure that it provides the Board with the information it needs to provide scrutiny, challenge and co-ordinate the activities of partners
- The developments within the audit framework have enabled the board to seek and receive reassurance regarding front line practice and to ensure that learning is disseminated to other practitioners and that it produces impact in respect of the lives of children and young people in North Yorkshire
- The board has been involved in a wide range of multiagency projects and has taken the lead on a number of initiatives including bringing the challenge of Modern slavery to the multi-agency partnership to ensure a coordinated and managed response.

As a result of the activities of the NYSCB and its partners, the Board is assured that children in North Yorkshire continue to be safe, with agencies working in close partnership to ensure that children receive the right services at the right time.

We have reconsidered our business plan for 2016/20 and streamlined the priorities and vision for the future including:

- Continue to ensure that the NYSCB data set is developed and creates opportunity for multi-agency debate and action as well as improve outcomes for children and young people.
- Continue to ensure that the Vulnerable Exploited Missing and Trafficked work stream continues to develop and that the VPG's (VEMT Practitioner Groups) provide a forum for the debate of local risks regarding the exploitation and radicalisation of young people and develop community responses to address this.
- Include missing young people into the VEMT agenda.
- Increase the number of boys discussed at VPG meetings and represented in police and CSC (Children Social Care) numbers of young victims in receipt of support.
- Better understand data suggesting low numbers of boys accessing sexual health support.
- Continue to challenge CAMHS (Children and Adult Mental Health Service) provision across the county to ensure that all young people who require this services is able to access it appropriately.
- Continue to support the development of the multi-agency safeguarding team to ensure timely access to appropriate services to support and safeguard children and young people.
- Continue to work with colleagues to develop the Domestic Abuse agenda in North Yorkshire and recognise the significant impact of witnessing Domestic Abuse has on children's development.
- Ensure that the current increase in Child Protection Plans (CPP) continues to receive multi-agency scrutiny.



Throughout 2017/18 the  
NYSCB will continue to  
ensure that collectively we:



*“Listen to the views of children and young people and work together to ensure they feel safe and North Yorkshire is a happy place to live.”*

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