

Wakefield Safeguarding Children Partnership

WSCP
Annual
Report
2021-22

01 April 21 -
31 March 22

Wakefield Safeguarding Children Partnership

Annual Report 2021-22

01 April 21 - 31 March 22



Introduction

Partnership Structure &
Governance

Progress made since 2020-21

Independent Scrutineer
Yearly Summary

Executive

Child Safeguarding Practice
Review Group (CSPRG)

Child Death Overview Panel
(CDOP)

Multi-Agency Child
Exploitation (MACE) Group

Learning & Development
(L&D) Group

Safeguarding Effectiveness
Group (SEG)

Safeguarding Advisor for
Education

Communication and
Engagement

Key Areas of Focus for
2022-23

Introduction

This report summarises, reflects on, and presents the work of Wakefield Safeguarding Children Partnership (WSCP) between 01 April 2021 and 31 March 2022. This covers the second full financial year of operation by the WSCP since it replaced the previous Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) in September 2019. All details about the work of the partnership and the materials it presents to those who work or volunteer with children and families, children and young people, their parents, carers and communities, and the comprehensive and complex network of services that work with them, are available on the WSCP website at www.wakefieldscp.org.uk.

The partnership is a statutory body, led by an Executive and supported by an Independent Scrutineer. The Executive is led by Wakefield Metropolitan District Council (WMDC), Wakefield Clinical Commissioning Group (replaced by the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board in July 2022) and West Yorkshire Police, each represented by staff sufficiently senior as to be able speak with authority for and approve decisions on behalf of their organisations. It is also contributed to by a small number of representatives: lead officers from key services in all three statutory partners, headteachers from primary, secondary, and special educational needs schools, the voluntary sector, and Public Health.

This report focuses largely on the impact the partnership has achieved, documenting the work undertaken by the partnership's Executive and 5 sub-groups, highlighting areas of strength and areas the partnership needs to focus on developing within the next year.



Vicky Schofield

Acting Corporate Director
Children and Young People's Services
Wakefield Metropolitan District Council



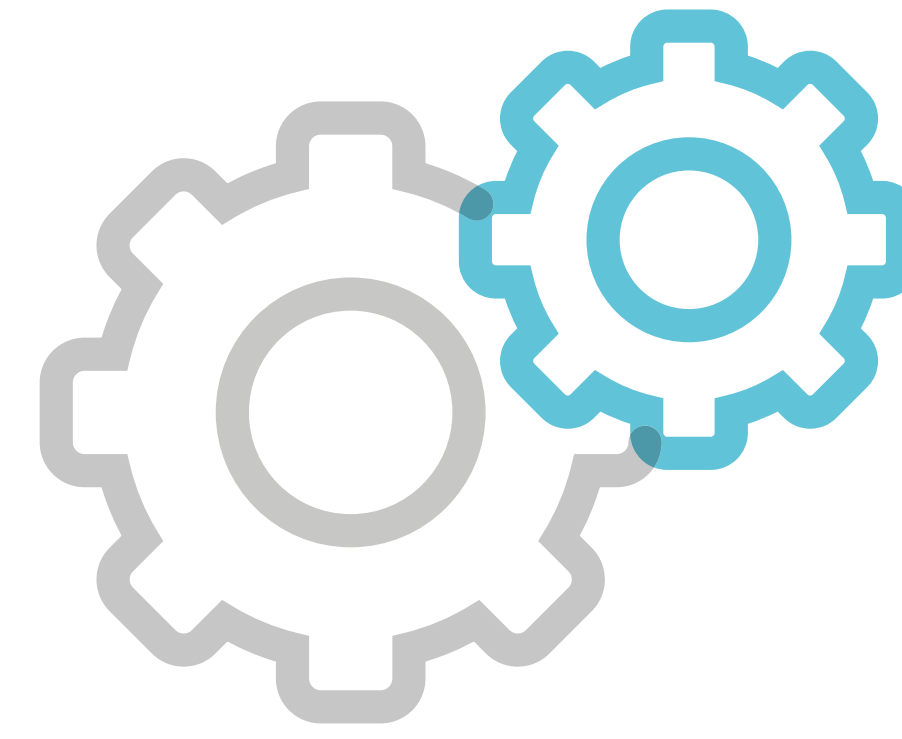
Richard Close

Chief Superintendent
Wakefield District Commander
West Yorkshire Police



Penny Woodhead

Director of Nursing and Quality
Wakefield District Health & Care Partnership
West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board



Partnership Structure and Governance

WSCP has an established structure which comprises of an Executive and 5 sub-groups. The sub-groups are the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group (CSPRG), Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP), Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) Group, Learning and Development (L&D) Group, and the Safeguarding Effectiveness Group (SEG). The function of the Executive is to provide strategic oversight, scrutiny, and assurance of the work the partnership undertakes to ensure multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in Wakefield are effective. Each sub-group has specific responsibilities and identifies, discusses, develops, and delivers a range of multi-agency safeguarding information, resources, assurance, and learning opportunities which are as described within Figure 1 – Structure of WSCP.

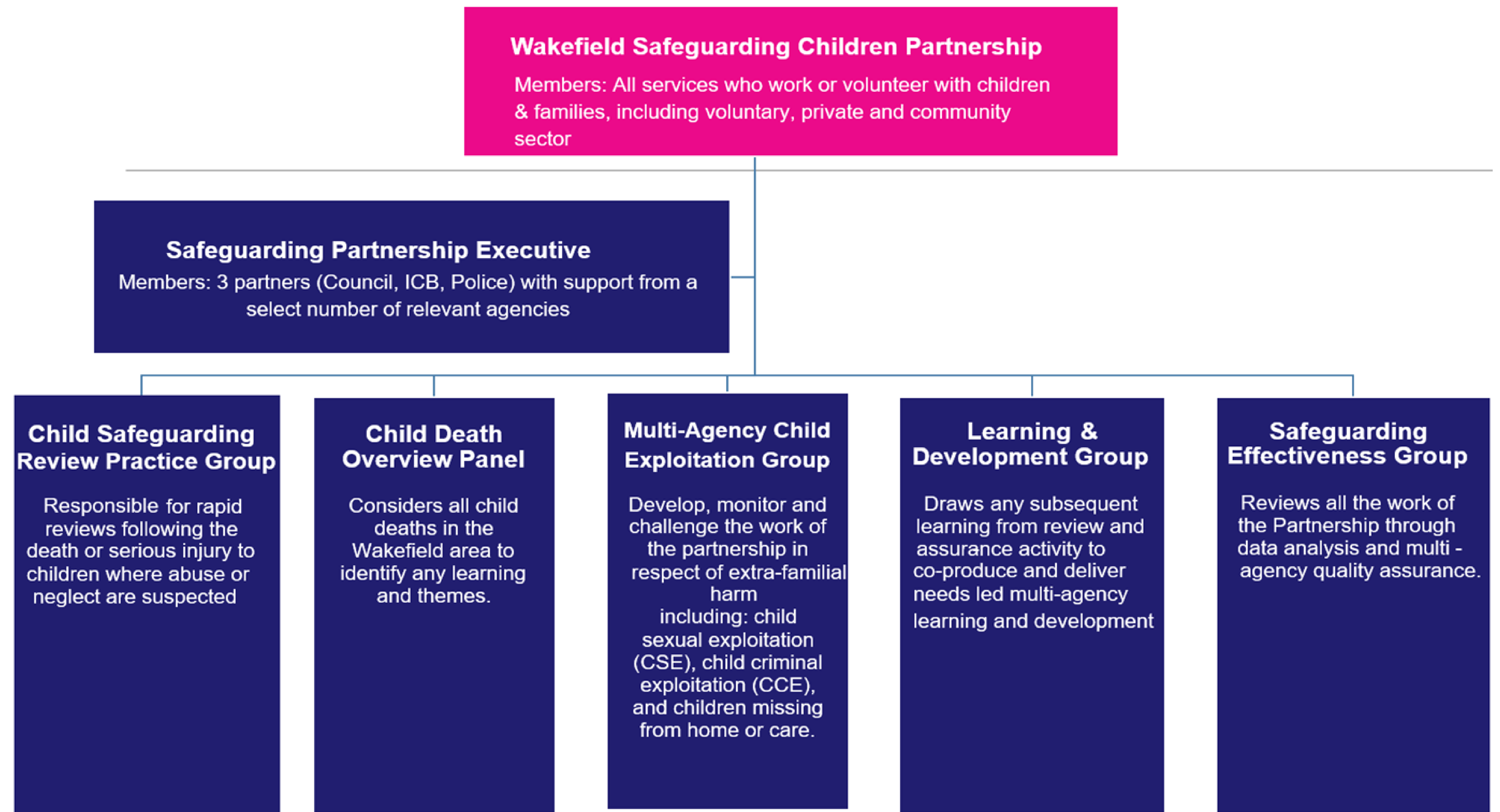
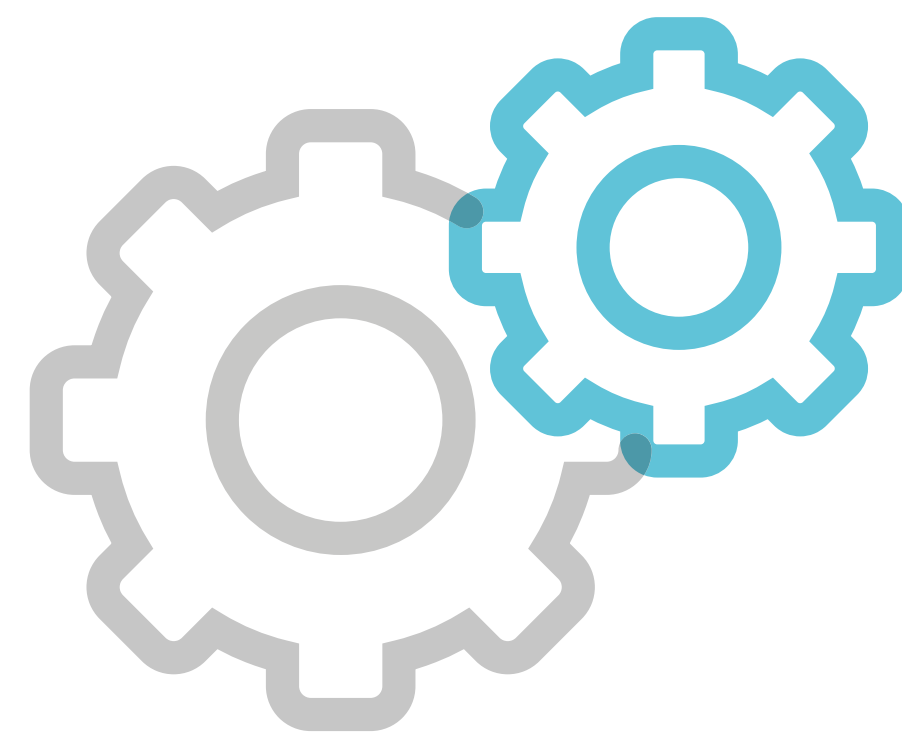


Figure 1 – Structure of WSCP



Introduction

Partnership Structure & Governance

Progress made since 2020-21

Independent Scrutineer
Yearly Summary

Executive

Child Safeguarding Practice
Review Group (CSPRG)

Child Death Overview Panel
(CDOP)

Multi-Agency Child
Exploitation (MACE) Group

Learning & Development
(L&D) Group

Safeguarding Effectiveness
Group (SEG)

Safeguarding Advisor for
Education

Communication and
Engagement

Key Areas of Focus for
2022-23

WSCP is aligned to the wider system in Wakefield and continues to contribute to the strategies and priorities from other strategic partnership and boards such as:

- Wakefield District Safeguarding Adult Board
- Wakefield District Safer Together Partnership
- Health and Well-being Board
- Children and Young People's Partnership Board

Since the inception of WSCP in 2019, the partnership adopted 5 priority areas which were informed by the Improving Wakefield Services for Children Plan, 2018:

- Ensure that thresholds across the partnership are fully understood so children receive the right help at the right time
- Improve effectiveness in reducing the harm to children in vulnerable groups, with particular focus on children and young people at risk of sexual or criminal exploitation
- Improve effectiveness in reducing the harm and protecting children and adolescents who are experiencing neglect
- Improve effectiveness in reducing the harm and protecting children experiencing problems with emotional health and wellbeing
- Review and evaluate the effectiveness of the partnership to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in the Wakefield District, and respond to any areas for change and development through the transition to the new arrangements

In January 2022, Ofsted published the findings of its Inspecting Local Authority Children's Services (ILACS) in Wakefield which was undertaken in November 2021. The findings identified WMDC Children and Young People's Services achieved an 'Outstanding' rating for leadership, with an overall rating of 'Good'.

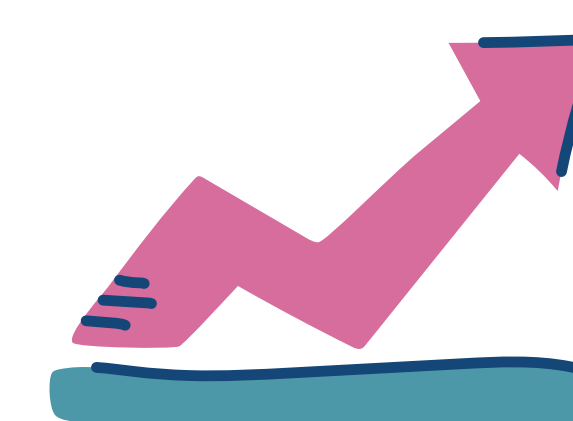
Given the successful inspection judgement and new district Children and Young People's Plan, 2022-25, the partnership focused on emerging areas whilst developing new priorities and a WSCP Delivery Plan for 2022-23 and beyond, to progress to a journey of excellence post-inspection and contribute to the delivery of the new district plan.

The progress made this year against the emerging areas of development identified in 2020-21 is summarised on the next page. Throughout the report further detail is provided on the overall work the partnership has undertaken during 2021-22.

Key Areas of Development identified in 2020-21



Progress made since 2020-21



Engage with sports organisations and faith-based settings in the district with WSCP arrangements

WSCP has progressed in undertaking partnership work with services and forums where sports and leisure organisations are supported. This has led to beginning to develop a standalone safeguarding in sport and leisure page on the WSCP website, along with planning a Wakefield Safeguarding in Sport Masterclass for those who work and volunteer in sport.

Regional developments are underway at a West Yorkshire level in developing a safeguarding in faith-based settings self-assurance toolkit.

Continue to progress the developments in relation to safeguarding babies and infants

WSCP has continued to develop policy, guidance and the learning offer in respect of safeguarding babies and infants. This has included:

- Reviewed and updated the Assessment of Non-Mobile Babies with Injuries (including Bruising, Burns and Scalds) Protocol
- Delivered a Safeguarding Babies and Infants Masterclass which included specific inputs from specialist practitioners on:
 - Local safeguarding responses to safeguarding babies and infants
 - Prioritising infant mental health
 - Impact of parental mental ill-health
 - Learning from recent reviews and assurance activity concerning babies and infants
- The masterclass was attended virtually by over 150 practitioners and is available to watch on demand via the [Safeguarding Babies and Infants page](#) on the WSCP website.
- Developed a new Safeguarding Babies and Infants page on the WSCP website, providing a central point to access information, resources, guidance and training. This includes:
 - Overview of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)
 - Section on safe sleep, including where to access the Wakefield Safe Sleep Standard
 - Links to national organisations and programmes such as The Lullaby Trust and ICON who specialise in the reduction of death and serious injury in babies and infants
 - Specific tools and guidance for new dads, partners, and non-partners
 - Access to the WSCP Safeguarding Babies and Infants Masterclass
- Commissioned regular safe sleep training for practitioners, which is delivered by The Lullaby Trust to establish a baseline level of understanding and awareness for all who work or volunteer with children and families

Review WSCP Multi-Agency Learning & Development Offer

WSCP's Learning and Development Sub-Group reviewed the partnership's learning offer, making it closer aligned to workforce need by aligning the offer to areas of development which is identified from safeguarding review and assurance activity.

Broaden approaches to communicate safeguarding children developments to the workforce:

- Launch a monthly safeguarding children e-bulletin
- Increase social media content and activity
- Update and launch a new safeguarding children partnership website

WSCP has improved the way in which it communicates to the children and families workforce across the partnership.

The partnership introduced a free monthly e-bulletin in 2021, along with supporting and running a number of key safeguarding campaigns on Twitter and overhauling the WSCP website. Further detail on the communications the partnership has carried out this year can be found under the Communication and Engagement section of this report.

Introduction

Partnership Structure &
Governance

Progress made since 2020-21

Independent Scrutineer Yearly Summary

Executive

Child Safeguarding Practice
Review Group (CSPRG)

Child Death Overview Panel
(CDOP)

Multi-Agency Child
Exploitation (MACE) Group

Learning & Development
(L&D) Group

Safeguarding Effectiveness
Group (SEG)

Safeguarding Advisor for
Education

Communication and
Engagement

Key Areas of Focus for
2022-23

Wakefield successfully launched its approach to the new Safeguarding Arrangements (as required by Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2018) within the required timescale in September 2019. By April 2021 these arrangements were fully embedded. During the period of focus for this report the partnership continued to develop and thrive. The three statutory partners had agreed to chair the partnership's Executive on a rotation basis. I reported to and attended the Executive regularly and was able to witness the development of strong bonds between the statutory partners, supportive and challenging in equal measure. Additional key partners have also responded well to approaches from the partnership, particularly schools, voluntary organisations and GPs who have been increasingly engaged and engaged with by Children's Social Care to form relationships and enable a contribution.

Higher levels of remote working necessitated by the pandemic related restrictions were carefully considered and on most occasions were well accommodated. Staff of all agencies worked well to accommodate differing software packages, confidentiality requirements and security settings enabling the business of the subgroups, learning and development functions and practice reviews to continue as effectively as possible in these 'unusual' circumstances.

Wakefield's arrangements in 2020 very quickly became fully compliant with legislation and could at a very early stage be considered to be functioning well, the very strength of partner relations made this relatively easy to achieve. The regular safeguarding audit processes carried out by most partners show good levels of conscientious self-challenge. However, the Executive themselves and the staff of the partnership's business unit have not been satisfied with the achievement of a compliant, fully satisfactory position. There has been a continuous drive for further improvement, ambitious to be a good or even an 'outstanding' Safeguarding Children Partnership.

The partners chose to meet head on some of the challenges faced by all locations that might be considered 'wicked' issues. i.e. those that have no straightforward solutions and provide complex inter-related challenges. Particularly significant during 2021-22 has been the focus on Neglect, Domestic Abuse, care for babies/'safe sleeping' and Transitions.

In the case of neglect there has been a consistent drive to achieve greater use of the 'neglect toolkit' heavy emphasis on neglect related training and close monitoring of impact and improvements. The Domestic Abuse pathway has grown in its impact and Operation Encompass is now very widely utilised. In the case of the Transitions work a dedicated sub-group worked to consider a range of categories of vulnerable adolescent who were susceptible to being 'lost' in their transition to adult hood and multi-agency staff operating procedures to avoid these teenagers slipping the net have been implemented.

National concerns in relation to so called "County Lines" and the potential for vulnerable adolescents to be groomed and coerced into sexual and criminal exploitation were never far from the headlines in one region or another throughout 2021-22. In Wakefield there has been a concerted effort to ensure that combatting this type of exploitation is 'everyone's business.' Of particular significance has been the use of the 'Police Intelligence Portal' (PIP) and the regular sharing of information across partners. This has been in respect of both perpetrators and vulnerable children and also both disruption and support. Partners have regularly updated a template showing their work in these areas. This monitoring of useful activity and sharing of approaches and intelligence is both sophisticated and advanced practice.

The partnership responded well to national concerns in relation to harmful sexual behaviour, particularly reported upon in relation to schools. Wakefield's schools responded well to calls for action, awareness raising and training of key school personnel in this regard.

I have also observed a significant effort across the partnership to increase the link (often referred to as the 'golden thread') between the information it receives from:

- analysis of the core data set
- practice review recommendations
- multi agency audit recommendations

and its response to this information in terms of learning and development practices, operating protocols and attendance at information sharing forums. Some very good examples of this organisational learning can be seen in the production of One Minute Guides, 7-Point Briefings and the now regular monthly safeguarding bulletins.

Introduction

Partnership Structure &
Governance

Progress made since 2020-21

Independent Scrutineer Yearly Summary

Executive

Child Safeguarding Practice
Review Group (CSPRG)

Child Death Overview Panel
(CDOP)

Multi-Agency Child
Exploitation (MACE) Group

Learning & Development
(L&D) Group

Safeguarding Effectiveness
Group (SEG)

Safeguarding Advisor for
Education

Communication and
Engagement

Key Areas of Focus for
2022-23

Despite a very positive year there remains, as always, areas for development. Some support and supervision opportunities that might have naturally occurred in the past were lost due to the restrictions of 'pandemic' working. There have been occasions when junior staff have not had the opportunity to chat with their more experienced peers and when information sharing across agencies has enabled important synergies to go unnoticed. The partnership is aware that there is more to do to ensure that information sharing and communication between and across teams is fully effective. Some staff across all partners have on occasion been insufficiently curious and challenging, occasionally there has been evidence of a tension between information sharing and concerns for privacy and data breach, staff need clear direction in this regard. Also, of course, every partnership needs to continually raise awareness of the continuum of need and the threshold for intervention and this is a perpetual task for the Business Unit to promote and organise.

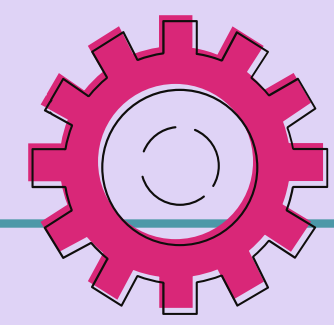
As the partnership strives towards excellence it must seek to provide clear evidence that it is truly a learning organisation where it can point to evidence that all recommendations arising from section 11, multi-agency audit and practice reviews have clearly changed and improved practice.



Stuart Smith

Independent Scrutineer

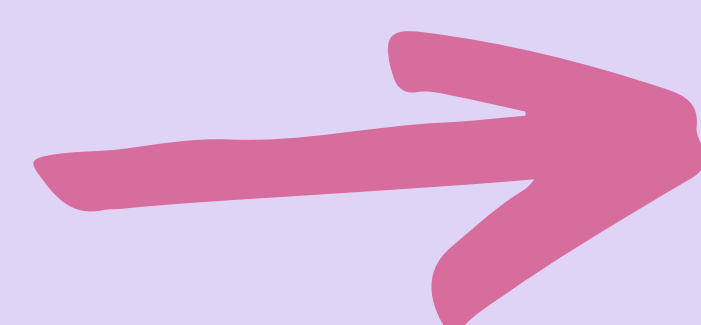
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stuart Smith'.



Function of the Executive

Has strategic oversight for all the work WSCP undertakes, having responsibility for driving the business and the development of the partnership forward ensuring compliance in having effective multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in place.

KEY STEPS for 2022-23



Key Areas of Development

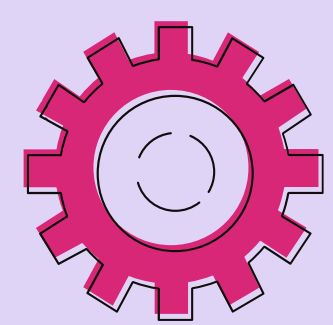


What impact has this made?



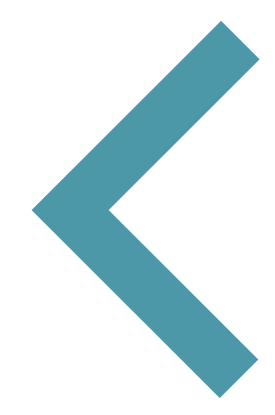
<p>1 Oversaw the development of a joint triage protocol between Children and Young People's Services and West Yorkshire Police at the Integrated Front Door (IFD)</p>	<p>1.1 Ensured the appropriate level of children's cases are now being prioritised by the IFD, enabling the right support for children and families to be provided more effectively.</p> <p>1.2 The referral pathway includes a daily multi-agency domestic abuse meeting for the most high-risk incidents. The meeting has led to better information sharing and safety plans to safeguard children.</p> <p>1.3 After piloting the pathway in April 2021, it has now become standard operating practice within the IFD.</p>
<p>2 Provided a key role in driving forward a Transitions Pathway Strategic Group across partner Boards and Partnerships</p>	<p>2.1 Developed a Transition to Adulthood Good Practice Guidance, sharing good practice identified across a range of specific cohorts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Children with Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) ○ Children who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) ○ Care Leavers ○ Children who are vulnerable to exploitation ○ Children who are at risk of harm to others ○ Children who are at risk of harm to self ○ Children in receipt of mental health and therapeutic support ○ Children with a long-term health condition ○ Children in receipt of any other formal support plan <p>2.2 Produced a Planning Toolkit to standardise the considerations services need to make when a child is due to transition into adulthood. Services now consider a child's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Emotional well-being ○ Physical health ○ Living arrangements and finances ○ Relationships at home and family life ○ Social life and interests ○ Education, training, and employment ○ Any additional factors
<p>3 Supported WMDC Children and Young People's Services in achieving 'Outstanding' Leadership with an overall judgement of 'Good' rating in the Ofsted ILACS</p>	<p>3.1 Affirmed the system wide developments undertaken to improve Children and Young People's Services, including partnership working since 2018.</p> <p>3.2 Enabled the partnership to focus on a journey to excellence and formulate plans as to how to strengthen scrutiny and assurance of WSCP to contribute to achieving this.</p>
<p>4 Strengthened arrangements in place for both children who have experienced, and who have displayed Harmful Sexual Behaviour post Everyone's Invited Campaign and Ofsted review into sexual harassment and assault within schools and colleges</p>	<p>4.1 Harmful Sexual Behaviour Panel has a clearer pathway and guidance in place for services to refer children for support.</p> <p>4.2 Ensured schools and colleges and the wider network of children and family services are clear on the arrangements required as prescribed within the Ofsted guidance for sexual harassment and assault.</p>

- Implement a new WSCP Delivery Plan, 2022-23
- Implement updated governance arrangements for the Executive to strengthen arrangements in respect of scrutiny and assurance of the work the partnership undertakes
- Consider and implement any national recommendations from the recently published Independent Review of Children's Social Care and National Review of Child Protection in England



Function of the CSPRG

Considers serious safeguarding incidents concerning children where abuse and/or neglect has been suspected to have caused or contributed to the incident, with a view to undertaking reviews to identify multi-agency learning to develop safeguarding systems and practice.

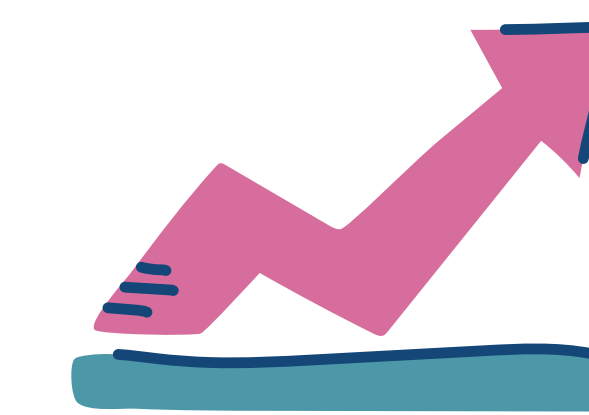


Key Areas of Development

1 Implemented the recommendations of 4 action plans generated from safeguarding practice reviews

2 Undertook two reviews concerning a serious incident of child respectively, to identify multi-agency learning

What impact has this made?



1.1 System and practice development has been achieved as a result, across a range of areas including:

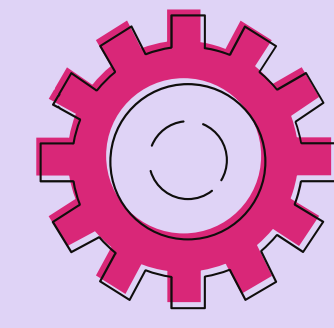
- Clear and established process in place for services in Wakefield to share information with 'host' Local Authorities for children who are placed in external localities
- Established training offer in place for Children In Care teams in respect of education and best practice to support a child
- Assessment processes have been strengthened in relation to parental alcohol use and triangulating information with partner services
- Improvement in systems to ensure all relevant health agencies are invited to meetings, with compliance rates at suitable benchmark level
- System improvement to ensure Child In Need (CIN) meetings take place within timescales
- Guidance reaffirmed with GP Practices to have a written protocol in place for discussing safeguarding concerns
- Guidance in place to ensure GPs to advise parents and carers as to the sedative side effects some prescribed medication can have, and the high-risk co-sleeping can have a result
- Training undertaken to Early Help staff in seeking effective child and family engagement to provide support
- Multi-Agency Pregnancy Liaison Assessment Group (MAPLAG) now includes women who are in recovery from substance misuse, in addition to prioritising women who are co-presenting with symptoms of low mood or mental ill-health
- 0-19 Service as part of routine enquiry discuss parent's history where there is historical additional mental health need

2.1 Identified areas of development which specific agencies have been tasked to progress and implement, which include:

- How effective service's cross border information sharing processes and protocols are with external local authority areas
- Review the process in place to step-down cases where there are multi-faceted issues being faced by a child and family
- Educating settings to be conscious of potential wider safeguarding implications of school absence
- GPs to have a 'think family' approach where an adult presents at a practice with a health issue which could affect their parenting capacity
- Routine enquiry amongst health services to include viewing where a baby sleeps

Identified areas of development which the partnership needs to develop and implement, which include:

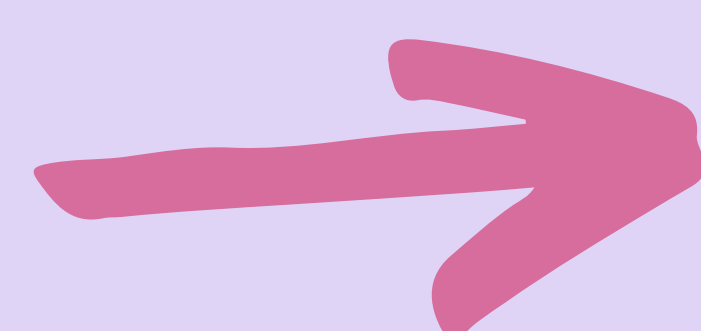
- Multi-agency training in respect of Working with Men
- Multi-agency training in respect of Professional Curiosity and Challenge
- Impact of domestic abuse and coercive control on victims
- Embed a relationship enquiry approach across all services who work or volunteer with children and families
- Increase levels of knowledge and understanding of the range of domestic abuse orders and injunctions and how they can be used to disrupt and prevent



Function of the CSPRG

Considers serious safeguarding incidents concerning children where abuse and/or neglect has been suspected to have caused or contributed to the incident, with a view to undertaking reviews to identify multi-agency learning to develop safeguarding systems and practice.

KEY STEPS for 2022-23



Key Areas of Development



3 Stepped across thematic learning identified from safeguarding reviews to the Learning and Development Sub-Group to implement

4 Established a referral pathway for services to present cases to the CSPRG for consideration

What impact has this made?



3.1 Learning from individual reviews is now being addressed collectively where it is identified as having wider implications for multi-agency systems and practice. This has resulted in the learning being more impactful and the implementation more efficient.

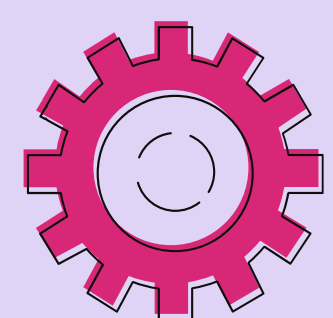
The CSPRG has now mitigated the risk of becoming saturated by the volume of reviews. The group now has an increased focus in responding to emerging safeguarding incidents concerning children, determining the necessary actions and where applicable undertaking reviews in line with the [Department for Education \(DfE\) Child Safeguarding Review Panel criteria](#).

4.1 The pathway has provided services with a function to refer cases which they have become aware of, which initially may not have been identified as a serious incident, to be considered for a review in a multi-agency manner.

4.2 This has strengthened the CSPRG's rigour in ensuring any safeguarding incident concerning a child where multi-agency learning may be applicable is considered and if required retrospectively so outside of notification and rapid review timescales should new information come to become known.

4.3 This process has further embedded a culture of the partnership championing services being learning organisations.

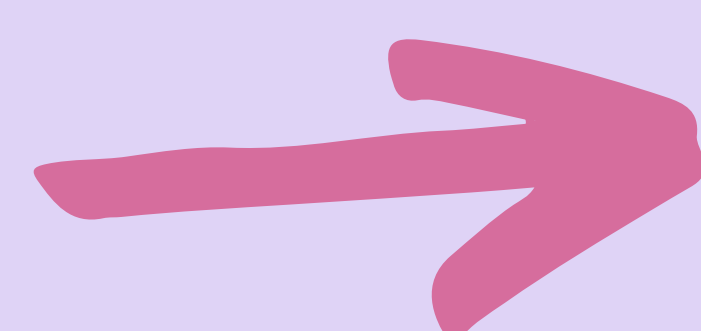
- Implement the process developed to engage and seek the voice of parents and where appropriate children within safeguarding reviews
- Continue to focus on the impact safeguarding reviews are required to make on system and practice development



Function of the CDOP

Considers all child deaths in the district, reviewing information to analyse the circumstances, confirm cause of death, determine any contributing factors and identify learning arising which may prevent future child deaths.

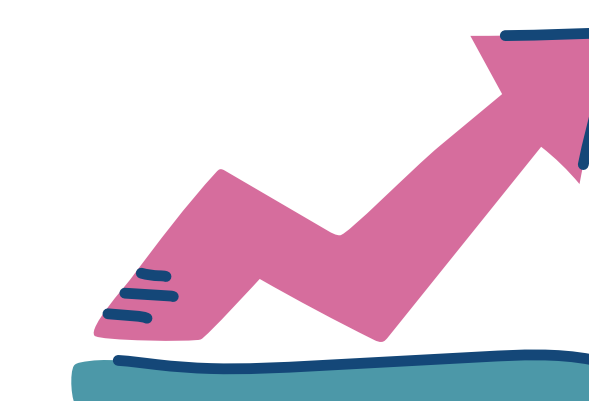
KEY STEPS for 2022-23



Key Areas of Development



What impact has this made?



1 Improved system developments led to a significant increase in the number of child death cases presented to the CDOP

1.1 Wakefield reviewed 25 historical deaths of children (deaths occurred between 2017 – 21) in 21/22, compared to 7 in 20/21.

This has led to a greater level of analysis in respect of themes being drawn from modifiable factors identified. Of the 25 cases reviewed (deaths occurred between 2017 – 21), 11 (37%) had one or more modifiable factors identified. These were:

- Smoking (7)
- Parental substance use (7)
- Parental alcohol use (7)
- Unsafe Sleep (5)
- Domestic Abuse (4)
- Parental Mental Ill-Health (1)

1.2 Of the 25 deaths, 7 were unexpected and all the categories were:

- Sudden, Unexpected, unexplained death (6)
- Perinatal / neonatal event (5)
- Chromosomal, genetic, and congenital anomalies (4)
- Chronic Medical Condition (3)
- Malignancy (2)
- Trauma and other external factors including medical/surgical (2)
- Acute medical or surgical condition (1)
- Infection (1)
- Suicide/deliberate self-harm (1)

1.3 Identifying modifiable factors from a breadth of cases has enabled work to be undertaken which is informed by need. Across 21/22 CDOP undertook specific developments, which included a Safer Sleep Campaign, development of a Safe Sleep Local Maternity System Risk Minimisation Tool, and smoking cessation support.

2 Embedding of the Lead Nurse for Child Death Review role

2.1 The Lead Nurse role has provided a pivotal role to support families in the immediacy of a death. This has contributed significantly in establishing a consistent support offer for bereaved families.

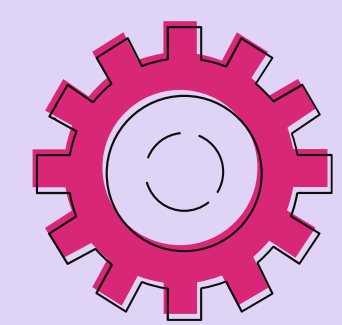
2.2 In addition to providing support for families, the Lead Nurse role has enabled Wakefield to be compliant in holding Child Death Review Meetings (CDRM) for all child deaths. The introduction of this meeting allows for learning to be identified and relevant action undertaken at an earlier stage prior to a case being presented to CDOP.

3 Published a range of information and guides to support practitioners in understanding the child death process

3.1 [Child Death Arrangements page](#) which was created has provided clear and concise guidance on why a child death requires to be reviewed, what the process covers, and an easily accessible link to the eCDOP notification form to help ensure deaths are reported in a timely manner.

3.2 One Minute Guides on [Child Death Review Process](#) and [Joint Agency Response \(JAR\) Meeting](#) have been produced. Both guides have been disseminated across services who respond to a child death which has helped strengthen understanding as to what the different child death process entail, the responsibilities services and individual practitioners have, and what the purpose of reviewing a death is.

- Develop Child Death Review Training for practitioners
- Publish a Wakefield Child Death Arrangements Document as described within statutory guidance
- Create a process for GP information to be received for CDOP on a consistent basis
- Continue to ensure the work of the CDOP has visibility and is driving forward system and practice improvements from the learning identified



Function of the MACE Group

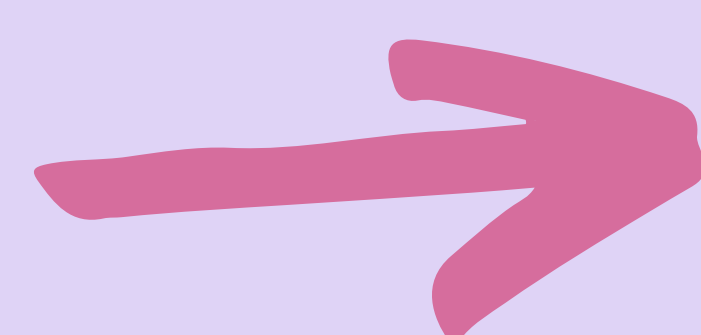
Develops, implements, and monitors the Wakefield MACE Action Plan to ensure there is a co-ordinated multi-agency response to child exploitation and assessment of risk posed outside the home.

- Introduction
- Partnership Structure & Governance
- Progress made since 2020-21
- Independent Scrutineer Yearly Summary
- Executive
- Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group (CSPRG)
- Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) Group

- Learning & Development (L&D) Group
- Safeguarding Effectiveness Group (SEG)
- Safeguarding Advisor for Education
- Communication and Engagement
- Key Areas of Focus for 2022-23

KEY STEPS for 2022-23



Key Areas of Development

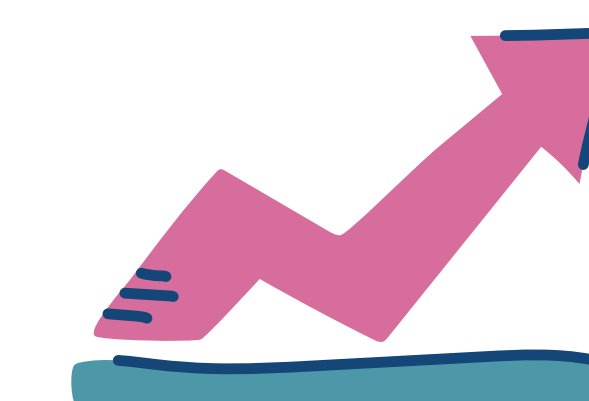


1 Developed and launched a Wakefield District Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) strategy

2 Multi-agency approach in identifying all services responsibility and capability in delivering disruption work

3 Launch and implementation of the Partnership Intelligence Sharing Toolkit

What impact has this made?



1.1 The implementation of the strategy has provided a clear vision to work towards enabling the MACE to measure effectiveness and progress against the priorities detailed below as to the work the partnership is focusing on in respect of child exploitation:

- Identification and Prevention
- Protect and Support
- Disrupt through intelligence, investigation, and prosecution

2.1 Services across WSCP have been articulating the disruption techniques available at their disposal. This has included services such as health providers, education, substance misuse agencies, housing, youth services and CAMHS detailing how they deliver disruption work. Services now have an increased understanding as to how they are able to contribute to disruption and that this not exclusively a responsibility for enforcement agencies such as the police and CSC.

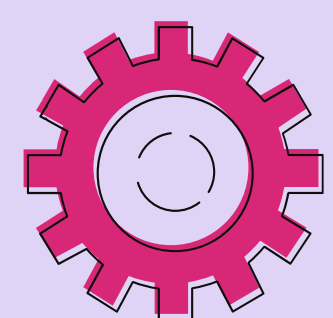
2.2 Disruption activity received from services has been collated to provide an evidence base, join up approaches, reduce duplication and to identify where there are gaps for MACE Sub-Group to address.

3.1 The [Partnership Intelligence Sharing Toolkit](#) was launched in June 2021 due to Wakefield having the lowest submission rates across the region into West Yorkshire Police's Partnership Intelligence Portal (PIP). The PIP is a key mechanism for partner services to submit concerns, including those in relation to criminal activity where child exploitation is suspected. The toolkit includes a host of resources such as key messages and graphics to raise practitioner's awareness, a one-minute guide on intelligence sharing, a video and presentation on the PIP.

3.2 Since launching, submissions to West Yorkshire Police significantly increased after the toolkit was launched in June 2021. There have been several instances where children and families workforce has shared intelligence via the PIP that has led to identification and disruption of perpetrators in respect of child exploitation. One example, a Social Worker submitted numerous intelligence reports which led to 3 potential victims, 4 Organised Crime Groups and 6 locations being identified.

3.3 Wakefield has remained one of the highest districts in submitting intelligence to West Yorkshire Police in relation to child exploitation since the Toolkit was launched.

- Develop multi-agency extra-familial harm and contextual safeguarding training
- Increase the number of children identified at low risk of child exploitation, decrease in children initially presenting at high risk
- Increase in perpetrator identification, decrease in repeat incidents
- Create messaging and resources which children can engage with to be able to demonstrate the risks associated with child exploitation

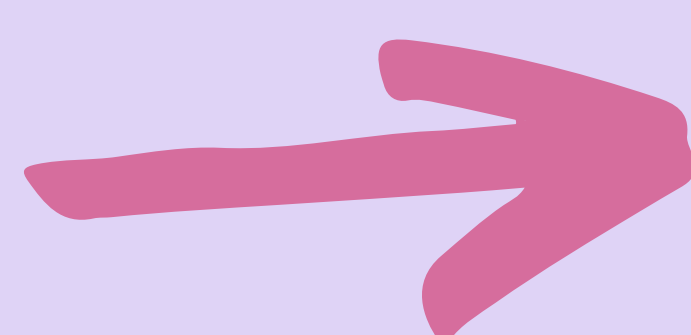


Function of the L&D Group

Responsible for responding to the multi-agency safeguarding learning and development of needs of the children and families workforce by developing, coordinating and delivering learning opportunities such as multi-agency training, conferences, masterclasses and safeguarding resources.

- Introduction
- Partnership Structure & Governance
- Progress made since 2020-21
- Independent Scrutineer Yearly Summary
- Executive
- Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group (CSPRG)
- Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)
- Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) Group
- Learning & Development (L&D) Group**
- Safeguarding Effectiveness Group (SEG)
- Safeguarding Advisor for Education
- Communication and Engagement
- Key Areas of Focus for 2022-23

KEY STEPS for 2022-23



Key Areas of Development



1 Delivered a wide range of multi-agency learning and development opportunities

2 Tailored the multi-agency learning and development offer to areas of development identified within safeguarding review and assurance activity

3 Published a range of One Minute Guides and 7-Point Briefings, continuing to provide bite-sized information across a variety of safeguarding topics

What impact has this made?



1.1 Across the year, over 830 practitioners from the children and families workforce across the partnership accessed a range of learning which included:

- Safeguarding Babies and Infants Masterclass
- Working Together to Safeguarding Children – A Shared Responsibility training
- Managing Allegations Against Those Who Work or Volunteer with Children training
- Multi-Agency Safer Recruitment training
- Mental Health First Aid training
- Safer Sleep and Sudden Infant Death training
- Child Exploitation Masterclass
- Reducing Parental Conflict training
- Safeguarding Week 2021 – Extra Familial Harm Webinar

Evaluation feedback shows that the majority of learners highly rate the quality and relevance of learning with over 90% of learners saying their skills and knowledge had improved as a result of the training they received.

Some specific evaluation reports can be found on the links below

- [Safeguarding Babies and Infants Masterclass](#)
- [Child Exploitation Masterclass](#)
- [Working Together Basic Awareness Training](#)

2.1 Alignment of the learning offer alongside the learning identified through review and assurance activity has ensured the offer is addressing need and targeting the areas where development across the workforce is required.

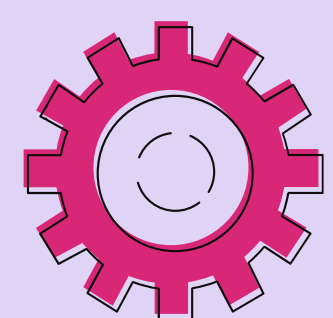
2.2 The learning offer developed has been bespoke for the children and families workforce in Wakefield and enhanced existing single agency offers.

3.1 There is a host of information which is now more accessible and for many services makes safeguarding more proportionate to their area.

3.2 [One Minutes Guides](#) have been developed on child death processes, perplexing presentations / fabricated or induced illness, MAPLAG, neglect, private fostering, Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) and sit alongside previously developed guides on intelligence sharing, continuum of need, neglect and children who are not attending school. Services have been able to signpost to the guides in staff briefings, training, induction and within local policy.

3.3 [7-Point Briefings](#) have provided key highlights on audit activity WSCP has undertaken on safeguarding babies, private fostering, and child exploitation respectively. The key information detailed within the briefings enables findings in relation to learning to be disseminated to frontline practitioners in a more concise and proportionate manner as opposed to lengthy reports.

- Implement governance changes to the sub-group to establish a consistent co-produced and co-delivered multi-agency learning and development offer
- Further develop safeguarding resources across different mediums including video, podcast and One Minute Guides to enhance learning opportunities for the children and families workforce to access
- Deliver new multi-agency training on professional curiosity and challenge and neglect, including a relaunch of a revised neglect toolkit



Function of the SEG

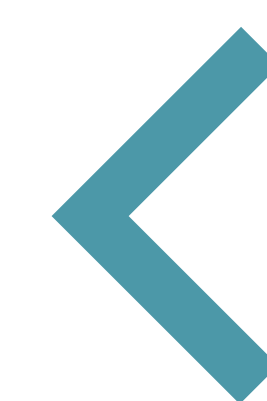
Oversees the multi-agency effectiveness of the partnership and individual services work in relation to safeguarding children through data analysis, assurance activity and procedure.

- Introduction
- Partnership Structure & Governance
- Progress made since 2020-21
- Independent Scrutineer Yearly Summary
- Executive
- Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group (CSPRG)
- Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)
- Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) Group
- Learning & Development (L&D) Group

Safeguarding Effectiveness Group (SEG)

- Safeguarding Advisor for Education
- Communication and Engagement
- Key Areas of Focus for 2022-23

Key Areas of Development



1

Continued to produce a multi-agency safeguarding data set which provides an overview of the vital signs of the child safeguarding system, generating analysis, and informing action for system and practice development

2

Undertook multi-agency assurance activity in relation to Child Exploitation and service's individual safeguarding arrangements (Section 11) respectively

1.1

The SEG receives the performance report at each meeting which includes a range of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) some of which have targets linked to them. An analysis from each report is presented to highlight where targets have been achieved evidencing good performance, where there has been a change in the data compared with previous months and where targets are still requiring development. Following discussion of the KPIs where targets were not achieved, updates were requested by the SEG on areas of concern. Below is a summary of performance seen in 2021-2022:

Good or improved performance in 2021-22 was seen across a range of KPIs:

- Reduction in the rate of referrals to Children's Social Care
- Increase in engagement in return home interviews
- Increase in attendance at Strategy Discussion meetings by partners
- Increase in completion of Section 47 Investigations within timescale
- Increase in Initial Child Protection Conferences held in timescale
- Reduction in re-referrals to Children's Social Care
- Increase in LADO allegation meetings and discussions held in timescale

A fluctuating trend in data was seen across the following KPIs in 2021-22:

- Referral decision making timeliness by Integrated Front Door
- Completion of Section 47 Investigations within timescale
- Average waiting times for Child Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) assessment and treatment

Development is still required across the following KPIs:

- Percentage of contacts reaching threshold for Children's Social Care remained below target
- During the period an increasing trend was seen in the number of children on a Child Protection Plan

2.1

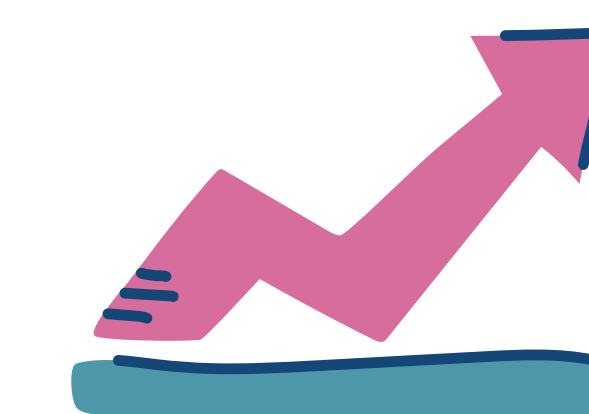
Learning identified which has been implemented as result of the Child Exploitation multi-agency audit findings included:

- Strengthened the understanding of the different types of child exploitation, including online, to increase levels of early identification
- Services who work with children and families understand the referral pathway to the Risk Assessment Meeting (RAM) and how information can be shared
- The workforce has an increased awareness of the risk posed online in respect of child exploitation and how these risks are factored into assessment
- The workforce recognises the co-occurrence of additional safeguarding factors such as domestic abuse, neglect, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and how these can increase a child's risk to exploitation

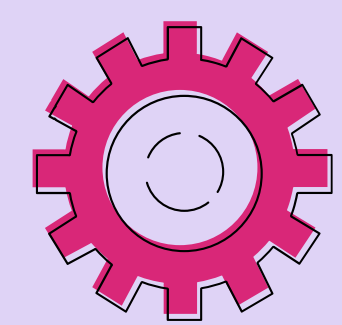
2.2

Learning identified which has been implemented as result of an audit day to scrutinise and seek assurance into service's safeguarding arrangements (Section 11) included:

- WSCP has developed a range of resources such as One Minute Guides and 7 Point Briefings to provide key safeguarding information in a proportionate and accessible way
- Build relationships with sports and leisure organisations to support their safeguarding needs
- Share themes arising from data submissions from Partnership Intelligence Portal (PIP)
- Developed a West Yorkshire region wide service safeguarding audit (Organisational Safeguarding Assessment Tool) for consistency across the county and reduce on duplication for service's who work across districts



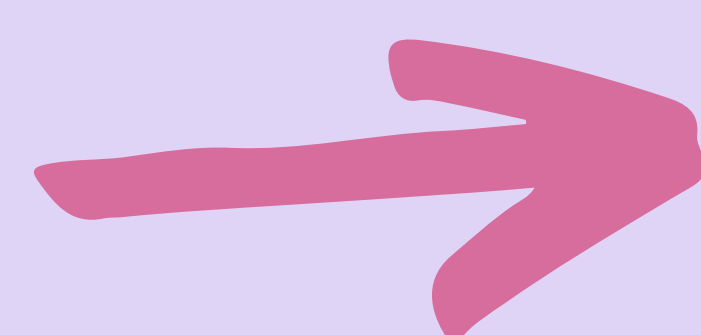
What impact has this made?



Function of the SEG

Oversees the multi-agency effectiveness of the partnership and individual services work in relation to safeguarding children through data analysis, assurance activity and procedure.

KEY STEPS for 2022-23



Key Areas of Development



Developed an audit report action log to monitor the implementation of recommendations from each multi-agency audit



Introduced a district level multi-agency safeguarding procedures working group to support the established West Yorkshire led work



Introducing the action log has enabled SEG members to oversee recommendations from audit activity is implemented by the partnership and individual services.



System and practice improvement from audit recommendations has included:

- Health services' systems and processes have been strengthened to record documentation of strategy and multi-agency meeting minutes, assessment, and reports on a consistent basis
- Service's awareness in respect of the responsibilities they have in responding to and reporting Private Fostering
- Published One Minute Guide on Private Fostering
- Assured process in place for schools to report instances of sexual violence to the police
- Early Help staff training is up to date in respect of Brook Traffic Light to provide support to schools around harmful sexual behaviour
- Early Help staff have received appropriate child exploitation training to develop designated champions within cluster areas and have a pathway to consult with the Children Vulnerable to Exploitation (CVE) team
- Schools are supported by Children's Social Care (CSC) and West Yorkshire Police through sharing of risk assessments and seeking advice on how to manage incidents in relation to child-on-child harmful sexual behaviour

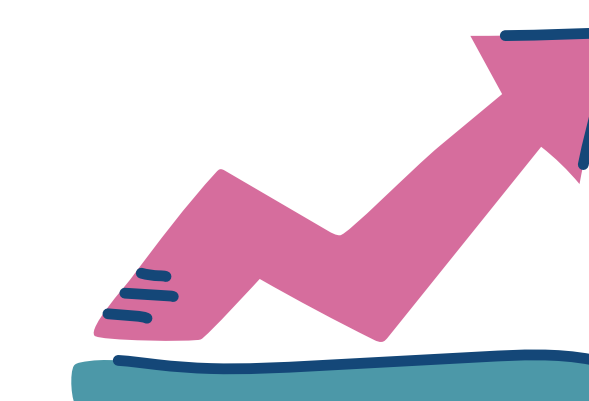


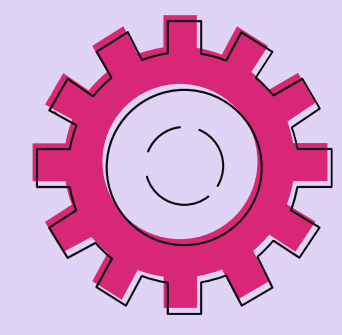
The working group has supported the developed and updated guidance to address gaps which has included:

- Assessment of Non-Mobile Babies with Injuries (including Bruising, Burns and Scalds)
- Guidance on Perplexing Presentations / Fabricated or Induced Illness
- Guidance on Multi-Agency Responses to Harmful Sexual Behaviour
- Guidance on Faltering Growth (previously known as Failure to Thrive)
- Included chapter on obesity in the context of medical neglect within Recognising Abuse and Neglect guidance

- Roll out the new online Organisational Safeguarding Assessment Tool for services who are named under Section 11, Children's Act (2004) to undertake
- Implement a Quality Assurance, Learning, Improvement and Training (QALIT) Framework to broaden the approaches WSCP has in seeking assurance and disseminating learning
- Ensure Wakefield is Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) ready
- Continue to undertake multi-agency audit activity to scrutinise and assure safeguarding systems and practice alongside identifying areas to develop

What impact has this made?

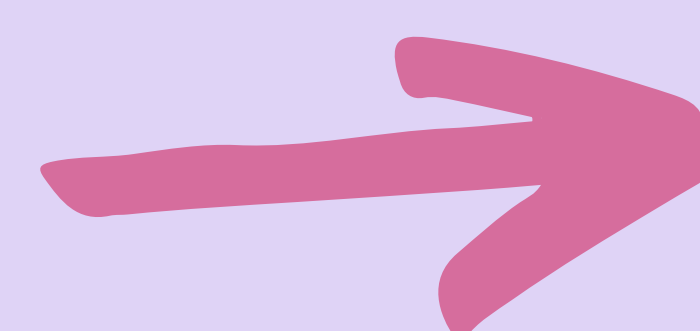




Function of the Safeguarding Advisor for Education

Provides safeguarding advice, support, and training to all schools and colleges in the Wakefield district.

KEY STEPS for 2022-23



Key Areas of Development



What impact has this made?



- 1** Delivered of an extensive range of high-quality safeguarding education training in schools and colleges:
- Safeguarding Basic Awareness Refresher – 79 schools
 - Safer Working Practice – 78 schools
 - Strategic Governor – 15 sessions
 - Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) – 20 sessions

- 2** Delivered a safeguarding support offer for all schools and colleges, which includes a standalone safeguarding school and college section on the WSCP website, free to access safeguarding template policy, school and college safeguarding audit and key policy updates

- 3** Rolled out Operation Encompass training regarding children not present, with 100% of schools trained

- 1.1** The basic awareness training offer for schools and colleges has seen an increase in uptake since the introduction of providing a pre-recorded version which can be accessed on demand. This has provided schools and colleges with more flexibility with having the ability to be able to deliver the training across all staff groups, and at a time to suit them. This has helped to create a greater base level of safeguarding awareness across all staff within school and colleges.

- 1.2** Regular feedback of the training has been extremely positive which has included ... ‘the training was incredibly informative and concise’, ‘the insight the training has given is invaluable’, ‘a perfect refresher for a DSL working in school - all questions answered by the facilitator who, as always, has amazing knowledge.’

Evaluations 3 to 6 months post training delivery demonstrated the impact the training has had. 95% of attendees stated the training was very useful to their roles. In one example, because of the DSL training a member of staff had confidence to be professionally curious which led to a parent disclosing needing support with their mental health. This triggered a range of support being provided by services to the family. The teacher feedback within the evaluation to state the training provided clarity as to what was required when dealing with a complex safeguarding situation and the need to work in a coordinated manner to safeguard multiple children.

- 2.1** Schools and colleges accessed an updated safeguarding policy and templates ensuring consistency in the quality of guidance schools and colleges follow in respect of safeguarding children and local service information for Wakefield.

- 2.2** All schools and colleges in the district completed the 2021-22 school safeguarding audit. Schools commented on the value in being able to self-assess themselves against the audit, which draws from national and local guidance, to ensure they have all appropriate arrangements in place to safeguard children. Once submitted schools and colleges received feedback from the Safeguarding Education Advisor and appropriate guidance on how to develop areas requiring strengthening.

- 2.3** As part of the WSCP updated website, the [Schools and Colleges section](#) was overhauled. The section includes pages on specific learning and development, links and resources, and templates to provide schools and colleges with all of the necessary information to support their safeguarding arrangements.

- 2.4** Schools and colleges received an analysis of and key points of the new education statutory guidance on sexual harassment and violence between children.

- 3.1** Operation Encompass is a notification process which informs schools if police have been called to a domestic abuse incident that has taken place at home the prior day, with the aim of schools being able to support to make the next day better for a child. Prior to 2021-22, notifications were only made when a child was present. Developments this year have resulted in those children who were not present when a domestic abuse incident has taken place to be included in notifications, recognising that the child can still be impacted by domestic abuse regardless of whether they were present when an incident took place or not.

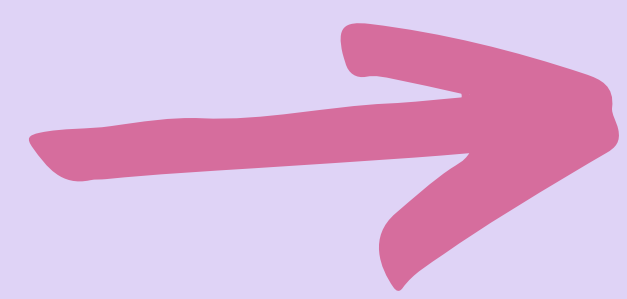
- 3.2** Schools have responded extremely positively to this development, with all schools across the district accessing the training to support this additional notification process.

- Continuation of the services and advice in line with changing guidance for schools and colleges
- Reintroduction of DSL forums for all DSLs in the district via Microsoft Teams
- Introduction of Secondary and College DSL face to face network meetings



WSCP WEBSITE

WSCP has committed to improving how it communicates the work the partnership undertakes. This year has seen significant developments in the partnership's website, which has been overhauled along with a new monthly e-bulletin and more focused social media activity.



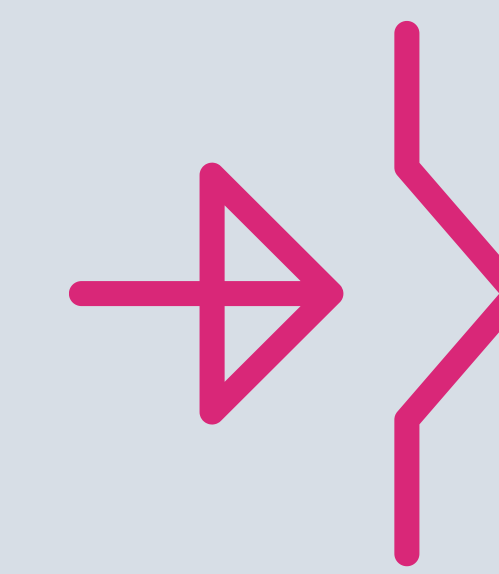
Overview of what has been achieved

This year saw a key development undertaken with an overhaul of the [WSCP website](#) to improve the way in which the partnership communicates and engages with services, those who work or volunteer with children, parents, carers and members of the public.

Safeguarding information, resources, and training on the website is now easier to access and navigate with improved search functionality. WSCP is now equipped with a website which is an asset in providing a central place for all matters safeguarding children in Wakefield. Navigation around the site is sectioned into the following:

- Professionals
- Children & Young People
- Parents & Carers
- Schools & Colleges
- Training
- Resources

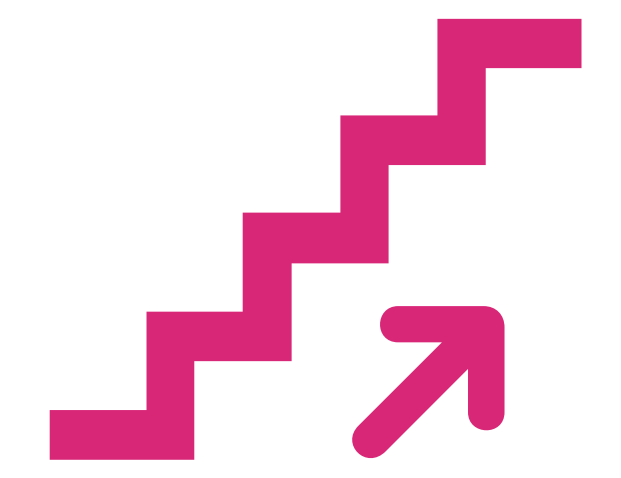
The website also has a Latest News section which features time sensitive information such as safeguarding campaigns and awareness days, conferences, newly published resources, updates on guides and procedures and new training dates.



The impact of the website

Website engagement has been good, and verbal feedback is that users can find the information they need promptly, and the overall layout has made the website more accessible.

From the website statistics overall user engagement has improved for the new website in comparison to the previous website and those accessing it are on average spending more time on the new website. Initial evaluations from those who work or volunteer with children and families highlight the new website as one of the ways in which they found out about new learning and training opportunities.



Key steps for 2022-23

- The website will continue to be developed by WSCP, with a specific focus on reviewing and where required updating the pre-recorded learning and development offers
- A host of new pages will be created within the Children and Young People and Parents & Carers sections, co-producing a number of these pages with audience groups
- Develop the analytics of the website to better understand how it is used, how information is accessed, areas to develop further and required target audiences

Introduction

Partnership Structure & Governance

Progress made since 2020-21

Independent Scrutineer Yearly Summary

Executive

Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group (CSPRG)

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) Group

Learning & Development (L&D) Group

Safeguarding Effectiveness Group (SEG)

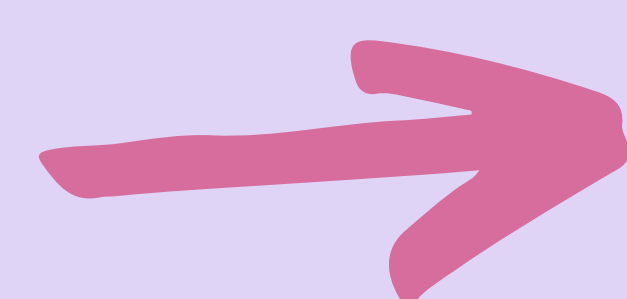
Safeguarding Advisor for Education

Communication and Engagement

Key Areas of Focus for 2022-23



WSCP e-bulletin



Overview of what has been achieved

WSCP introduced a free monthly e-Bulletin in 2021 to provide anybody who subscribes (currently over 950 subscribers) with all of the latest safeguarding children local and national developments, guidance, campaigns, training, events, and resources.

Between April 2021 – March 2022 there have been 18 editions produced and disseminated. These consist of:

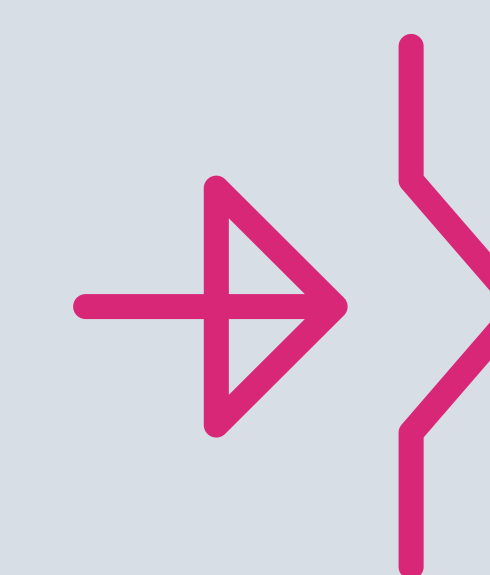
- 12 standard monthly editions
- 6 special editions:
 - 2 x Published Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews
 - 2 x Safeguarding Week 2021
 - 1 x Babies and Infants Masterclass Promotion
 - 1 x launch of WSCP updated website

Subscribers are from the following service areas:

- Education (350)
- Children and Young People Services (313)
- Early Years (116)
- Health (73)
- Other (37)
- Public Health (17)
- Adult Services (13)
- Probation (12)
- Police (8)
- Voluntary and Community Sector (7)
- Youth Justice (4)
- Housing (2)
- Fire Service (1)

In addition to those who subscribe, each edition is also added to the WSCP website and promoted on the WSCP Twitter page to enable non-subscribers to view.

To subscribe to the e-Bulletin and view previous editions, visit the [WSCP e-Bulletin page](#) on the WSCP website.



The impact of the e-Bulletin

The introduction of the e-bulletin has improved the way in which WSCP disseminates safeguarding information to the children and families workforce in a concise and accessible way. Prior to the e-Bulletin, information was shared in ad-hoc fashion via email which provided limited functionality and no analytical measure as to how information was being received and engaged with. With the e-Bulletin these elements are now in place.

Since the e-bulletin's inception, it is now a regular communication to share key safeguarding children information. The steady increase and retention of subscribers month-on-month highlights how valuable the content is that is produced.



Key steps for 2022-23

- Increase subscriber numbers and engagement rates
- Undertake an evaluation survey with subscribers to seek feedback on the e-bulletin
- Undertake a survey with subscribers to ensure they are receiving the e-Bulletin when it is disseminated, and enquire if there are any suggestions, they can make for what they would like to see included/ways to improve it
- Target service areas who have a low subscription rate to increase numbers

Introduction

Partnership Structure & Governance

Progress made since 2020-21

Independent Scrutineer Yearly Summary

Executive

Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group (CSPRG)

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) Group

Learning & Development (L&D) Group

Safeguarding Effectiveness Group (SEG)

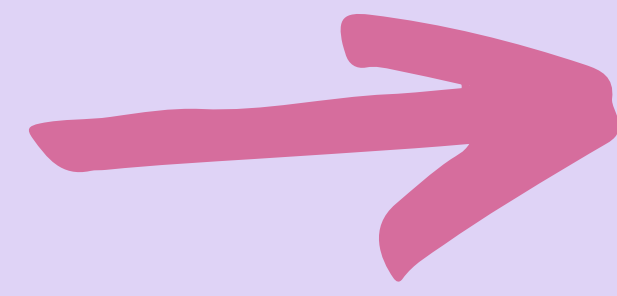
Safeguarding Advisor for Education

Communication and Engagement

Key Areas of Focus for 2022-23



WSCP Twitter account

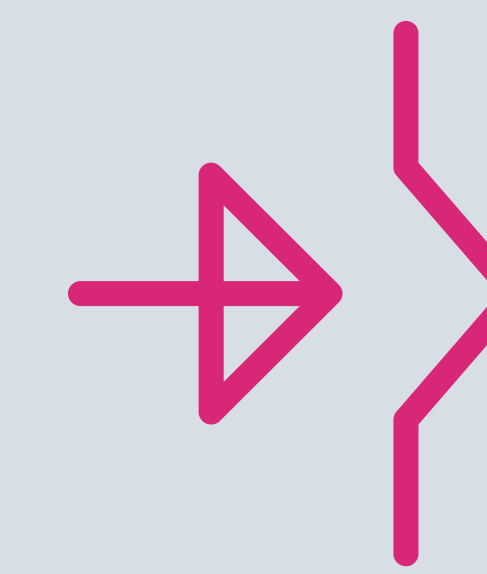


Overview of what has been achieved

WSCP's Twitter account - [@Wakefield_scp](#) provides regular safeguarding children updates on local and national developments, resources, initiatives, policy, and guidance.

The account has over 400 followers and is steadily growing. Followers predominately consist of practitioners and services who work and volunteer with children and families.

The WSCP's Twitter feed is used to provide important information such as updates to policies and procedures, promotion of learning events and links to new safeguarding information and resources.

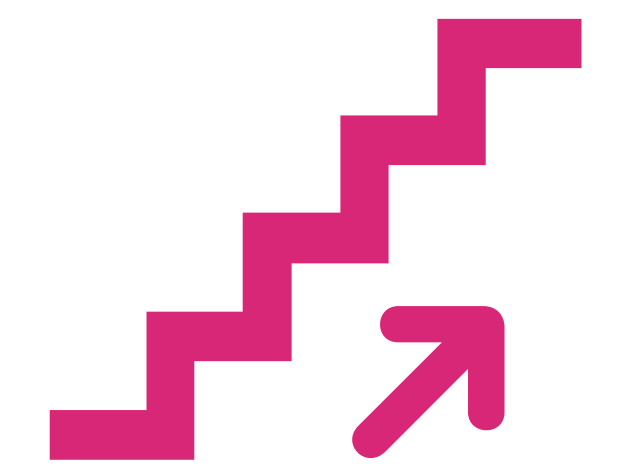


The impact of the Twitter account

Having an established presence on Twitter has enabled WSCP to extend its reach in running several safeguarding campaigns which included supporting the 16 Days of Action for Domestic Abuse, Tackling Child Exploitation Awareness Day, Young Carers Day, Children's Mental Health Week, Safer Internet Day and Safeguarding Week 2021.

These have all received good interest and engagement on Twitter across the year through new followers (66), profile visits (over 32,000), impressions (over 18,300), engagement (305), likes (37) and retweets (33). Some of the most engaged campaigns were:

- Safeguarding Week 2021: 5 new followers, 997 profile visits, 3 retweets, 4 likes, 6,475 impressions and 32 engagements
- WSCP website launch: 13 new followers, 11,000 profile visits, 1,342 impressions and 36 engagements
- 16 Days of Action Domestic Abuse: 7 retweets, 4 likes, 2108 impressions and 35 engagements
- Child Exploitation Day: 7 retweets, 8 likes, 853 impressions and 27 engagements
- Safeguarding Babies and Infants Babies Masterclass: 7 new followers, 1,775 profile visits, 806 impressions and 12 engagements



Key steps for 2022-23

- Develop a communication and engagement strategy
- Consider investing in targeted campaigning on social media to increase reach
- Establish a presence on other social media platforms to extend reach to members of the public

Introduction

Partnership Structure &
Governance

Progress made since 2020-21

Independent Scrutineer
Yearly Summary

Executive

Child Safeguarding Practice
Review Group (CSPRG)

Child Death Overview Panel
(CDOP)

Multi-Agency Child
Exploitation (MACE) Group

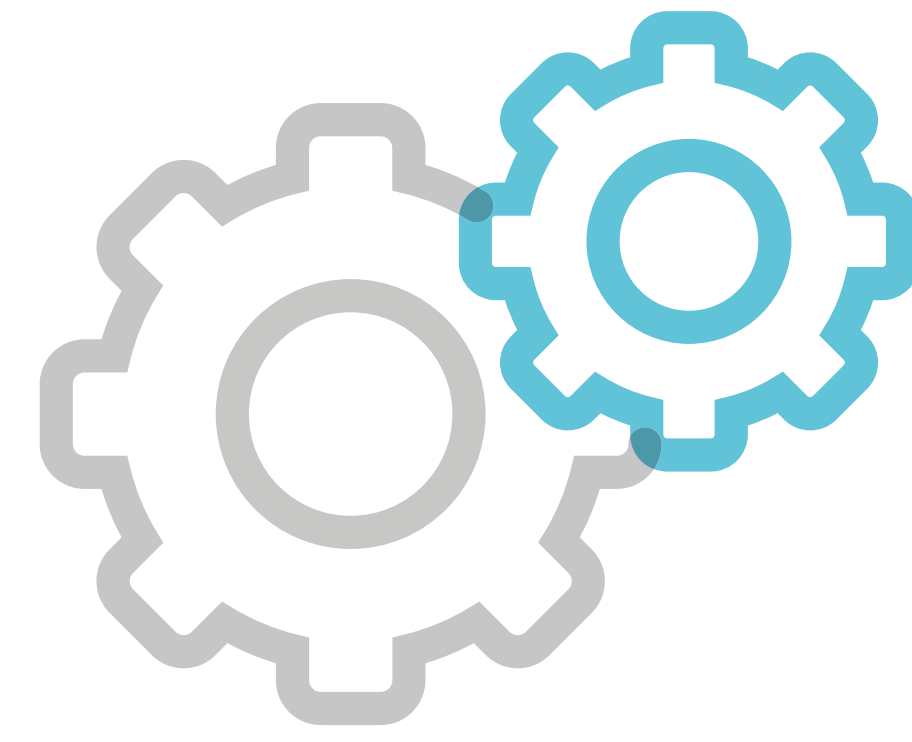
Learning & Development
(L&D) Group

Safeguarding Effectiveness
Group (SEG)

Safeguarding Advisor for
Education

Communication and Engagement

Key Areas of Focus for
2022-23



Key Areas of Focus for 2022-23

Across a number of significant multi-agency safeguarding areas, WSCP has made key developments in 2021-22 to ensure systems and practice are continually developing to keep children safe in the district. Alongside the next steps already identified throughout this report under each respective groups and areas, the introduction of a new delivery plan will provide the partnership with overarching priorities to progress in 2022-23. These include:

- Ensure enhanced recognition and response to neglect across the partnership is in place
- Babies and infants are protected from sudden death due to unsafe sleep
- High quality safeguarding learning and development offer is in place for frontline workforce across the partnership
- Children who experience suicidal ideation are able to access timely support and provision
- WSCP has robust scrupulous arrangements in place
- Services who work with children have a proactive approach in identifying, preventing and disrupting child exploitation

In addition to these overarching priorities, it is important WSCP remains agile and is able to respond to emerging needs as they present.



- Introduction
- Partnership Structure & Governance
- Progress made since 2020-21
- Independent Scrutineer Yearly Summary
- Executive
- Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group (CSPRG)
- Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)
- Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) Group
- Learning & Development (L&D) Group
- Safeguarding Effectiveness Group (SEG)
- Safeguarding Advisor for Education
- Communication and Engagement

Key Areas of Focus for 2022-23