

# Strategy and Resources Policy Committee

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**Monday 20 November 2023 at 2.00 pm**

**To be held in the Town Hall,  
Pinstone Street, Sheffield, S1 2HH**

**The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend**

## **Membership**

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Councillor Tom Hunt  
Councillor Fran Belbin  
Councillor Angela Argenzio  
Councillor Penny Baker  
Councillor Dawn Dale  
Councillor Dianne Hurst  
Councillor Douglas Johnson  
Councillor Ben Miskell  
Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed  
Councillor Zahira Naz  
Councillor Joe Otten  
Councillor Martin Smith  
Councillor Richard Williams

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## PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING

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The Strategy and Resources Policy Committee comprises 13 Members and has the following responsibilities:

### Corporate Responsibilities:

- Cross-cutting responsibility for development and submission to Full Council for adoption of the Budget and Policy Framework
- Providing strategic direction to the operation of the Council by developing and recommending the Corporate Plan (including determination of the priorities set out therein) to Full Council and making decisions on cross-cutting policies and practice where such decisions are not reserved to full Council
- Responsibility for decisions on any commitments to funding in future years not covered within the Council's medium term financial plan
- Responsibility for any issue identified as being of significant strategic importance or financial risk to the Council (which is considered to be by its nature cross-cutting)
- Responsibility, including referral to another Policy Committee for consideration if appropriate, for any policy matter not otherwise allocated to a Committee
- Considering reports which an Ombudsman requires to be published by the Council where it is proposed that the Council take the recommended action

### Council Functions:

- Finance and Commercial Services
- Legal Services
- Democratic Engagement
- Human Resources and Employee Engagement
- Organisational Strategy, Performance and Delivery
- ICT and Digital Innovation
- Information Management

Meetings are chaired by the Leader of the Council.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at [www.sheffield.gov.uk](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk). You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked \* on the agenda. Members of the public have the right to ask questions or submit petitions to Policy Committee meetings and recording is allowed under the direction of the Chair. Please see the Council [website](#) or contact Democratic Services for further information regarding public questions and petitions and details of the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at council meetings.

Policy Committee meetings are normally open to the public but sometimes the Committee may have to discuss an item in private. If this happens, you will be asked to leave. Any private items are normally left until last on the agenda.

Meetings of the Policy Committee have to be held as physical meetings. If you would like to attend the meeting, please report to an Attendant in the Foyer at the Town

Hall where you will be directed to the meeting room. However, it would be appreciated if you could register to attend, in advance of the meeting, by emailing [committee@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:committee@sheffield.gov.uk), as this will assist with the management of attendance at the meeting. The meeting rooms in the Town Hall have a limited capacity. We are unable to guarantee entrance to the meeting room for observers, as priority will be given to registered speakers and those that have registered to attend.

Alternatively, you can observe the meeting remotely by clicking on the 'view the webcast' link provided on the meeting page of the [website](#).

If you wish to attend a meeting and ask a question or present a petition, you must submit the question/petition in writing by 9.00 a.m. at least 2 clear working days in advance of the date of the meeting, by email to the following address: [committee@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:committee@sheffield.gov.uk).

In order to ensure safe access and to protect all attendees, you will be recommended to wear a face covering (unless you have an exemption) at all times within the venue. Please do not attend the meeting if you have COVID-19 symptoms. It is also recommended that you undertake a Covid-19 Rapid Lateral Flow Test within two days of the meeting.

If you require any further information please email [committee@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:committee@sheffield.gov.uk).

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## FACILITIES

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There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in meeting rooms. Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

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**STRATEGY AND RESOURCES POLICY COMMITTEE AGENDA  
20 NOVEMBER 2023**

**Order of Business**

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**Welcome and Housekeeping**

The Chair to welcome attendees to the meeting and outline basic housekeeping and fire safety arrangements.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

**2. Exclusion of the Press and Public**

To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

Members to declare any interests they have in the business to be considered at the meeting.

(Pages 7 - 10)

**4. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

To approve the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 18 October 2023

(To Follow)

**5. Public Questions and Petitions**

To receive any questions or petitions from members of the public.

(NOTE: There is a time limit of up to 30 minutes for the above item of business. In accordance with the arrangements published on the Council's website, questions/petitions at the meeting are required to be submitted in writing, to [committee@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:committee@sheffield.gov.uk), by 9.00 a.m. on Thursday 16 November 2023).

**6. Members' Questions**

To receive any questions from Members of the committee on issues which are not already the subject of an item of business on the Committee agenda – Council Procedure Rule 16.8.

(NOTE: a period of up to 10 minutes shall be allocated for Members' supplementary questions).

**7. Retirement of Staff**

Report of the Director of Policy and Democratic Engagement

(Pages 11 - 14)

**8. Work Programme**

Report of the Director of Policy and Democratic Engagement

(Pages 15 - 34)

- 9. Safeguarding People - Annual Reports** (Pages 35 - 374)
- a) Domestic and Sexual Abuse Annual Report
  - b) Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 21/22 & 22/23
  - c) Adults Safeguarding Annual Report 22/23
- 10. Community Re-use of Steel Containers** (Pages 375 - 418)
- Report of the Executive Director Neighbourhood Services
- 11. Establishing a New Partner City Policy** (Pages 419 - 442)
- Report of the Executive Director City Futures
- 12. The Sheffield Public Health Grant** (Pages 443 - 458)
- Report of the Director of Public Health
- 13. Council's Consent for the Police & Crime Commissioner Powers to be Transferred to the South Yorkshire Mayor** (Pages 459 - 472)
- Report of the Director of Policy and Democratic Engagement

**NOTE: The next meeting of Strategy and Resources Policy Committee will be held on Wednesday 13 December 2023 at 2.00 pm**

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## ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

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If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its Policy Committees, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** (DPI) relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner undertakes.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period\* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

\*The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority –
  - under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
  - which has not been fully discharged.

- Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.
- Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.
- Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) –
  - the landlord is your council or authority; and
  - the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.
- Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -
  - (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
  - (b) either -
    - the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
    - if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership).

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or
- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPIs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.



Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously.

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from David Hollis, General Counsel by emailing [david.hollis@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:david.hollis@sheffield.gov.uk).

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## Report to Policy Committee

### Author/Lead Officer of Report:

Craig Rogerson,  
Principal Democratic Services Officer Team Manager

**Tel:** 474 3355

**Report of:** *Director of Policy and Democratic Engagement*

**Report to:** *Strategy and Resources Policy Committee*

**Date of Decision:** *20 November 2023*

**Subject:** *Staff Retirements*

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken? Yes  No

If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? (*Insert reference number*)

Has appropriate consultation taken place? Yes  No

Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken? Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes  No

If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-

*“The (**report/appendix**) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (**insert relevant paragraph number**) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”*

### Purpose of Report:

To report the retirement of the following staff from the Council’s Service and to convey the Council’s thanks for their work.

**Recommendations:**

To recommend that Strategy and Resources Policy Committee:-

- (a) place on record its appreciation of the valuable services rendered to the City Council by the members of staff in the Directorates stated;
- (b) extend to them its best wishes for the future and a long and happy retirement; and
- (c) direct that an appropriate extract of the resolution now made, under the Common Seal of the Council, be forwarded to those staff with over 20 years' service.

**Background Papers:**

*(Insert details of any background papers used in the compilation of the report.)*

Lead Officer to complete:-		
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.	Finance: <i>N/A</i>
		Legal: <i>N/A</i>
		Equalities & Consultation: <i>N/A</i>
		Climate: <i>N/A</i>
<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>		
2	<b>EMT member who approved submission:</b>	<i>James Henderson</i>
3	<b>Committee Chair consulted:</b>	<i>Tom Hunt</i>
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the EMT member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.	
	<b>Lead Officer Name:</b> <i>Caroline Nugent</i>	<b>Job Title:</b> <i>Interim Director of People and Culture</i>
	<b>Date:</b> <i>20 November 2023</i>	

## 1. PROPOSAL

To report the retirement of the following staff from the Council's Service and to convey the Council's thanks for their work:-

<u>Name</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Years' Service</u>
<b><u>Adults Wellbeing and Care Services</u></b>		
Jayne Clarke	Senior Provider Services Worker	34
<b><u>Children's Services</u></b>		
Georgina Ryalls	Higher Level Teaching Assistant, Gleadless Primary School	34
<b><u>Neighbourhood Services</u></b>		
Steven Pedley	Environmental Services Officer	35
Judith Siddall	Facilities Manager	49

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## Report to Strategy & Resources Committee

**20 November 2023**

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**Report of:** Director of Policy and Democratic Engagement

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**Subject:** Committee Work Programme

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**Author of Report:** Craig Rogerson, Principal Democratic Services Team Manager

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### **Summary:**

The Committee's Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1 for the Committee's consideration and discussion. This aims to show all known, substantive agenda items for forthcoming meetings of the Committee, to enable this committee, other committees, officers, partners and the public to plan their work with and for the Committee. The report also sets out the priority issues for the Committee, as agreed at the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting on 28 June 2023.

Any changes since the Committee's last meeting, including any new items, have been added for approval, and the document is always considered at the regular pre-meetings to which all Group Spokespersons are invited.

The following potential sources of new items are included in this covering report, where applicable:

- Questions from the public (where notified sufficiently in advance)
- Petitions to this committee, including those referred from Council
- References from Council or other committees (statements formally sent for this committee's attention)
- A list of issues, each with a short summary, which have been identified by the Committee or officers as potential items but which have not yet been scheduled (the source of the items is specified)

The Work Programme will remain a live document and will be brought to each Committee meeting.

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## Recommendations:

1. That the priority issues for the Committee, as agreed at the meeting on 28 June 2023, and presented at Appendix 1 be noted;
2. That the Committee's work programme, as set out in Appendix 1 be agreed, including any additions and amendments identified in Part 1;
3. That, as a result of the volume of items to be considered at the 13 December meeting the Committee are asked to note that an Extraordinary S&R meeting has been scheduled for 21 December. The Director of Policy and Democratic Engagement, in consultation with the Chair will give consideration to the distribution of items between the respective agendas;
4. That approval be given to the consideration of cross cutting issues as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report; and
5. that the referrals from Council (petition and resolutions) detailed in Section 2 of the report be noted and the proposed responses set out be agreed.

**Background Papers:** None

**Category of Report:** Open

## COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

### 1.0 Prioritisation

1.1 For practical reasons this committee has a limited amount of time each year in which to conduct its formal business. The Committee will need to prioritise firmly in order that formal meetings are used primarily for business requiring formal decisions, or which for other reasons it is felt must be conducted in a formal setting.

1.2 In order to ensure that prioritisation is effectively done, on the basis of evidence and informed advice, Members should usually avoid adding items to the work programme which do not already appear:

- In the draft work programme in Appendix 1 due to the discretion of the chair; or
- within the body of this report accompanied by a suitable amount of information.

### 2.0 References from Council or other Committees

2.1 Any references sent to this Committee by Council, including any public questions, petitions and motions, or other committees since the last meeting are listed here, with commentary and a proposed course of action, as appropriate:

Issue	Investing in Renewable Energy Projects
Referred from	Council Motion 4 October 2023
<i>Details</i>	"resolves to ask the relevant Policy Committees to consider placing on their work programmes consideration of every opportunity for investing in renewable energy projects on Council land and buildings to generate energy and income"
Commentary/ Action Proposed	It is proposed that an overarching Climate Statement, including a series of specific committee statements will be submitted to the December Strategy and Resources Policy Committee for approval. Informal work is ongoing with each Committee to



	<p>develop these. The sections in respect of each Policy Committee will set out what each Policy Committee will commit to undertake to take climate action – reduce emissions and adapt to a changing climate. The sections for each Committee will include a direct reference to the issues raised in this motion.</p> <p>In addition, officers are exploring how we can commission a specific renewable energy scoping strategy, that will then provide recommendations on the actions that the Council (and each committee) will need to take to deliver this.</p>
Issue	More Cash in People’s Pockets
Referred from	Council Motion 4 October 2023
<i>Details</i>	“requests that Strategy and Resources Policy Committee look at fully costed proposals to help put cash in people’s pockets, increasing and extending direct awards to those who most need it, with a report to Strategy and Resources setting out further options as soon as possible”
Commentary/ Action Proposed	Response to be incorporated in to the Cost of Living report to be submitted to the December Strategy and Resources Policy Committee Meeting.
Issue	Stopping Genocide in Gaza
Referred from	Council Motion 1 November 2023
<i>Details</i>	“(iii) request that the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee consider whether the Council should join the Sheffield Coalition Against Israeli Apartheid.”
Commentary/ Action Proposed	A report of the Director of Policy and Democratic Engagement will be submitted to Strategy and Resources Policy Committee early in the new year,
Issue	Protected Characteristics for Care Experienced People
Referred from	Council Motion
<i>Details</i>	<p>“(d) therefore resolves to request that the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee, as part of the forthcoming Equalities Framework, consider:-</p> <p>(i) introducing a requirement that, when making any policy decisions, the Council recognises Care Experienced people are a vulnerable group who face discrimination;</p> <p>(ii) treating care experience as if it were a Protected Characteristic so that future services and policies consider care experience through Equality Impact Assessments;</p> <p>(iii) putting the needs of vulnerable people at the heart of decision-making through co-production and collaboration;</p> <p>(iv) calling upon other bodies to support the Council in its Corporate Parenting responsibility for children in care and care experienced people until such time as it may be introduced by legislation;</p> <p>(v) formally supporting the LGA’s Step Ahead campaign;</p> <p>(vi) continuing to build on the existing ringfenced apprenticeship opportunities for care experienced people by committing to an</p>

	<p>agreed number of apprenticeships places each year delivered through the Council's levy funding;</p> <p>(vii) taking an intersectional approach and commit to tackling the systemic discrimination and disproportionality faced by specific groups of care experienced people;</p> <p>(viii) the impact on people with other protected characteristics such as race, sexual orientation or disability, as well as issues of intersectional or multiple discrimination;</p> <p>(ix) the scope for a trial scheme for a basic income pilot for care leavers, as piloted by the Welsh Government; and</p> <p>(x) requesting the Government to ensure full funding that is needed to meet all the recommendations of the independent review of children's social care by Josh MacAlister."</p>
Commentary/ Action Proposed	Response to be incorporated in the Equalities Objectives report scheduled to be considered by this Committee in December.

### **3.0 Member engagement, learning and policy development outside of Committee**

3.1 Subject to the capacity and availability of councillors and officers, there are a range of ways in which Members can explore subjects, monitor information and develop their ideas about forthcoming decisions outside of formal meetings. Appendix 2 is an example 'menu' of some of the ways this could be done. It is entirely appropriate that member development, exploration and policy development should in many cases take place in a private setting, to allow members to learn and formulate a position in a neutral space before bringing the issue into the public domain at a formal meeting.

## Appendix 1 – Work Programme

### Priority Issues for 2023/34:

<b>Continuous development of our system of democratic committee governance</b>	Working alongside the Governance Committee, continue to develop our model and how we modernise and embed the committee system. Embed approaches and policies and need to support Member development
<b>Establish a new strategic framework for the city and organisation</b>	Endorsement of the City Goals as they are developed during the summer, which will provide a shared, co-developed statement of our collective ambitions for Sheffield
	Development of a new 5-year Corporate Plan for the organisation which connects to the developing City Goals, sets out what we want to achieve and our priorities and gives clear direction for the whole council, citizens and partners
<b>Cost of living crisis</b>	Continuing and strengthening Sheffield’s citywide response to the cost of living crisis, working with communities and partners to support the people of Sheffield, communities businesses.
<b>Street Trees recommendations and reconciliation</b>	Agreeing the actions we will take forward to deliver the wider recommendations in the Lowcock Report to ensure good progress has been made by the end of the year, with a clear approach to monitoring achievement of these.
<b>Continuing to develop our community involvement and neighbourhood and locality working arrangements</b>	Working with the Governance Committee to <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. consider further devolution of powers and funding to the LACs this year;</li> <li>2. making neighbourhood working more integral to the culture of the wider organisation (including through the Future Sheffield programme);</li> <li>3. taking further steps to ensure community voice and community development practices are developed and embedded in the ways of working for the LACs and policy committees</li> </ol>
<b>Future Sheffield - our 3-year organisational change plan</b>	Overseeing the organisational change programme which will be focused on becoming the organisation that we need to be to continue to deliver for the people of Sheffield alongside rapid service improvement activity where needed.
<b>Customer Services Strategy</b>	In line with our Future Sheffield transformation programme, developing a new Customer Services strategy that will be focused on the experience that the people of Sheffield have when accessing our services.
<b>Budget delivery and medium-term financial stability</b>	To agree a medium term financial plan (MTFP), and, working with the Finance Committee, oversee delivery of agreed savings and development of budget proposals for 2024/25 – 2026/27 in line with the emerging Corporate Plan priorities
<b>SYMCA relationship</b>	We will work collaboratively with the MCA as part of our regular approach to delivering for Sheffield. This will include taking forward our Inclusive Economic Plan as our place-based plan which will feed into the MCA’s broader economic strategy.

**Part 1: Proposed additions and amendments to the work programme since the last meeting:**

<b>New Items</b>	<b>Proposed Date</b>	<b>Note</b>
NOTE: As a result of the volume of items to be considered at the 13 December meeting the Committee are asked to note that, at the request of the Chair, an Extraordinary S&R meeting has been scheduled for 21 December. The Director of Policy and Democratic Engagement, in consultation with the Chair will give consideration to the distribution of items between the respective agendas.	21 December 2023	Extraordinary Meeting
Council's consent for the PCC powers to be transferred to the SY Mayor	November 2023	
Committee Climate Statements	December 2023	
New Housing Strategy Development – Let's Talk About Housing	December 2023	
Update on proposed agreement for lease of the Former Cole Brothers Building	December 2023	
<b>Amended Items</b>	<b>Proposed Date</b>	<b>Note</b>
Cost of Living Strategy Update	December 2023	Moved from November
Equalities Objectives	December 2023	Moved from November
Stannington RCG Report	December 2023	Moved from November Moved from November meeting. Delayed due to need for multi-agency sign off.
Council Plan	December 2023	Moved from November
Budget Updates and delivery options	December 2023 (Extraordinary Mtg)	Moved from November

**Cross-Cutting Issues requiring S&R Steer:**

Item	Committee	Proposed Date	Recommended
None			

#### Outstanding responses to Full Council Motions:

Item	Committee	SLT lead officer	Proposed Date	Note
Tackling the Stigma of Menopause and Period Poverty (Council Motion 2/11/22)	S&R	James Henderson/Adele Robinson	TBC - January 2024?	Response: Report to be submitted in January 2024?
Adopting the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on British Muslims' Definition of Islamophobia (Council Motion 14/12/22)	S&R	James Henderson/Adel Robinson?	December 2023	Response: To be part of new report being prepared on Equality Objectives – December 2023.
Driving Forward the Heritage Strategy for Sheffield Response to Council motion (20/2/23). NOTE: Also Members Q 5/7/23	S&R	Kate Martin/Diana Buckley	TBC – Dec 23/Jan 24	Response: Report being prepared for consideration at S&R in November.
Risk and Opportunities Framework NOTE: Members Q 5/7/23	S&R	Claire Taylor	TBC	Response: To be picked up as part of revised risk management arrangements, as part of a suite of supporting plans that will align with the Council Plan.
Cost of Living: Allocation of Unallocated Resources (Council Motion 5/7/23)	S&R	Keith Leyland	Nov 23	Response: Report to update progress against the cost-of-living strategy, to seek committee's endorsement for a winter plan, and to agree funding arrangements to be submitted to November S&R Meeting.

#### Part 2: List of other potential items not yet included in the work programme

Issues that have recently been identified by the Committee, its Chair or officers as potential items but have not yet been added to the proposed work programme. If a Councillor raises an idea in a meeting and the committee agrees under recommendation 3 that this should be explored, it will appear either in the work programme or in this section of the report at the committee's next meeting, at the discretion of the Chair.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Description</b>	
<b>Lead Officer/s</b>	
<b>Item suggested by</b>	<i>Officer, Member, Committee, partners, public question, petition etc</i>
<b>Type of item</b>	<i>Referral to decision-maker/Pre-decision (policy development/Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring)</i>
<b>Prior member engagement/ development required</b>	
<b>Public Participation/ Engagement approach</b> <i>(with reference to toolkit in Appendix 3)</i>	
<b>Lead Officer Commentary/Proposed Action(s)</b>	

**Part 3: Agenda Items for Forthcoming Meetings**

Meeting (23/24)	20 November23	Time				
Topic	Description	Lead Officer/s	Type of item	<i>(re: decisions)</i> <b>Prior member engagement/ development required</b>	<i>(re: decisions)</i> <b>Public Participation/ Engagement approach</b>	<b>Final decision-maker (&amp; date)</b>
Domestic and Sexual Abuse Annual Report	The annual Domestic Abuse Report will coincide neatly with the recommendation to committee that we engage in the coproduction and consultation on future Domestic Abuse Strategy for the city which we would expect	Alison Higgins	Performance/Monitoring	None	Partners and stakeholders will be invited to submit information	<b>Cross cutting issue. SLB on 7/8/23 recommended decision of S&amp;R, briefing to AHSC, CPL and ECF. Agreed at S&amp;R on 7/9/23</b>

	to bring back to committee for final sign off in Spring 2024.					
Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2021-22	Report is presented in line with statutory requirement detailed in Working Together 2018 to inform elected members and to invite questions and feedback. This report covers the period from April 2021 through to March 2022.	Amanda Boughton Brown	Performance, monitoring and other	No prior engagement is requested.	The report covers the purpose of the SCSP, the work undertaken in the reporting year and the successes and challenges arising.	Education, Children and Families To be considered by S&R after ECF
Adults Safeguarding report		Dawn Bassinder				
Community re-use of Steel Containers	Having put a process in place to seek expressions of interest from community organisations to re-use the containers for the benefit of Sheffield's communities, the report will recommend which organisations should be the council's preferred recipients of the eight containers.	Ben Brailsford	Decision	The process has had member representation in terms of agreeing the process and making the recommendations to S&R committee. Further engagement with S&R committee members via knowledge briefing required.	Process has been open to community groups and publicised via council communications team and Community Services / Local Area Committees.	This Committee

Establishing a new Partner City Policy	The establishment of a clear policy and framework for: a). The purposes of assessing new approaches, and b). Reviewing the effectiveness of existing international relationships.	Nik Hamilton	S&R consideration (and Governance Cttee) prior to Full Council decision	Engagement with Members has included presentation of a Briefing Paper considering the need to develop an International Strategy (of which this is a key element) at Leaders' Briefing on 21 August 2023. Individual Political Groups have also been consulted in-person / over Teams in respect of suggestions relating to the Assessment Criteria proposed.	No public participation or engagement has been undertaken, as this is seen as primarily an internal process issue.	This policy needs to be considered by both S&R Committee (from a resource perspective) and also Governance Committee. Full Council for decision as will require an amendment to the Council's Constitution.
The Sheffield Public Health Grant	To provide an overview of the Public Health Grant including how and where it is spent, what approach will be taken to address inflationary pay award uplifts and how the non recurrent Public Health Grant reserves will be allocated.	Greg Fell/ Beth Plant	Decision	Members will be briefed in advance via pre committee meeting briefings and also if appropriate individual committee members briefings (e.g. children, education and families member briefing).	Through formal/informal discussion groups.	This Committee
<b>NEW:</b> Council's consent for the PCC powers to	The mayor of South Yorkshire has proposed that the powers of the	James Henderson	Decision	Strategy and Resources Committee members have been briefed on	No public engagement required from SCC	This Committee



be transferred to the SY Mayor.	Police and Crime Commissioner should be held by the mayor following the current PCC's term of office in May 2024. This transfer of powers requires the consent of all four constituent councils within the Mayoral Combined Authority, of which Sheffield is one.			the proposal at a joint briefing held with the mayor.	on this proposal. The MCA are the lead authority for this work and are engaging the public, stakeholders, and Government. SCC is required only to give (or withhold) its consent.	
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Meeting (23/24)	13 & 21 December 23 (Distribution of items to be agreed)	Time				
Topic	Description	Lead Officer/s	Type of item	Prior member engagement/ development required	Public Participation/ Engagement approach	Final decision-maker (& date)
Budget Updates and delivery options (Extraordinary mtg)		Philip Gregory/Liz Gough	Decision			
Council Plan	Development of a new 5-year Council Plan for the organisation which connects to the developing City Goals,	James Henderson	Decision			Full Council.

	sets out what we want to achieve and our priorities and gives clear direction for the whole council, citizens and partners					
Street Tree Inquiry Progress Report	S&R have agreed to receive a report against progress on actions during winter 2023 and summer 2024.	Lucy Heyes	Progress Report			This Committee
Update on Sheffield City Council's response to the Race Equality Commission	S&R have agreed to receive an update report against progress in December 2023.	Lucy Heyes/ James Henderson	Progress Report			This Committee
Equalities Objectives		James Henderson / Adele Robinson	Decision			
2023/24 Q2 Budget Monitoring	Finance monitoring update.	Jane Wilby	Decision			This Committee
Identifying the future role of Central Library and Graves Gallery Building	Central Library/Graves Gallery building is a beloved Sheffield landmark which needs to be reimaged for the future. Members need good information on the feasibility of various options for its future, to help decide a way forward.	Diana Buckley/ Rachel Maddox	Decision	Committee Chair/lead briefings for S&R, CPL and EDS  Proposed workshop for S&R members extended to include CPL and EDS deputy chairs and spokespeople.	Not required at this stage, but essential as options become clearer.	

<p><b>New:</b> Committee Climate Statements</p>	<p>The Committee Climate Statements will reaffirm the commitments made relating to the climate emergency and outline how climate change relates to each committee and the action that committees can take to contribute and support our commitments.</p>	<p>Mark Whitworth/ Laura Ellendale</p>	<p>Decision</p>	<p>· S&amp;R Strategic Briefing 8th November 2023 to shape statements. · Discussion will be undertaken between other committees/political groups and lead directors before December committee to shape statements. · Written briefing will be provided to other committees/political groups before December committee.</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>This Committee</p>
<p>Cost of Living Strategy Update</p>	<p>Report to update progress against the cost-of-living strategy, to seek committee's endorsement for a winter plan, and to agree funding arrangements</p>	<p>Keith Leyland</p>				<p>This Committee</p>
<p><b>NEW:</b> Update on proposed agreement for lease of the Former Cole Brothers Building</p>	<p>To update Members on the current position with the proposed agreement for lease of the former Cole Brothers store in Barkers Pool and seek approval to enter into the agreement</p>	<p>Neil Jones</p>		<p>The Chair, Deputy Chair and other senior Members of the Committee from all parties have been briefed on the proposals at the Regeneration &amp; Development Board in November.</p>	<p>The developers have carried out some limited engagement with stakeholders on their proposals for the building but not the legal or financial aspects. More extensive public consultation will take place in advance of any</p>	<p>This Committee</p>

					planning application being submitted.	
Stannington RCG report		Kate Martin/ Claire Hanson				
<b>NEW:</b> New Housing Strategy Development – Let’s Talk About Housing	<p>The current Housing Strategy is due to run out at the end of 2023. Work to develop the new Housing Strategy has been started and this is being overseen by the Housing Policy Committee Task and Finish Group. It is clear from this work that the Housing Strategy is a cornerstone strategy for the Council which includes many cross-cutting issues and far-reaching links and dependencies. It will be a 10 year strategy.</p> <p>Therefore, it is important to clarify the governance and accountability process for the further development and final decision making on the Housing Strategy.</p> <p>Because of the importance of the strategy in setting out our future vision and priorities for it is urgent to</p>	Georgina Parkin/ Suzanne Allen	Decision	<p>Previous Member engagement includes Housing Committee consultation and the appointment of a Task and Finish Group to oversee the development of the new housing strategy.</p> <p>Committee Chairs and LAC Chairs have been asked how they would like to be involved in this process and some LAC meetings have been attended.</p> <p>This was discussed at the Strategy and Resource Briefing 11 October 2023.</p>	The report will set out the options for consultation including co-production with the public and partner organisation/stakeholders, the timescales and the resources required.	S&R briefing 11/10/23 acknowledged Housing Strategy as a cornerstone strategy for the Council and indicated that it should come under the remit of the Strategy and Resource Committee.

	progress this work in a timely way.					
Endorsement of City Goals (TBC)		James Henderson	Decision			Full Council
Community Buildings Policy and Community Asset Transfer Policy (TBC)	To seek approval and adopt Community Building and Community Asset Transfer Policies. Both polices will set out how the Council will work in a consistent and proactive manner, setting out a clear, transparent management of Community Buildings / Assets.	Peter Bartle / Tammy Whitaker	Decision	Briefed Leaders Board, and knowledge briefing for committee to follow.	Programme Board established with representatives from VCS.	Agreed at SLB on 2/10/23 that this item be considered at S&R. CPL to be briefed.
Heritage Strategy for Sheffield Workplan (TBC)	Full Council has asked for the Heritage Strategy for Sheffield to be added to the S&R Committee workplan. The endorsement of Strategy and Resources Policy Committee is requested, to explore options for creating and sustaining an SCC Heritage Officer post.	Rebecca Maddox/ Diana Buckley	Decision	Briefing for Committee Chair/Vice Chair/Lead  Workshop for Lead members from Economic Development and Skills; Planning and Highways; and Transport, Regeneration and Climate Change.	Close working with Sheffield Heritage Partnership Board	<b>Cross Cutting Issue.</b> Discussed at SLB on 7/8/23. <b>Agreed to be considered at S&amp;R at it's meeting on 7/9/23</b>

Meeting (23/24)	24 January 24	Time				
Topic	Description	Lead Officer/s	Type of item	(re: decisions) Prior member engagement/ development required	(re: decisions) Public Participation/ Engagement approach	Final decision-maker (& date)

HRA Budget and Business Plan						Full Council 7/2/24
Tackling the Stigma of Menopause and Period Poverty (Date TBC)		James Henderson	Decision			This Committee

Meeting (23/24)	21 February 24	Time				
Topic	Description	Lead Officer/s	Type of item	<i>(re: decisions)</i> Prior member engagement/ development required	<i>(re: decisions)</i> Public Participation/ Engagement approach	Final decision-maker (& date)
Revenue and Capital Budget Approval		Phillip Gregory	Decision			Full Council 6/3/24
Council Plan		James Henderson	Decision			Full Council

Meeting (23/24)	12 March 24	Time				
Topic	Description	Lead Officer/s	Type of item	<i>(re: decisions)</i> Prior member engagement/ development required	<i>(re: decisions)</i> Public Participation/ Engagement approach	Final decision-maker (& date)
2023/24 Q3 Budget Monitoring	Finance monitoring update.	Jane Wilby	Decision			This Committee

Meeting (23/24)	17 April 24	Time				
Topic	Description	Lead Officer/s	Type of item	(re: decisions) Prior member engagement/ development required	(re: decisions) Public Participation/ Engagement approach	Final decision- maker (& date)

Items which the committee have agreed to add to an agenda, but for which no date is yet set.						
Topic	Description	Lead Officer/s	Type of item	(re: decisions) Prior member engagement/ development required	(re: decisions) Public Participation/ Engagement approach	Final decision- maker (& date)
Street Tree Inquiry Report Progress	S&R have agreed to receive a report against progress on actions during winter 2023 and <b>summer 2024</b> .	Lucy Heyes	Progress Reports			This Committee
Adopting the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on British Muslims' Definition of Islamophobia	Response to Council Resolution of 14/12/22	James Henderson/ Adele Robinson	Referral from Council			To be considered as part of the Equalities Objective report being submitted to this Committee.
Civic Honours	To bring forward a further paper for decision.	James Henderson/ Jason Dietsch		To be considered by the Governance Cttee in the first instance.		This Committee
Violence against Women and Girls, Domestic and	It is proposed to produce a strategy covering all of Violence Against Women	Sam Martin	Decision			This Committee. September 2024. Cross cutting issue.

Sexual Abuse Strategy	and Girls, Domestic and Sexual Abuse next year to cover the period 2024 to 2027 (in line with statutory requirements).					Discussed at SLB on 2/8/23. Relevant PCs to be briefed. <b>Agreed at S&amp;R on 7/9/23</b>
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- Note: Type of item = Decision; Referral to decision-maker; Pre-decision (policy development); or Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring).
- Final decision-maker = This Committee; Another Cttee; Full Council; or Officer decision



## **Appendix 2 – Menu of options for member engagement, learning and development prior to formal Committee consideration**

Members should give early consideration to the degree of pre-work needed before an item appears on a formal agenda.

All agenda items will anyway be supported by the following:

- Discussion well in advance as part of the work programme item at Pre-agenda meetings. These take place in advance of each formal meeting, before the agenda is published and they consider the full work programme, not just the immediate forthcoming meeting. They include the Chair, Vice Chair and all Group Spokespersons from the committee, with officers
- Discussion and, where required, briefing by officers at pre-committee meetings in advance of each formal meeting, after the agenda is published. These include the Chair, Vice Chair and all Group Spokespersons from the committee, with officers.
- Work Programming items on each formal agenda, as part of an annual and ongoing work programming exercise
- Full officer report on a public agenda, with time for a public discussion in committee
- Officer meetings with Chair & VC as representatives of the committee, to consider addition to the draft work programme, and later to inform the overall development of the issue and report, for the committee's consideration.

The following are examples of some of the optional ways in which the committee may wish to ensure that they are sufficiently engaged and informed prior to taking a public decision on a matter. In all cases the presumption is that these will take place in private, however some meetings could happen in public or eg be reported to the public committee at a later date.

These options are presented in approximately ascending order of the amount of resources needed to deliver them. Members must prioritise carefully, in consultation with officers, which items require what degree of involvement and information in advance of committee meetings, in order that this can be delivered within the officer capacity available.

The majority of items cannot be subject to the more involved options on this list, for reasons of officer capacity.

- Written briefing for the committee or all members (email)
  - All-member newsletter (email)
  - Requests for information from specific outside bodies etc.
  - All-committee briefings (private or, in exceptional cases, in-committee)
  - All-member briefing (virtual meeting)
  - Facilitated policy development workshop (potential to invite external experts / public, see appendix 2)
  - Site visits (including to services of the council)
  - Task and Finish group (one at a time, one per cttee)
- Furthermore, a range of public participation and engagement options are available to inform Councillors, see appendix 3.

## **Appendix 3 – Public engagement and participation toolkit**

## **Public Engagement Toolkit**

On 23 March 2022 Full Council agreed the following:

A toolkit to be developed for each committee to use when considering its 'menu of options' for ensuring the voice of the public has been central to their policy development work. Building on the developing advice from communities and Involve, committees should make sure they have a clear purpose for engagement; actively support diverse communities to engage; match methods to the audience and use a range of methods; build on what's worked and existing intelligence (SCC and elsewhere); and be very clear to participants on the impact that engagement will have.

The list below builds on the experiences of Scrutiny Committees and latterly the Transitional Committees and will continue to develop. The toolkit includes (but is not be limited to):

- a. Public calls for evidence
- b. Issue-focused workshops with attendees from multiple backgrounds (sometimes known as 'hackathons') led by committees
- c. Creative use of online engagement channels
- d. Working with VCF networks (eg including the Sheffield Equality Partnership) to seek views of communities
- e. Co-design events on specific challenges or to support policy development
- f. Citizens assembly style activities
- g. Stakeholder reference groups (standing or one-off)
- h. Committee / small group visits to services
- i. Formal and informal discussion groups
- j. Facilitated communities of interest around each committee (eg a mailing list of self-identified stakeholders and interested parties with regular information about forthcoming decisions and requests for contributions or volunteers for temporary co-option)
- k. Facility for medium-term or issue-by-issue co-option from outside the Council onto Committees or Task and Finish Groups. Co-optees of this sort at Policy Committees would be non-voting.

This public engagement toolkit is intended to be a quick 'how-to' guide for Members and officers to use when undertaking participatory activity through committees.

It will provide an overview of the options available, including the above list, and cover:

- How to focus on purpose and who we are trying to reach
- When to use and when not to use different methods
- How to plan well and be clear to citizens what impact their voice will have
- How to manage costs, timescales, scale.

**There is an expectation that Members and Officers will be giving strong consideration to the public participation and engagement options for each item on a committee's work programme, with reference to the above list a-k.**



## Report to Policy Committee

A

Author/Lead Officer of Report: *Alison Higgins*

Tel: 0114 2053671

**Report of:** *Greg Fell*

**Report to:** *Strategy and Resources*

**Date of Decision:** *November 20<sup>th</sup> 2023*

**Subject:** *Domestic and Sexual Abuse / Violence Against Women and Girls Annual Report*

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? <i>(Insert reference number)</i>				
Has appropriate consultation taken place?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-				
<i>“The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”</i>				

### Purpose of Report:

*To propose that the Annual Report on Addressing Domestic and Sexual Abuse / Violence Against Women and Girls 2022/23 is noted and endorsed.*

**Recommendations:**

- *That the Annual Report on Addressing Domestic and Sexual Abuse / Violence Against Women and Girls 2022/23 is noted and endorsed.*
- *That the Annual Report's recommendations should be considered during the development of the new Domestic and Sexual Abuse / Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy for the city which will be developed in consultation with partners and stakeholders over the coming year.*

**Background Papers:**

*Domestic and Sexual Abuse / Violence Against Women and Girls Annual Report 2022/23*

<b>Lead Officer to complete:-</b>	
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.
	Finance: <i>Anna Beeby</i>
	Legal: <i>Patrick Chisholm</i>
	Equalities & Consultation: <i>Ed Sexton</i>
	Climate: <i>n/a</i>
	<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>
2	<b>SLB member who approved submission:</b> <i>Greg Fell</i>
3	<b>Committee Chair consulted:</b> <i>Tom Hunt,, Leader</i>
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the SLB member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.

<b>Lead Officer Name:</b> <i>Sam Martin</i>	<b>Job Title:</b> <i>Head of Commissioning Vulnerable People</i>
<b>Date: 08.11.23</b>	

## 1. PROPOSAL

It is proposed that the first Annual Report of work on Addressing Domestic and Sexual Abuse / Violence Against Women and Girls is accepted and endorsed.

- 1.1 Thousands of people every year are affected by domestic and sexual abuse in Sheffield including many children. People affected by domestic and sexual abuse can also be adults with care and support needs s evidenced by the data on disability above. They may also have long term conditions or be in need of treatment for substance misuse issues. Support to be safe and recover from domestic or sexual contributes to the Adult Health and Social Care Strategy and the overall goal to help the people of Sheffield to lie long, healthy and fulfilled lives.

## 2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE ?

Domestic and Sexual Abuse ruins the lives of too many people in the UK and in our city of Sheffield. The vast majority of immediate victims are women and girls, but we know that many men are also affected. Abuse has a hugely damaging impact on children and on families. By recognising abuse, calling it out, helping victims and changing attitudes and cultures we can reduce the impact domestic and sexual abuse has on individuals, families, and wider society.

The annual report demonstrates how tackling Domestic and sexual abuse, and violence against women and girls, can be effective if we work together: the Council, the Police, and the NHS, but also voluntary services and community groups, businesses, individuals, and groups of people who want to make a difference.

If we work together, we can:

- Change attitudes and cultures so that abuse is recognised, called out and not tolerated
- Protect and support victims and their families through emotional and social support, and practical help to keep them safe
- Deal with perpetrators and find ways to change their behaviour and attitudes.

- 2.1 The Annual Report contributes to One Year Plan goals of:
- Enabling adults to live the life that they want to live
  - Supporting young people in Sheffield to develop and flourish
  - Give everyone the best start in life

## 3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

Consultation on the Annual Report has been conducted through the performance management of commissioned providers and through the

3.1 structures of and under the Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategic Board.

## **4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION**

### **4.1 Equality Implications**

4.1.1 The report outlines the reach of the services commissioned and the projects undertaken in terms of Sheffield's diverse communities. Most service users are women but male service users are up to 12% of users in victim / survivor services for adults. Services work with between 4% and 30% of clients who are LGBT+. Black and minoritized users make up to 57% of users in women's refuges with the lowest proportion – 16% being in perpetrator support. Many users report that they are disabled indicating a clear link between experience of abuse and impact on health.

### **4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications**

4.2.1 A report on income and expenditure for 22/23 is included in the report.

### **4.3 Legal Implications**

4.3.1 Some of the functions described in the report are statutory duties e.g. provision of support in safe accommodation for victims / survivors of domestic abuse and their children. The Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategic Board

### **4.4 Climate Implications**

4.4.1 None. The report is a backward look.

### **4.4 Other Implications**

4.4.1 None

## **5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 The alternative would be not to have completed an annual report.

## **6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

This is the first annual report produced on the work undertaken on addressing domestic and sexual abuse / violence against women and girls.

6.1 The report illustrates the range of initiatives and commissioned services that are in place. It highlights the outcomes of commissioned providers, the work undertaken in relation to statutory duties and strategic achievements. It also illustrates the findings of an independent

assessment of the city's responses to domestic abuse.

- 6.2 The report describes how services are under pressure and that demand is likely to grow as public awareness increases. It proposes that limited resources mean that innovative solutions to meeting needs must be identified and suggests that the development of guided self help resources and a network of community champions may help to mitigate the resource gaps evident. It also recommends the ongoing commitment to campaigns such as White Ribbon as a framework for addressing violence against women and girls and achieving lasting change in attitudes and behaviour across the city.
- 6.3 It also recommends that business cases are developed for further investment various support elements that are currently under pressure:
- support for children and young people to recover from the impact of abuse
  - therapeutic support to aid the recovery of adults such as counselling services
  - behaviour change programmes for perpetrators
  - community based domestic abuse support for adults
- 6.4 It is recommended that these issues are considered during the development of the new Domestic and Sexual Abuse / Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy for the city which will be developed in consultation with partners and stakeholders over the coming year.



A stylized sun graphic on the left side of the page. It features a large yellow circle representing the sun, with several shorter yellow dashes of varying lengths radiating from its top-left edge. The background is a solid orange color, and a large white semi-circle is positioned on the right side of the page, partially overlapping the sun graphic.

# **Domestic and Sexual Abuse Violence Against Women and Girls**

**Annual Report**

**2022 23**

**Sheffield Domestic Abuse Coordination Team**

**Integrated Commissioning and Public Health**

Page 42

# Annual Report 2022/23 Domestic and Sexual Abuse, Violence Against Women and Girls

Domestic and Sexual Abuse ruins the lives of too many people in the UK and in our city of Sheffield. The vast majority of immediate victims are women and girls, but we know that many men are also affected. Abuse has a hugely damaging impact on children and on families. By recognising abuse, calling it out, helping victims and changing attitudes and cultures we can reduce the impact domestic and sexual abuse has on individuals, families, and wider society.

Tackling Domestic and sexual abuse, and violence against women and girls, will only be effective if we all work together. That includes public services like the Council, the Police, and the NHS, but also voluntary services and community groups, businesses, individuals, and groups of people who want to make a difference.

If we work together, we can:

- Change attitudes and cultures so that abuse is recognised, called out and not tolerated
- Protect and support victims and their families through emotional and social support, and practical help to keep them safe
- Deal with perpetrators and find ways to change their behaviour and attitudes.

In Sheffield we have a long and proud history of partnership working to prevent domestic and sexual abuse. As a city we have agreed strategies to improve services and support for people, commissioned and delivered a range of services, and worked with women and people with lived experience of abuse to raise awareness and learn from each other to make things better for the future.

The Sheffield Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategic Board has commissioned this Annual Report. The report sets out some of the wide range of activities the different partners involved in the current Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy have undertaken over the last year. It shows the impact these activities have had on the lives of people in the City. It also highlights some of the ongoing issues we face as a city and the things we need to address in the future.

# Annual Report 2022/23 - Domestic and Sexual Abuse, Violence Against Women and Girls

The Sheffield Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategic Board has commissioned this Annual Report. The report sets out some of the wide range of activities the different partners involved in the current Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy have undertaken over the last year. It shows the impact these activities have had on the lives of people in the City. It also highlights some of the ongoing issues we face as a city and the things we need to address in the future.

- The [Domestic And Sexual Abuse Strategy 2018-22](#) is still being implemented despite being out of time. This is because:
- The Domestic Abuse Act introduced statutory duty to produce a [Domestic Abuse and Safe Accommodation Strategy](#) in place from 2021 until 2024
- Over the next 6 months the Board will be undertaking work with all the partners and wider stakeholders to get a better understanding of what is working, where the gaps in services and support are, and what we need to do more of in the future.
- A new strategy will be written in 2024 to cover Violence Against Women and Girls in its entirety, and domestic / sexual abuse experienced by all genders and include Safe Accommodation to meet the statutory requirement
- It will also include the city's White Ribbon status.

I hope that the information in this report is useful and look forward to working with all our partners over the coming months and years as we develop our new strategy and continue to work hard to prevent domestic and sexual abuse, and violence against women and girls.

*Sam Martin, Chair of the Domestic And Sexual Abuse Strategic Board, Head of Commissioning Vulnerable People*

## Recommendations

- It is recommended that a business case for increased investment in support services for adults, and children, and behaviour change programmes for perpetrators is considered at a strategic level.
- It is recommended that non resource intensive solutions are maintained:
  - Development of community champions to promote early intervention and confidence in the wider workforce and including in underserved communities
  - Easy to access self guided support resources are developed for people who would appreciate this option
  - Ongoing strategic commitment to campaigns such as White Ribbon

# Annual Report 2022/23 - Domestic and Sexual Abuse, Violence Against Women and Girls

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A highlight of 2022 was the [publication in](#) October 2022 of the SafeLives Public Health Systems Review. SafeLives are a national charity who were funded by the Home Office to do reviews of this kind in several local authorities. This found that:

- ***Sheffield has some real strengths in this area...overall Sheffield should be proud of how it responds to Domestic Abuse.***



## Public Health Systems Review of the Domestic Abuse Response in Sheffield

### Conclusions

- Sheffield has some real strengths in the area. The culture within services is positive, multi-agency working is effective. The service offer and a forward thinking training and strategic response, coupled with a strong survivor network and evidence of experts by experience being consulted throughout work, gives victims in Sheffield a real opportunity to be safe and move on from Domestic Abuse.
- There are further opportunities to increase awareness within the wider system, including but not limited to the specialist service resource, the Police and Housing response and inclusivity of marginalised groups. There is some excellent working practice, joined up work is responsive and practitioners are working well with newer Perpetrator services, and newer Social Work responses.
- Overall Sheffield should be proud of how it responds to Domestic Abuse. The strategic leaders give great insight and work with operational leads, and this filters into a culture of support and challenge within local services.

## Prevalence of Domestic and Sexual abuse in Sheffield

The SafeLives Systems Review report also highlighted the estimated prevalence of domestic abuse in Sheffield

### Number of victims: Overview

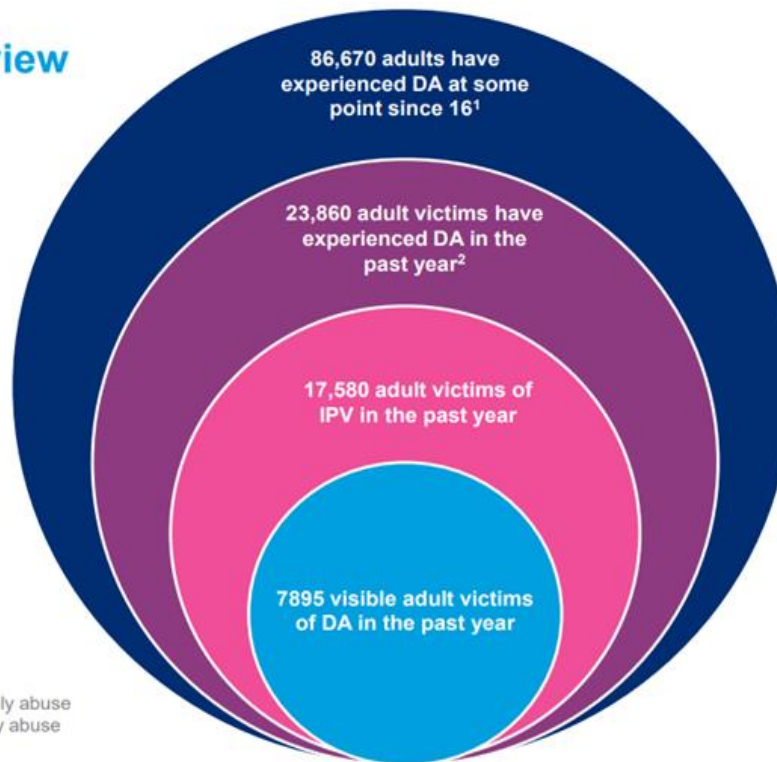
The SafeLives prevalence tool uses data from the Crime Survey England and Wales (CSEW) merged with local population data. It is in the ONS domestic abuse bulletin and more specifically the [prevalence and trends](#) paper. We also use Marac data to capture a true understanding of the prevalence of domestic abuse in a local area.

This details the estimated number of victims who have experienced domestic abuse (DA), not the number of victims who have accessed services.

<sup>1</sup>Around 15% will have experienced both partner abuse and family abuse

<sup>2</sup>Around 8% will have experienced both partner abuse and family abuse

### Ending domestic abuse



**MARAC** stands for Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference – these meetings discuss and safety plan around the most serious domestic abuse cases in the city (people at high risk of serious harm or homicide)



26,019

young people affected by domestic abuse  
2022/23

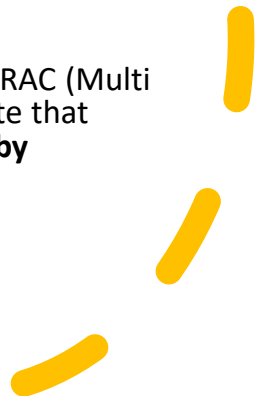


**Annual Report 2022/23 - Domestic and Sexual Abuse, Violence Against Women and Girls**

## **Children impacted by domestic abuse**

A key policy change has been the implementation of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 including the **recognition in law that children are victims of domestic abuse in their own right.**

Using Women's Aid National Audit data and Sheffield MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) data we can estimate that there would have been around **26,019 children affected by domestic abuse** in Sheffield in 2022/23.



# Safe Lives Systems Review

## Cost Calculations of High Risk Perpetrators

Page 48

*'Although it is difficult to estimate the cost of all perpetrators, we can reliably estimate the cost of high risk perpetrators. The University of Bristol evaluation of Drive calculated the cost to the state associated with perpetrators identified as high-risk via the MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) to be £63,400 per case: £38,835 of which is associated with perpetrators directly and £24,565 with adult and child victim-survivors.*

*In applying these costs to Sheffield, taking the 1,194 MARAC cases between 1st Nov 2020 and 31st Oct 2021, the cost to central and local government of high-risk domestic abuse in the region is calculated to be **over £75m** over the course of these cases.'*

[Public Health Systems Review of the Domestic Abuse Response in Sheffield \(sheffielddact.org.uk\)](http://sheffielddact.org.uk)

**Annual Report 2022/23 - Domestic and Sexual Abuse, Violence Against Women and Girls**

	Costs (fixed)	Source
Cashable cost per MARAC case: perpetrators	£38,835.00	Hester et al, 2019
Cashable cost per MARAC case: Victims and Children	£24,565.00	Hester et al, 2019
Total cashable cost per MARAC case:	£63,400.00	Hester et al, 2019
- £32k Police / CJS costs		
- £13,410 health		
- £14,390 Children's services		
- £3,600 Housing (including refuge)		
Loss of quality of life and loss of economic output to the victim:	£31,545.00	Oliver et al, 2019
- £24,300 associated with reduction in health-related quality of life (quantified using QALY approach)		
- £7,245 loss of economic output		
Total cost per MARAC case with quality of life and loss of earnings	<b>£94,945.00</b>	Oliver et al, 2019

#### Caveats:

- The Casheable Costs are based on high risk MARAC cases only. They do not include any costs for non high risk cases.
- Number of Marac cases and repeat % for the local area is based on the latest (at time of calculation) submitted Marac data to SafeLives from the Marac.
- Calculations do not consider that some victims are serial victims, however, this number is unlikely to be large as assumed few victims will become a serial victim within the same year.
- Most costs are assumed to be for the year, but some costs may be spread over a lifetime - see Appendix 8 in the Drive report for more detail.
- The quality of life and loss of earnings costs are average costs for all cases, this maybe an underestimate for these high risk cases which will likely have a larger impact on a victim's life.
- Further details, limitations and assumptions of costs can be found in Appendix 8 of the Drive report.

#### Sources:

- Hester et al. (2019), Evaluation of the Drive Project – A Three-year Pilot to Address High-risk, High-harm Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse. Appendix 8 shows break down of the costs: [http://driveproject.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/DriveYear3\\_UoBEvaluationReport\\_Final.pdf](http://driveproject.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/DriveYear3_UoBEvaluationReport_Final.pdf).
- Oliver et al, 2019; The economic and social cost of domestic abuse 2019. This calculated the costs attributable to 1.9m victims of all risk levels at £34,015 per victim of which £31,545 per victim was due to a loss of quality of life (£24,300), and loss of economic output (£7,245).



**Annual Report 2022/23 -  
Domestic and Sexual  
Abuse, Violence Against  
Women and Girls**

**Sexual Violence  
/ Assault  
Sheffield  
prevalence**

The Crime Survey of England and Wales (CSEW) for 2021/22 estimated that:

- **2.3% of people aged 16 or over** had been a victim of sexual assault (including attempts) in the last year.
- In relation to sex: **3.3% of women** and **1.2% of men** (aged 16+) were victims in the last year.

The definition of sexual assault in the CSEW includes rape or assault by penetration (including attempts), Indecent exposure, and unwanted sexual touching.

**Sheffield**

For people aged 16+ in Sheffield this equates to:

- **7,702 females** and
- **2,674 males**

being a victim of sexual assault in the last year.

671 

referrals received by the Sheffield Independent  
Sexual Violence Advisory Service (delivered by  
Sheffield Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre) in 2022/23



**Annual Report 2022/23 - Domestic  
and Sexual Abuse, Violence Against  
Women and Girls**

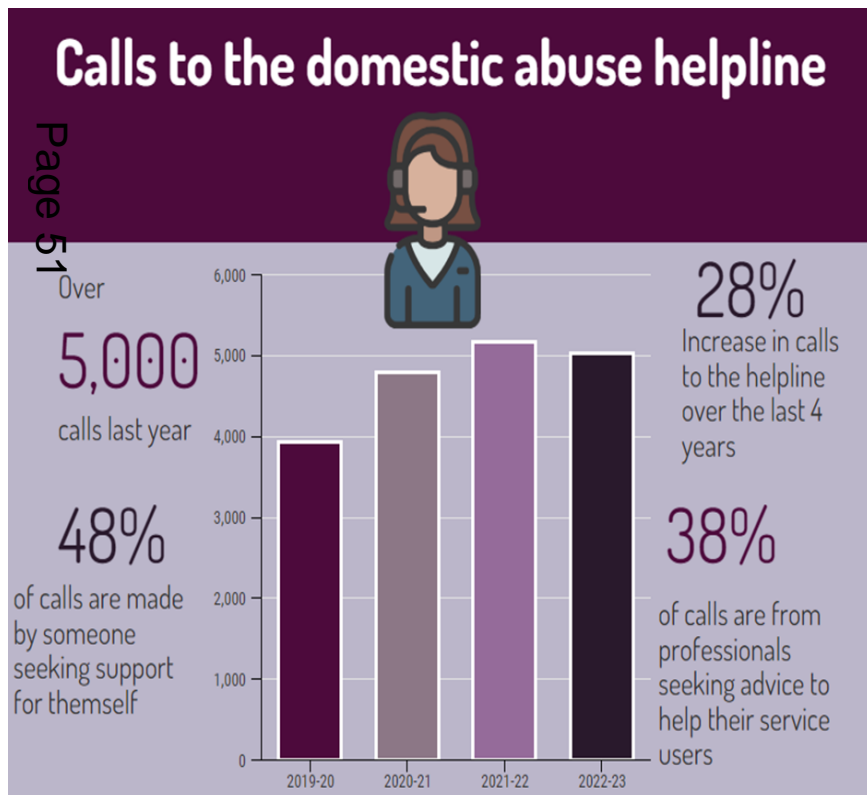
## **Sexual Abuse Commissioning**

Services responding to sexual violence and abuse are commissioned primarily by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner e.g. the [Independent Sexual Violence Advisor](#) service delivered by Sheffield Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre; and the Sexual Assault Referral Centre, [Hackenthorpe Lodge](#), commissioned by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and NHS England. There is also a [Children's Sexual Assault Referral Centre](#) based at Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust commissioned by NHS England and the OPCC.

## Sheffield City Council commissioned services - performance data

### Domestic Abuse Helpline and support

- 5654 referrals received during the year.
- 62% referrals from the police
- Excluding the police referrals – 43% of the remainder are from health agencies.
- 36% of all referrals are at high risk of serious harm or homicide
- 99% of high-risk referrals have received or been offered safety advice
- 81% of users have a planned exit from the service
- 63% of all exits have a reduced risk or no higher risk at exit from support.
- 12 structured group work programmes were offered during the year and 80% of attendees completed the programmes
- Of users who completed an exit evaluation:
  - 69% reported feeling safer
  - 62.5% reported feeling confident
  - 71.5% reported they were better able to recognise abusive behaviour
  - 68% reported that their support networks had improved
  - 75% were clear that the abuse was not their fault
  - 62.5% understood more about the impact of abuse on their children

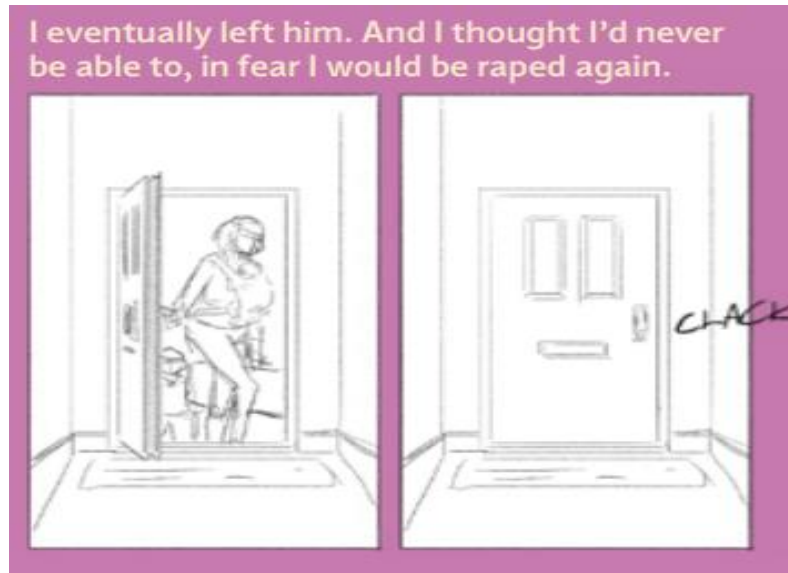


Annual Report 2022/23 -  
Domestic and Sexual Abuse,  
Violence Against Women and  
Girls

Page 52  
Providing support to  
victims/ survivors in  
Domestic Abuse  
safe  
accommodation is  
now a statutory  
duty under Part 4 of  
the Domestic Abuse  
Act 2021.

## 364 adults with 574 children

were supported in safe accommodation: refuges,  
dispersed accommodation and in properties with  
Sanctuary Scheme measures



There is always a very high demand in Sheffield for domestic abuse safe accommodation. The target set for utilisation of domestic abuse safe accommodation is 90%, this was consistently met by IDAS and Sheffield Women's Aid with an average of 100% utilisation for Sheffield Women's Aid refuges and 96% utilisation for SafeZones dispersed accommodation scheme.

# Annual Report 2022/23 - Domestic and Sexual Abuse, Violence Against Women and Girls



## *Women's Refuges*

- 43 families, with
- 79 children, plus
- 35 women without children
- **94%** of women who have exited refuge reported an improvement in their mental health.
- **100%** of women who have used the refuge say they feel safer and feel they are better at recognising abusive behaviours.
- **100%** of women feel better able to manage their finances.
- **100%** of children who accessed support from a counsellor in refuge reported an improvement in wellbeing

## *Support in dispersed properties*

- 18 families with
- 54 children, plus
- 24 women without children
- **100%** of those who have used Safezones report feeling safer.
- **100%** of children who have lived in Safezones are registered with a nursery or school provider
- **70%** of people feel as though they have been supported to access a strong and resilient support network
- **95%** of residents have a positive move on from Safezones and when visited by Safezones staff two weeks after leaving, 100% of residents reported an overall improvement in their wellbeing

## Annual Report 2022/23 - Domestic and Sexual Abuse, Violence Against Women and Girls



Sheffield City Council Temporary Accommodation with specialist domestic abuse support (provided by IDAS)

- *50 families including*
- *116 children plus*
- *20 adults without children*



Young Women's Housing Project  
(16-25 year olds)

- *6 families including*
- *11 children plus*
- *27 women without children*

In Q4 22/23, following a lot of hard work, Young Women's Housing Project were awarded the silver level 'Trauma Informed Working' Quality kitemark from One Small Thing, the team was noted for their commitment and approach to trauma informed working and their submission was recognised as 'stand out quality'.

**one small thing**

# Annual Report 2022/23 - Domestic and Sexual Abuse, Violence Against Women and Girls

## Sanctuary Scheme

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**Sanctuary scheme** measures, also known as target hardening, were provided (part of the Domestic Abuse Community Support contract delivered by IDAS) to enable people to stay safe in their own homes:

- *People living in 501 properties were provided with Sanctuary Scheme measures, 100% of Sanctuary measures were provided within three weeks of referral (most common intervention: window alarms and lock changes)*
- *159 adults and 294 children were provided with support in properties where Sanctuary measures have been provided.*
- Most recent needs assessment showed that 92% (where data is recorded) of people receiving sanctuary scheme support in 2021/22 did not move to a new address as a result of domestic abuse.
- 86% reported that Sanctuary Measures made them feel safer.

## Advice for people in safe accommodation due to domestic abuse

### Citizens Advice Bureau



- 249 users against a target of 125
- 218 users had support with benefits and tax credits
- 74 users had support to manage debts
- Income maximisation figure (from CAB)

*In 2022/ 23, **£70,000** of positive outcomes for victims / survivors was achieved through support from the CAB as a result of:*

- *increased or new benefit / tax credit awards*
- *reimbursement of benefits / tax credits*
- *charitable payments*
- *debt relief*

### Shelter



- 82 advice surgeries held in the year available to both residents and staff.
- 10 households and 3 staff members supported with case advice in the year.



## Children and Young People

---

Specialist commissioned support for children and young people is provided by Haven and Door 43 (provided by Sheffield Futures) and is highly targeted due to limited resources:

- 202 children and young people received one to one interventions
- 70% of those providing feedback to Haven reported improved health and wellbeing.
- 79% reported feeling safer at the time they gave feedback
- 55 children and young people received counselling (where they are in safe accommodation only)
- 100% of exits from Door43 reported counselling has helped them

haven  
for children & young people  
affected by domestic abuse

---



# Annual Report 2022/23 - Domestic and Sexual Abuse, Violence Against Women and Girls

## Counselling and Therapy

### Mind Safe Space (for adults in safe accommodation due to domestic abuse)

- 40 people received counselling: 38 women and 2 men
- 89% of users felt more able to do the things they want to do
- 90% of users said counselling had helped them

### Paradigm (for women in refuges)

- 38 women received counselling
- 64% of users said counselling had helped them

### Sheffield Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre

- 305 received counselling
- 81% planned exits
- 98% said that counselling had helped them
- 305 received counselling
- 81% planned exits
- 98% said that counselling had helped them



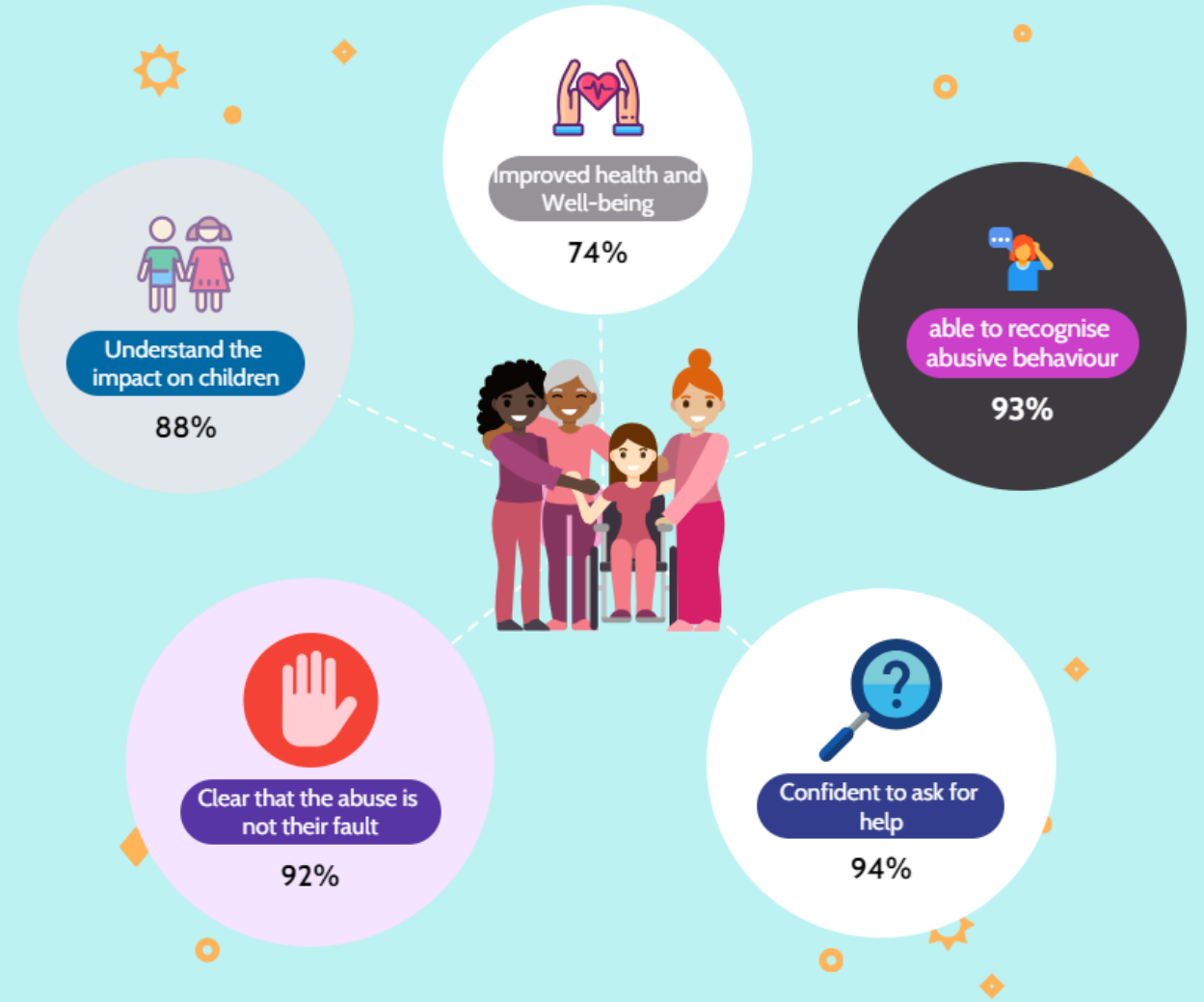
Paradigm Psychological  
Services Ltd



# Overall Outcomes

Page 59

## Domestic Abuse Service Outcomes



## **Perpetrators of domestic abuse**



### **Cranstoun Inspire to Change**

- a 24 week, nationally accredited (by Respect), behaviour change programme
- 491 referrals (62% from police)
- 69 perpetrators engaged with the programme
- 9 perpetrators dropped out of the programme
- 33 perpetrators completed a 24-week programme.

### **Caring Dads**

A 17 week long parenting intervention for fathers who perpetrate domestic abuse, delivered by the Strengthening Families Team

- 4 cohorts were delivered in 2022/23
- 20 fathers successfully completed the programme



88%

of people accessing the community domestic abuse support service are women



6%

of people across all domestic abuse support services are LGB+

30%

of people accessing sexual abuse services are LGB+

27%

of people accessing domestic abuse support services are BAMER

41%

of people accessing accommodation support services are BAMER



## Diversity insights



50%

of young people receiving counselling are female

63%

of young people receiving counselling are BAMER

12%

of people accessing support services are male

3%

of people in supported dispersed accommodation are male



Page 62

36%

of adults accessing domestic abuse services have a disability

22%

of young people accessing support have a disability



# Annual Report 2022/23 - Domestic and Sexual Abuse, Violence Against Women and Girls

## Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

MARAC meets to discuss people at high risk of serious harm or homicide as a result of domestic abuse. It usually meets 3 times a month to discuss 30 cases per meeting.

Police, Social Care (adults and children's), Health, Probation, Housing, IDVAs and other voluntary sector services share information and develop safety plans for victims/ survivors and their children

1172 MARAC CASES

Page 63

discussed in 2022/23



91%

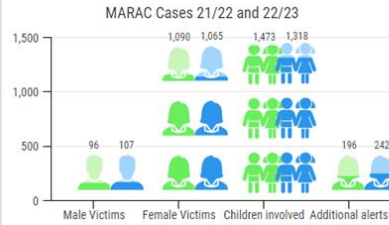
of MARAC cases heard are for female victims



1,318

children impacted, an average of 1.1 children per MARAC case

### Sheffield MARAC Data Dashboard 21/22 & 22/23 Comparison



The year end 2022/23 is shown in blue. The green icons represent the position reported at year end 2021/22. Alerts were only reported from October 2021 so use caution when comparing.

For each male victim heard at MARAC there are 10 female victims.



This is down from 1:11.3 on year end 2021/22



On average, there were 1.12 children affected for each case heard at MARAC in 22/23. In 21/22 this was 1.24

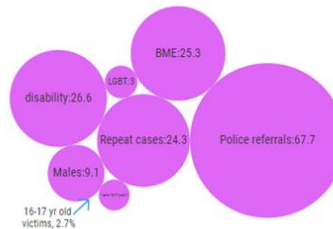


There has been a 1.2% decrease in the number of cases discussed at MARAC in 22/23 in comparison to the previous year (21/22)



In 22/23 there were 39 MARACs and 1172 cases heard. This is three fewer MARACs and 14 fewer cases than 21/22, meaning the cases per meeting in 22/23 was higher (28.2 in 21/22 compared to 30.1 in 22/23)

% of referrals to MARAC in 22/23 that are:



Comparison to previous year (21/22):

- Repeat cases decreased from 31.3% of all referrals
- Police referrals decreased from 72.3% of all referrals
- Proportion that are BME increased from 23.8%
- LGBT increased from 1.6%
- Proportion with a disability decreased from 36.5%
- Proportion that were male victims increased from 8%
- 16 - 17 yr old victims increased from 2.6%

# Training

Annual Report  
2022/23 -  
Domestic and  
Sexual Abuse,  
Violence  
Against Women  
and Girls

IDAS are commissioned to provide free training on domestic abuse for the Sheffield workforce

- **1314 people trained** (target 1200)
- **98% rated the courses as good or higher**
- 211 were trained in coercive control
- 161 were trained on DASH and MARAC
- Top attendees were staff from: Sheffield City Council Housing, Children's Social Care, Sheffield Children's NHS FT, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHSFT, Sheffield Health and Social Care





## Strategy Implementation

Annual Report  
2022/23 -

Page 65  
Domestic and  
Sexual Abuse,  
Violence  
Against Women  
and Girls

- Sheffield has two strategies at present covering this area. This is because a new statutory requirement was introduced in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 to have a [Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Strategy](#). This was agreed in October 2021 and continues to be implemented:
  - 17 actions have been completed
  - 12 actions are in progress
  - 8 actions are still in preparation
- The [Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy](#) was agreed in 2018 and is still being implemented
  - 28 actions have been completed
  - 18 actions are in progress
  - 5 actions are still in preparation

# Strategy Achievements: *commissioning*

Page 66

- Supported accommodation for [young women](#) has been increased by 6 units
- Support for children and young people affected by domestic abuse was recommissioned combining together 3 smaller contracts to provide support to children and young people with the greatest needs and extending this to those living in safe accommodation. The contract was won by [Haven](#).
- The new Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation contract was commissioned for the provision of women's refuges and safe accommodation for males and LGBT+ victims / survivors. This will increase the number of units to 70 family and individual units with support by the end of 2024. [IDAS](#) won the contract in partnership with [Sheffield Women's Aid](#)
- Counselling for adults in domestic abuse safe accommodation was won by Sheffield Mind to provide the [Safe Space](#) service



**Domestic Abuse  
and Safe  
Accommodation  
Strategy**  
Issues to be  
resolved...

Page 67

**Annual Report  
2022/23 -  
Domestic and  
Sexual Abuse,  
Violence  
Against  
Women and  
Girls**

The strategy highlights that **continued work is needed to understand why some victims / survivors leave Sheffield to take up safe accommodation elsewhere** – is this because of demand on services in Sheffield? Is it because they can't be kept safe in Sheffield or are people making positive choices to leave the city?

And with huge pressure on homelessness pathways in Sheffield this means that issues such as **what do when perpetrators of domestic abuse need housing** are difficult to resolve – but we know that not housing perpetrators can put victims/ survivors and their children at risk.

## Strategy Achievements: Ending Violence Against Women and Girls

**Annual Report 2022/23  
- Domestic and Sexual  
Abuse, Violence  
Against Women and  
Girls**



- Sheffield City Council agreed a motion in November 2021 to join the [White Ribbon Campaign](#) and do all it can to prevent male violence against women and girls.
- Being part of the Campaign involves the Council taking a number of actions and initiatives to promote and raise awareness of the issues and the White Ribbon Campaign. A steering group of officers from across the Council was set up, chaired by Tom Smith, Director of Operational Services. Initial accreditation with White Ribbon was secured in November 2022 in time for White Ribbon Day.
- On White Ribbon Day staff were encouraged to wear White Ribbons and a range of internal communications was delivered through different channels, including the Whole Council staff events, press releases and videos.
- The next stage is to secure full accreditation is for the Council to develop and sign off a 3 year Action Plan which will show what further actions we will take to widen the engagement and awareness of the Campaign and the issue across the Council and with wider partners in the City.
- The plan is to align these in a new strategy in 2024 to cover Violence Against Women And Girls in its entirety, and domestic / sexual abuse experienced by all genders, and including the plans to maintain the city's White Ribbon status.



## Strategy Achievements: Ending Violence Against Women and Girls

### Violence Against Women and Girls Forum

- This group was started in February 2022 in response to the nationally high profile murders of women the previous year. It is open to anyone who identifies as a woman and membership includes individuals, representatives of community groups and campaigns, representatives from partner organisations, elected members and Council Officers. The group is member led and discusses issues of interest to members but has been consulted with e.g. in relation to the [Sheffield Women's Safety at Night Charter](#) and the design of Sheffield Against Sexual Harassment campaign materials.

## Strategy Achievements: Ending Violence Against Women and Girls

- Ask for Angela is a scheme that supports licensed premises to assist anyone who is being harassed or feeling unsafe on a night out. 16 premises and organisations received training and model policies in 2022.
- Suzy Lamplugh Trust workshops on responding safely to street harassment were promoted and a Sheffield specific workshop was promoted to organisations and businesses in July 2022.

Page 70



## **Strategy Achievements: Justice for victims**

**Annual Report  
2022/23 -  
Domestic and  
Sexual Abuse,  
Violence Against  
Women and Girls**

Page 71

### **Increasing the proportion of perpetrators that are prosecuted successfully: Sheffield Domestic Abuse First Hearing Court**

- The South Yorkshire Domestic Abuse first hearing court convened at the Sheffield Magistrates Court on 7 June 2022 and has run weekly since that time. It hears both Guilty Anticipated Plea and Not Guilty Anticipated Plea cases as well as domestic abuse Pre-Sentence Report cases and applications for Domestic Violence Protection Orders and applications to vary restraining orders.
- **The model reduces delay and provides timely support for victims.** A District Judge and a specialist Domestic Abuse Prosecutor are assigned to each court hearing. IDVAs contact victims prior to the hearings and provide their views to the court on the day – which is ‘invaluable’ according to the CPS. The success of the Sheffield court has meant the model is now being rolled out in Barnsley and Doncaster.

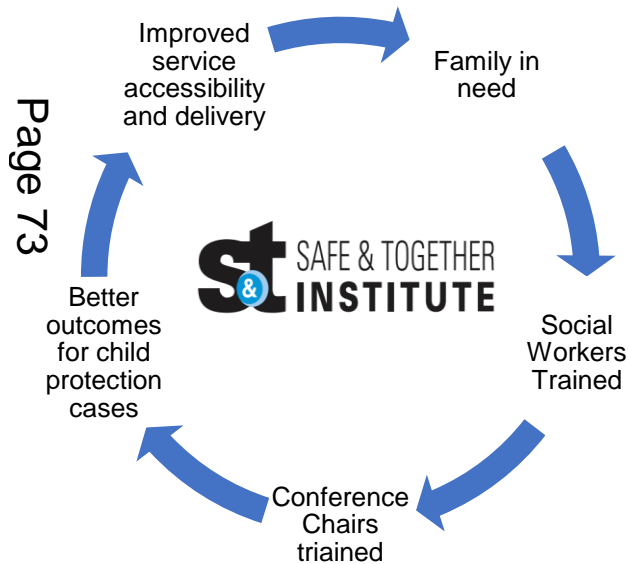
## Strategy Achievements: Young People

### Annual Report 2022/23 - Domestic and Sexual Abuse, Violence Against Women and Girls

- Young People's DASH (Domestic Abuse, Stalking, Harassment & 'Honour' Based Abuse) Risk Assessment.
- Reporting into the Learning and Practice Improvement Group of the Sheffield Children's Safeguarding Board, in 2022/23 the DACT led Under 16s Domestic Abuse Task and Finish Group took a multi-agency approach to the development and implementation of a specialist risk assessment tool for young people experiencing abuse in their relationships.
- After a successful period of testing the tool, the [Young Person's DASH](#) and accompanying guidance were published in October 2022. As a result, there has been a small but noticeable increase in the numbers of high-risk young victim/survivors being heard at MARAC with 2.7% of those heard aged 16 and 17.
- 'The YP DASH process helped to build trust and an open, honest conversation with the client and by the end of the conversation the client expressed that she would like to explore therapy options to talk about her experiences further. I felt this was a very positive outcome for her' (Professional Feedback)
- 'I understood all the things my IDVA was asking me about and liked it wasn't all just about "what my boyfriend has done to me". It let me talk to my IDVA about other things and my feelings'. (Feedback from a 17 year old victim/survivor).



# Strategy Achievements: Improving Whole Family Working



During 2022/23 the Strengthening Families team in Children's Services continued to embed the [Safe and Together](#) Model and its core principles across Children's Social Care but also to partners via regular briefings and the first Overview Days on the model. In total there were 113 workers trained in the 4 Day Core training and many more workers have attended briefing sessions and Overview Days.

The Safe and Together Model consists of 3 principles with 5 critical components:

1. Keeping the child safe and together with non-offending parent (Safety / Healing from Trauma / Stability and Nurturance)
2. Partnering with the non-offending parent as a default position (Efficient / Effective / Child-centred)
3. Intervening with the Perpetrator to reduce risk and harm to child (Engagement / Accountability / Courts)

The 5 critical components are about recognising:

1. Perpetrator's pattern of coercive control
2. Action taken by the perpetrator to harm the child
3. Full spectrum of non-offending parent's efforts to promote child safety and wellbeing
4. Adverse impact of perpetrator's behaviour on the child
5. Role of substance abuse, mental health, culture and other socioeconomic factors

# Strategy Achievements:

## Improving Whole Family Working: *Safe and Together*

Page 74

Positive outcomes due to use of the model include the following example:

- a family that had been in private proceedings for three years and had been in the family court arena 5 times in 5 years,
- father using the court system as a method to continue his abuse post separation and alleging 'parental alienation' by the mother.
- The Strengthening Families team focused on using the model to enhance the Social Worker's documentation submitted to court for the final hearing.
- The court statement clearly identified the impact of the current and historical abuse on the children and evidenced no trace of 'parental alienation'
- This led to the Judge acknowledging in court that the father continued to perpetrate abuse and imposing an order which prevents the father bringing the matter back to court for 2 years.
- The Judge gave specific thanks in Court to Social Care and Strengthening Families for the support offered to the family.

The impact of the model is also being felt across case work, in Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference Meetings, and in case reviews. There is still more to be done in terms of holding parents / carers who are perpetrators of domestic abuse to account for their behaviour and being clear that such behaviour is a parenting choice, but good progress is being made.



+ ● **Escape The TRAP: Preventing Teen Dating Abuse**

○ *Supporting young people so that they understand about healthy relationships:*

30 professionals working across Sheffield both were trained to deliver [Escape the TRAP](#). This is a programme created to help all young people to recognise abusive behaviours and how they affect them. The programme also helps young people to consider their expectations of relationships and what kind of partner they would like, as well as the kind of partner they would like to be.

Staff from IDAS, SAYiT, Young Women's Housing Project, Children's Social Care, Haven, Youth Services and Family Intervention Services received the training and are offering the programme in groups and one to one. Trainees said:

- *My awareness has increased 100%.*
- *Training has definitely improved my confidence in this area. I have accessed my 'inner teen' and thought back to how I felt at the time. I feel I am more aware of the issues that teenagers may face how their perceptions of this. The impact*
- *I have a better understanding of the different personas and behaviours of a controlling relationship and am more able to identify the early warning signs.*

# Strategy Achievements Prevention

# What do survivors and victims think?

Haven offered intensive support to 164 children to help them to recover from the trauma of domestic abuse during the year. Professionals described the service as supporting children well, that Haven staff were efficient, supportive, informative, very helpful, very professional and friendly and that they would absolutely and definitely recommend Haven's services.

- *"The worker was very professional and friendly. Arrived promptly. The children loved their time working with Lauren"* (Ann's Grove Primary )
- *"Great communication and a supportive member of the team"* (Safeguarding Manager Newfield School)
- *'Thank you so much for all your support. I feel that you have really helped me to grow over the last few months. I enjoyed all of your sessions and I feel that I understand my emotions better now. You made something difficult a lot easier to talk about. Thank you for listening and making me feel heard.'* (Child's feedback Q2 22/23)

**haven**  
for children & young people  
affected by domestic abuse

# *What do survivors and victims think?*

## **Ansaria – a Mind case study**

- Ansaria was in an abusive marriage for 29 years. During assessment, she stated that she did not realise what was happening in the home was abuse until she left in 2019 as her ex-husband's behaviour was culturally normalised and tolerated within the family system. She felt like she was the person at fault for years, although she knew somewhere in her heart that wasn't true. Ansaria was frightened when she started therapy, she was unable to sit with her back to a door and was worried she was permanently cognitively impaired due to the abuse.
- Her first image depicts her dominant feelings and her shattered heart which she covered with a tissue to symbolically protect it from scrutiny and harm. Along the bottom, Ansaria depicted herself as a black figure, walking with a depiction of the therapist (in green) towards hopeful imagery.



Page 77



## ***What do victims and survivors think?***

### **Mind case study**

- Through the work, Ansaria began to explore the family dynamics she had been living within for so many years and reframing her experience. By looking at the family system through a different lens, Ansaria began to conceptualise herself differently. Later in the work, Ansaria began to access her feelings in more depth and was able to sit with and honour her pain without judgement. Although this stage of the work was painful, self-belief and hope were beginning to germinate. During the final 3 sessions, Ansaria chose to directly confront the abuse she was subjected to by the perpetrator and express what he was truly like as a person.
- In her feedback Ansaria said *'Thank you for being a big part of my healing journey and for helping me finally lay my past to rest'*
- Ansaria gave her permission for her story to be shared and said, *'I never realised how effective creative psychotherapy could be. It certainly is a safe way of releasing trapped trauma'*



## Door43 at Sheffield Futures

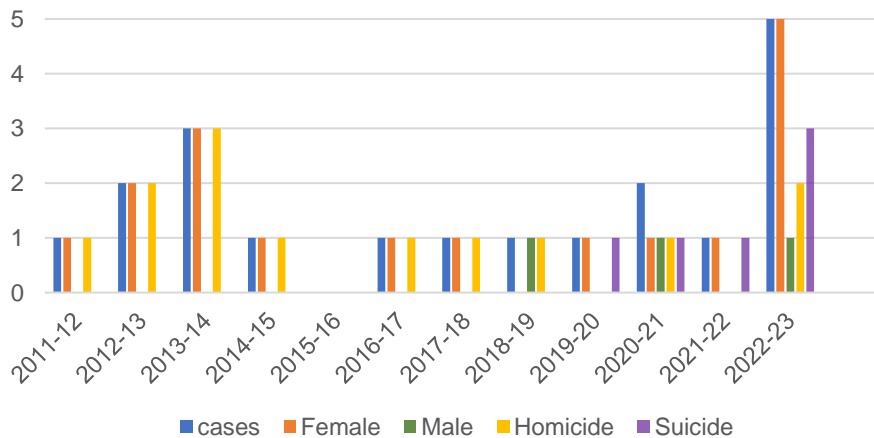
### Megan – a D43 case study

- Megan, a 16 year old young person residing in refuge, was referred to the Door 43 Domestic Abuse Counselling project for their emotional health and wellbeing, social isolation, and due to previous abuse experienced by a family member.
- Megan came to her first therapy session appearing withdrawn and disconnected from the world around her. Over time she began to identify and describe her experiences which appeared as though she was living in a state of hyper-independence (likely as a result of coping with the trauma). For Megan some of this hyper-independence was displayed through not wanting to ask/accept help and becoming isolated in social situations. Therefore, her engagement with myself seemed like something to be celebrated! Throughout her 16 sessions, Megan began to see her relationships through a new lens, assisted by a reflective journal that she began to bring along to explore. When considering the counselling Megan identified that counselling sessions helped “a lot”, she felt more relaxed and specified that she now approached her peers and felt as if she could have healthy, balanced relationships.

# What do victims and survivors think?

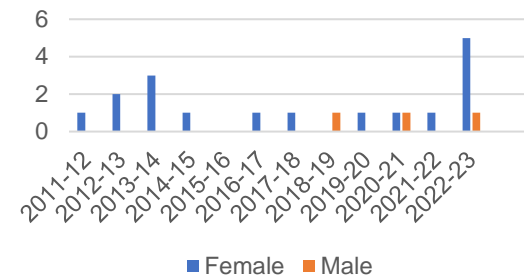
# Domestic Homicide Reviews

Since 2011 until end March 2023 **18 statutory Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs)** have been completed or started in Sheffield with 19 victims. The charts below show the breakdown of gender and the numbers of cases that have been homicides plus the increasing number of suicides. This reflects the increased identification of domestic abuse related suicides by agencies such as the Police rather than a rise in suicides themselves.

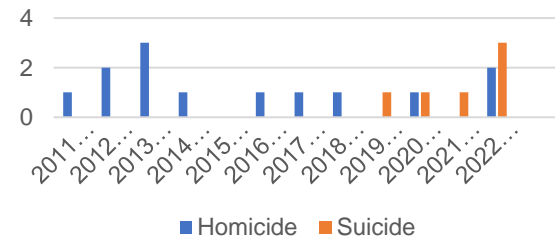


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male / female



Homicide / Suicide





# Learning from DHRs

Learning from DHRs (and Domestic Abuse Serious Incident Reviews) is disseminated through [Learning Briefs](#) and through the quarterly [Safeguarding Adults Reviews / Domestic Homicide Reviews newsletter](#).

## Coercive Control Conference 2023

- In response to learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews, and in line with changes in the Domestic Abuse Act which strengthened the law on coercive control, DACT hosted a conference on Coercive Control in February 2023.

The conference was attended face to face by 100 professionals and livestreamed to a further 45. The event itself was very successful and featured guest speakers, including the world-renowned expert on Coercive Control, Dr Emma Katz and an incredibly impactful talk from Ryan Hart about his own experience of coercive control as a child, as well as a powerful presentation from a Sheffield survivor about her experience of post separation abuse and the family courts.

- 91% of attendees to the conference fed back at the end that they felt 'more confident in recognising coercive control'.
- *'Really liked the hybrid set up. I was glad to be here in person but having such quality guest speakers virtually worked really well. Nailed it! One of the best conferences I've ever attended'. (Delegate feedback)*
- *'Excellent day. Lots of material to take away and consider. Speakers were informative and consolidated learning. Thank you for hosting this eventful conference'. (Delegate feedback)*
- *'I wanted to share how much I enjoyed the event, it really given me food for thought. Every speaker was excellent, the whole day was planned so well'. (Delegate feedback)*



# Budget and spending

Page 82

<b>Domestic and Sexual Abuse Income</b>	
<b>2022-23</b>	
Sheffield City Council	1,272,600
Clinical Commissioning Group (Integrated Care Board)	48,794
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner	171,937
Sheffield Safer Communities Partnership	29,000
South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit	10,000
DLUHC safe accommodation funding	1,329,538
DLUHC Safe accommodation underspend 2122	8,734
<b>Total income</b>	<b>2,870,603</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Commissioned contracts and grants	2,795,690
Staff costs	74,113
Publicity	3,000
Coercive control conference	3,800
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>2,876,603</b>

# Conclusions

Sheffield has some high-quality services offering invaluable support to victims and survivors in the city. However, there are some areas where there are pressures:

Page 83

- *For every victim / survivor / family affected by domestic or sexual abuse there is at least one perpetrator. The cost to individuals and society is high. If we believe that people can change then there needs to be good quality / evidence-based support to help them do this. **A funding stream for programmes to support perpetrators of abuse who want to change their behaviour needs to be identified.***
- ***The specialist service provision for children and young people to support their recovery from domestic and sexual abuse does not meet demand or need.** Over 26,000 children each year have a parent or carer affected and hundreds more are directly abused themselves. Lack of support to recover from the impact of this abuse or trauma can result in reduced life chances.*
- ***Commissioned therapeutic services to enable adults to recover from the impact of domestic and sexual abuse cannot meet the demand or need.** The impact of trauma impacts on emotional health and wellbeing with knock on effects on employment, relationships and the ability to positively contribute .*
- ***It is likely that the demand for domestic and sexual abuse support will continue to rise** because of increased public awareness and ongoing societal issues. Cost of living pressures have caused staff retention issues for providers and mean that less support can be offered with available resources. The pressure on services impacts disproportionately on those who find it most difficult to access support in the first place e.g.: black and minoritised people, LGBT+ people, disabled people*
- ***Ending violence and abuse requires society level change.** Sheffield City Council has committed to the White Ribbon campaign to lead by example. This needs to be an ongoing commitment, embedded into every day working and become business as usual.*

## Recommendations

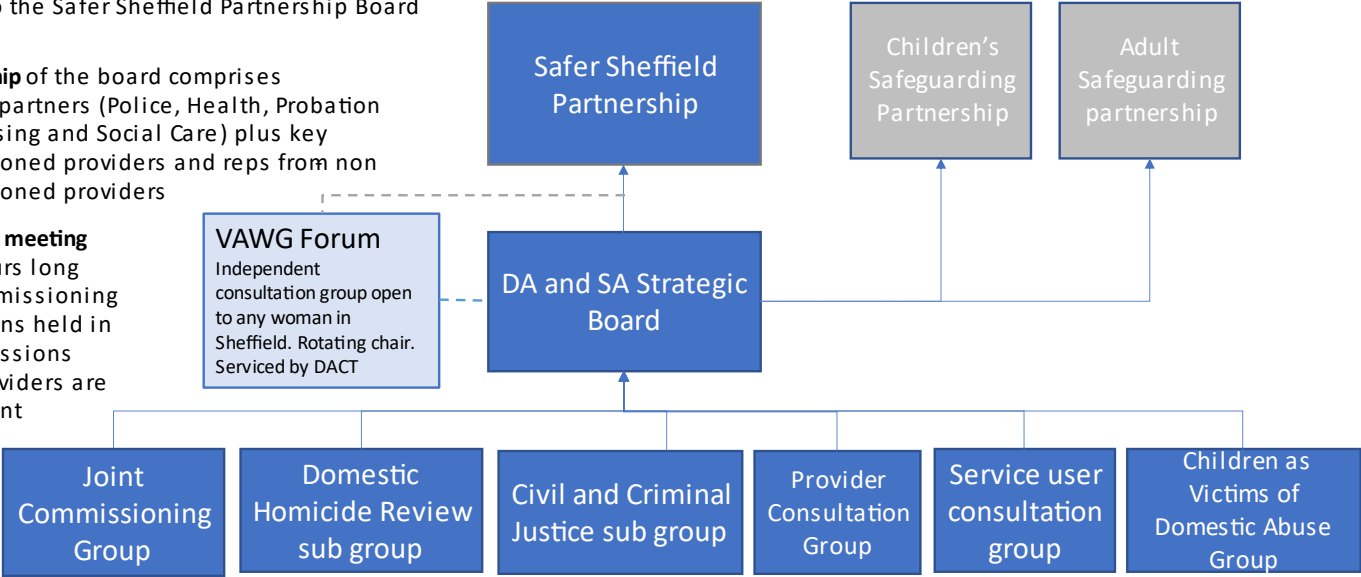
- It is recommended that a business case for increased investment in support services for adults, and children, and behaviour change programmes for perpetrators is considered at a strategic level.
- It is recommended that non resource intensive solutions are maintained:
  - Development of community champions to promote early intervention and confidence in the wider workforce and including in underserved communities
  - Easy to access self guided support resources are developed for people who would appreciate this option
  - Ongoing strategic commitment to campaigns such as White Ribbon

# Appendix Domestic and Sexual Abuse Governance Structure

The Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategic Board acts as the Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Local Partnership Board and reports to the Safer Sheffield Partnership Board

**Membership** of the board comprises statutory partners (Police, Health, Probation plus Housing and Social Care) plus key commissioned providers and reps from non commissioned providers

The **board meeting** is two hours long with commissioning discussions held in closed sessions when providers are not present



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# Equality Impact Assessment Number

## Part A

### Initial Impact Assessment

**Proposal name**

Annual Report: Addressing Domestic and Sexual Abuse / Violence Against Women and Girls 2022/23

**Brief aim(s) of the proposal and the outcome(s) you want to achieve**

To propose that the Annual Report on Addressing Domestic and Sexual Abuse / Violence Against Women and Girls 2022/23 is noted and endorsed.

**Proposal type**

- Budget       Non Budget

**If Budget, is it Entered on Q Tier?**

- Yes       No

If yes what is the Q Tier reference

**Year of proposal (s)**

- 21/22     23/23     23/24     24/25     other

**Decision Type**

- Coop Exec
- Committee (e.g. Health Committee)
- Leader
- Individual Coop Exec Member
- Executive Director/Director
- Officer Decisions (Non-Key)
- Council (e.g. Budget and Housing Revenue Account)
- Regulatory Committees (e.g. Licensing Committee)

**Lead Committee Member**

**Lead Director for Proposal**

Greg Fell

**Person filling in this EIA form**

Alison Higgins

**EIA start date**

21/09/2023

**Equality Lead Officer**

- Adele Robinson
- Annemarie Johnston
- Bashir Khan
- Beverley Law
- Ed Sexton
- Louise Nunn

**Lead Equality Objective ([see for detail](#))**

<input type="radio"/> Understanding Communities	<input type="radio"/> Workforce Diversity	<input type="radio"/> Leading the city in celebrating & promoting inclusion	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Break the cycle and improve life chances
---	---	---	---

**Portfolio, Service and Team**

**Is this Cross-Portfolio**

- Yes
- No

**Portfolio**

Public Health and Integrated Commissioning

Is the EIA joint with another organisation (eg NHS)?

- Yes
- No

Please specify

**Consultation**

**Is consultation required (Read the guidance in relation to this area)**

- Yes
- No

**If consultation is not required please state why**

This is a backward look but the Annual Report has been shared with commissioned providers and other partners and stakeholders

**Are Staff who may be affected by these proposals aware of them**

- Yes
- No

**Are Customers who may be affected by these proposals aware of them**

- Yes
- No

**If you have said no to either please say why**



## Initial Impact

Under the [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) we have to pay due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- advance equality of opportunity
- foster good relations

For a range of people who share protected characteristics, more information is available on the [Council website](#) including the [Community Knowledge Profiles](#).

## Identify Impacts

**Identify which characteristic the proposal has an impact on tick all that apply**

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Health	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Transgender
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Age	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Carers
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Disability	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Voluntary/Community & Faith Sectors
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Pregnancy/Maternity	<input type="radio"/> Cohesion
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Race	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Partners
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Religion/Belief	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Poverty & Financial Inclusion
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Sex	<input type="radio"/> Armed Forces
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Sexual Orientation	<input type="radio"/> Other
<input type="radio"/> Cumulative	

## Cumulative Impact

**Does the Proposal have a cumulative impact**

- Yes       No

<input type="radio"/> Year on Year	<input type="radio"/> Across a Community of Identity/Interest
<input type="radio"/> Geographical Area	<input type="radio"/> Other

*If yes, details of impact*

**Proposal has geographical impact across Sheffield**

- Yes       No

*If Yes, details of geographical impact across Sheffield*

It refers to responses to addressing domestic and sexual abuse and violence against women and girls across the city.

**Local Area Committee Area(s) impacted**

- All       Specific

*If Specific, name of Local Committee Area(s) impacted*

## Initial Impact Overview

**Based on the information about the proposal what will the overall equality impact?**

The annual report describes the impact of the work to address domestic and sexual abuse and violence against women and girls on key groups with protected characteristics in 2022/23

**Is a Full impact Assessment required at this stage?**  Yes  No

**If the impact is more than minor, in that it will impact on a particular protected characteristic you must complete a full impact assessment below.**

## Initial Impact Sign Off

**EIAs must be agreed and signed off by the Equality lead Officer in your Portfolio or corporately. Has this been signed off?**

Yes  No

Date agreed  Name of EIA lead officer

## Part B

### Full Impact Assessment

#### Health

**Does the Proposal have a significant impact on health and well-being (including effects on the wider determinants of health)?**

Yes     No    *if Yes, complete section below*

#### Staff

Yes     No

#### Customers

Yes     No

#### Details of impact

This is a backward look at the work undertaken during 2022/23 to address domestic and sexual abuse and violence against women and girls. These issues impact on the ability to live a healthy life and can have catastrophic impact on health. Sheffield's responses described have mitigated some of this potential impact on its citizens.

#### Comprehensive Health Impact Assessment being completed

Yes     No

*Please attach health impact assessment as a supporting document below.*

#### Public Health Leads has signed off the health impact(s) of this EIA

Yes     N

**Name of Health  
Lead Officer**

#### Age

#### Impact on Staff

Yes     No

#### Impact on Customers

Yes     No

#### Details of impact

This is a backward look at the work undertaken during 2022/23 to address domestic and sexual abuse and violence against women and girls. These issues impact on people of all ages including older and young people. Sheffield's responses described have mitigated some of this potential impact on its citizens.

## Disability

### Impact on Staff

Yes       No

### Impact on Customers

Yes       No

### Details of impact

This is a backward look at the work undertaken during 2022/23 to address domestic and sexual abuse and violence against women and girls. These issues impact on people who are disabled. Sheffield's responses described have mitigated some of potential impact on its citizens. Many users report that they are disabled indicating a link between experience of abuse and impact on health.

## Pregnancy/Maternity

### Impact on Staff

Yes       No

### Impact on Customers

Yes       No

### Details of impact

This is a backward look at the work undertaken during 2022/23 to address domestic and sexual abuse and violence against women and girls. These issues impact on pregnant women and new mothers. Sheffield's responses described have mitigated some of this potential impact on its citizens.

## Race

### Impact on Staff

Yes       No

### Impact on Customers

Yes       No

### Details of impact

This is a backward look at the work undertaken during 2022/23 to address domestic and sexual abuse and violence against women and girls. These issues impact on people how are black and minoritized people as well as white people. Sheffield's responses described have mitigated some of this potential impact on its

citizens. Black and minoritized users make up to 57% of users in women's refuges with the lowest proportion – 16% being in perpetrator support

## Religion/Belief

### Impact on Staff

Yes  No

### Impact on Customers

Yes  No

### Details of impact

This is a backward look at the work undertaken during 2022/23 to address domestic and sexual abuse and violence against women and girls. These issues impact on people of all faiths and those who have no faith. Sheffield's responses described have mitigated some of this potential impact on its citizens.

## Sex

### Impact on Staff

Yes  No

### Impact on Customers

Yes  No

### Details of impact

This is a backward look at the work undertaken during 2022/23 to address domestic and sexual abuse and violence against women and girls. These issues impact on people both sexes. Sheffield's responses described have mitigated some of this potential impact on its citizens. Most service users are women but male service users are up to 12% of users in victim / survivor services for adults.

## Sexual Orientation

### Impact on Staff

Yes       No

### Impact on Customers

Yes       No

### Details of impact

This is a backward look at the work undertaken during 2022/23 to address domestic and sexual abuse and violence against women and girls. These issues impact on people who are LGBT+ as well as heterosexual. Sheffield's responses described have mitigated some of this potential impact on its citizens. Services work with between 4% and 30% of users who are LGBT+.

## Gender Reassignment (Transgender)

### Impact on Staff

Yes       No

### Impact on Customers

Yes       No

### Details of impact

This is a backward look at the work undertaken during 2022/23 to address domestic and sexual abuse and violence against women and girls. These issues impact on people who are transgender as well as cisgender. Sheffield's responses described have mitigated some of this potential impact on its citizens. Transgender users are still a small minority however 2% of sexual abuse counselling clients identify as transgender and 1% of users of community based domestic abuse support.

## Carers

### Impact on Staff

Yes       No

### Impact on Customers

Yes       No

### Details of impact

This is a backward look at the work undertaken during 2022/23 to address domestic and sexual abuse and violence against women and girls. These issues impact on people who have caring responsibilities. Sheffield's responses described have mitigated some of this potential impact on its citizens.

### Poverty & Financial Inclusion

**Impact on Staff**

Yes       No

**Impact on Customers**

Yes       No

**Please explain the impact**

This is a backward look at the work undertaken during 2022/23 to address domestic and sexual abuse and violence against women and girls. These issues impact on people living in poverty. Sheffield's responses described have mitigated some of this potential impact on its citizens.

### Cohesion

**Staff**

Yes       No

**Customers**

Yes       No

**Details of impact**

### Partners

**Impact on Staff**

Yes       No

**Impact on Customers**

Yes       No

**Details of impact**

Responses to domestic and sexual abuse / violence against women and girls are multi agency involving health, criminal justice, employers, education, and council services such as social care and housing.

**Armed Forces****Impact on Staff**

Yes       No

**Impact on Customers**

Yes       No

**Details of impact**

Some users of commissioned services will be connected to the armed forces.

**Other**

*Please specify*

**Impact on Staff**

Yes       No

**Impact on Customers**

Yes       No

**Details of impact**



## Action Plan and Supporting Evidence

**What actions will you take, please include an Action Plan including timescales**

Commissioned services will continue to provide detailed demographic information regarding their users. This will be discussed in performance management meetings and areas of concern addressed. Issues regarding particular groups will be identified and consulted on as part of the development of a new domestic and sexual abuse / violence against women and girls strategy for the city over the coming year. Efforts will be made to consult widely with stakeholders from affected groups and communities including people with lived experience.

**Supporting Evidence** (Please detail all your evidence used to support the EIA)

Reported performance from commissioned providers. Information from Domestic Homicide Reviews

**Detail any changes made as a result of the EIA**

**Following mitigation is there still significant risk of impact on a protected characteristic.**  Yes  No

**If yes, the EIA will need corporate escalation? Please explain below**

### Sign Off

**EIAs must be agreed and signed off by the Equality lead Officer in your Portfolio or corporately. Has this been signed off?**

Yes  No

Date agreed

DD/MM/YYYY

Name of EIA lead officer

**Review Date**

DD/MM/YYYY





## Report to Policy Committee

**Author/Lead Officer of Report:** Ria Walsh  
Service Manager Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership.

**Tel:** 07834600814

**Report of:** *Strategic Director of Children's Services*

**Report to:** *Strategy and Resources Policy Committee*

**Date of Decision:** *20 November 2023*

**Subject:** *Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership  
Annual reports for 21-22 and 22-23*

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? (2410)				
Has appropriate consultation taken place?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Purpose of Report:

Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership (SCSP) is made up of the following three local safeguarding partners:

- Sheffield City Council: represented by the Director of Children's Services
- NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board: represented by the Chief Nurse
- South Yorkshire Police: represented by the Chief Superintendent District Commander

The three partners must publish a yearly report setting out the work they have undertaken that year.

Working Together 2018 states: "In order to bring transparency for children, families and all practitioners about the activity undertaken, the safeguarding partners must publish a report at least once in every 12-month period. The report must set out what they have done as a result of the arrangements, including on child safeguarding practice reviews, and how effective these arrangements have been in practice".

A copy of all published reports should be sent to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and the What Works Centre for Children's Social Care within seven days of being published.

The attached Annual Reports covers the periods from

- April 2021 through to March 2022
- April 2022 through to March 2023

Both annual reports set out how the SCSP have reviewed the partnership's ambition, strategy and key business priorities over the 12-month reporting period.

Both reports provide details of the following areas:

- Priorities, progress and impact
- Dissemination and embedding of learning.
- Conclusion and next steps

The key priorities for 2021-22 were identified as far back as 2019/20 and over the last two years against a background of the Covid 19 pandemic these have continued to roll forward.

As outlined in the SCSP 22-23 Annual Report, there has been a huge amount of work undertaken across the city and progress made with regards to meeting the key priority areas.

### **Recommendations:**

That the contents of the annual reports (appendices 1-3) be noted.

### **Background Papers:**

The 22-23 Annual report has focused on the recommendations from the What Works for Children's Social Care (WWCSC) Safeguarding Partners Annual Report Analysis 20-21 [Safeguarding Partners' Annual Reports Analysis 2020-21 - What Works for Children's Social Care \(whatworks-csc.org.uk\)](https://www.whatworks-csc.org.uk), which seeks to determine the extent to which safeguarding partners' annual reports meet the requirements set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.

### **Appendices**

Appendix 1 - SCSP Annual report 2021 – 2022

Appendix 2 - SCSP Annual report 2022 – 2023

Appendix 3 - Appendix 1 to the SCSP annual report 2022 – 2023

Lead Officer to complete:-		
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.	Finance: <i>Kayleigh Iman</i>
		Legal: <i>Patrick Chisholm</i>
		Equalities & Consultation:
		Climate:
<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>		
2	<b>SLB member who approved submission:</b>	<i>Meredith Dixon-Teasdale</i>
3	<b>Committee Chair consulted:</b>	<i>Councillor Dawn Dale</i>
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the SLB member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.	
	<b>Lead Officer Name:</b> <i>Meredith Dixon-Teasdale</i>	<b>Job Title:</b> <i>Strategic Director of Children's services</i>
	<b>Date:</b> <i>24<sup>th</sup> October 2023</i>	

## 1. PROPOSAL

- 1.1 Under Working Together 2018 – para 21-46, all safeguarding partners must publish a report at least once in every 12-month period.

## 2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE ?

- 2.1 There is a shared and equal responsibility between the three safeguarding partners to make arrangements to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in the local area.
- 2.2 As a partnership, we should agree clear priorities, based on what we know about the lives of children and young people in Sheffield, and what works to improve them. Our priorities should be co-owned, transcend organisational boundaries and we should feel comfortable holding each other to account against them. Support and challenge should be part of how we ensure impacts are clear, understood, co-owned, and contribute to progressively improving children and young people's lives.
- 2.3 Working in partnership means organisations and agencies should collaborate on how they will fund their arrangements. The three safeguarding partners and relevant agencies for the local authority area should make payments towards expenditure incurred in conjunction with local multi-agency arrangements for safeguarding and promoting welfare of children.
- 2.4 The safeguarding partners should agree the level of funding secured from each partner, which should be equitable and proportionate, and any contributions from each relevant agency, to support the local arrangements. The funding should be transparent to children and families in the area, and sufficient to cover all elements of the arrangements, including the cost of local child safeguarding practice reviews. **Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE 2018) (Chapter 3).**

## 3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

- 3.1 In February 2023, a development workshop was held with partners and key stakeholders to review the partnership's ambition, strategy, and priorities for the next three years. The workshop was facilitated by two national facilitators, and it was recognised that the workshop was the first step on a journey to reset, refresh and revitalise the work of the partnership.
- 3.2 To continue reviewing the partnerships ambition, strategy, and priorities, two further development workshops were held on 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023, with the chair of the partnership, officers and chairs of subgroups. Prior to the workshops, questionnaires were completed by all attendees to review their workstreams and contributions to the 22-23 priorities.
- 3.3 Our Independent Chair and Scrutineer, Lesley Smith, was appointed in April 2022 and sits across both the children and adult partnerships. Lesley acts as a constructive critical friend and is a key driver to promoting reflection for continuous improvement across the Partnership.

#### **4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION**

##### 4.1 Equality Implications

4.1.1 N/A

##### 4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

4.2.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

##### 4.3 Legal Implications

4.3.1 Local Safeguarding Partnerships are subject to a statutory duty to publish an annual report under the Children Act (2004) as amended by the Children and Social Work Act (2017) dealing with the achievements of the Partnership and making an assessment of the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements within the local area.

4.3.2 The Annual Report outlines what the Partnership has done over the period 2021/22 and 2022/23, drawing upon a range of data and information to outline the progress made and illustrates the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding partnership arrangements.

4.3.3 A copy of all published reports should be sent to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and the What Works Centre for Children's Social Care within seven days of being published.

##### 4.4 Climate Implications

4.4.1 N/A

##### 4.5 Other Implications

4.5.1 N/A

#### **5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 N/A

#### **6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 It is important that the Committee are aware of the work of the Sheffield Children's Safeguarding Partnership and the content of the Annual Reports.

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# Sheffield Children's Safeguarding Partnership

Annual Report 2021/22



# Table of Contents

<b>Introduction from the Independent Chair and Scutineer</b> .....	5
<b>Foreword by the Strategic Leads</b> .....	8
Sheffield City Council .....	8
South Yorkshire Police .....	8
Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group .....	9
<b>Section 1 - CYP's Involvement</b> .....	14
Our Work with the Children's Involvement Team .....	15
The Children's Involvement Team (CIT) .....	15
Children in Care Council (CiCC) and Sheffield Care Leavers' Union (SCLU) .....	16
<b>Section 2 - The Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership</b> .....	19
Key Roles and Relationships .....	20
Transition from pandemic to endemic .....	21
SCSP Training 2021-22 .....	22
Hidden Harm .....	24
Foetal alcohol spectrum disorder .....	24
Safeguarding and Licensing .....	25
Funding Arrangements .....	26
<b>Section 3 - How We Learn from What We Do</b> .....	27
Quality Assurance, Learning and Improvement Framework .....	28
Multi-Agency Data Suite .....	30
Section 11 and Single Agency Challenge Meetings .....	30
Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews .....	31
Multi-Agency Audits .....	33
Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) .....	34
Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) .....	35

<b>Section 4 - Safeguarding Children in Sheffield</b> .....	38
Sheffield Safeguarding Overview 2021-2022 .....	39
Early Help Services .....	40
Children in Need of Help and Protection .....	41
Child Protection .....	42
Children Looked After and Adoption .....	44
Private Fostering .....	45
Targeted Services .....	46
Door 43 .....	49
Access and Inclusion .....	50
Sheffield City Futures and Operational Services .....	53
Youth Justice Service .....	54
National Probation Service .....	56
Use of Restraint in the Secure Estate Aldine House .....	57
Online Safety .....	58
Learn Sheffield .....	58
South Yorkshire Police .....	59
Public Health .....	60
Sheffield Children’s NHS Foundation Trust .....	62
Sheffield Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust .....	64
<b>Section 5 - Safeguarding Priority Areas</b> .....	66
Child Exploitation .....	67
Hidden Harm .....	69
Domestic Abuse .....	70
Children and Young People that go Missing .....	72
<b>Appendix 1: Executive Partnership Group Members</b> .....	74
<b>Appendix 2: Appendix 2: SCSP Annual Report Glossary</b> .....	76

## Foreword from the Independent Chair and Scrutineer



**Welcome to the annual report of the Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership. I am pleased that you are taking the time to read this report, which outlines continuing progress in the multi-agency work to protect and safeguard children and young people at risk in Sheffield.**

This report covers the period from April 2021 through to March 2022, a period that continued to present unprecedented challenges for partners as the global pandemic COVID-19 continued to impact evidenced through increases in hidden harm following lock down, increasing referrals to services in both volume and complexity, workforce shortages, ever increasing pressures on public sector funding and a worsening economic and cost of living crisis in local communities, which impacts most on our most vulnerable children and families.

Current arrangements for safeguarding continued to evolve during 2021/22 and the partnership is the responsibility of the three statutory partners- the local authority, the NHS and the police, and as a result, this is their report rather than mine.

I joined the partnership in April 2022 as Independent Chair and Scrutineer, and reflecting the new arrangements, I write in my capacity as scrutineer. It is intended to support partners by providing an independent perspective on their work to safeguard children and to highlight challenges where appropriate. As I was not the scrutineer during 2021/22, I have drawn upon the ongoing work of regulators such as Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC); reviews undertaken by NHS England and Improvement; in-year assurance and monitoring reports brought to the partnership executive, as well as the Annual Accountability Meetings with partners in May 2022, in which we sought assurance about the robustness of safeguarding practice.

Ofsted undertook a short, focussed visit of the Sheffield Safeguarding Hub in November 2021 and reported that “Contacts are screened appropriately, with consideration given to previous social care involvement and shared multi-agency information. Consent is explored and explicitly recorded. Families are contacted, their views sought, and next steps discussed. Professionals can contact the front door for advice.” Ofsted further reported that “Child-protection decision-making is clear. Urgent multi-agency meetings are convened, and appropriate actions taken to safeguard children.”

Ofsted and the CQC undertook a revisit of services for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in February 2022, to decide whether sufficient progress has been made in addressing the areas of significant weakness detailed in their inspection report of January 2019. Inspectors took time to speak with children and young people, parents and carers and

looked at a range of information about the performance in addressing the seven significant weaknesses identified at the initial inspection, including the improvement plans and self-evaluation. Sufficient progress had been made in addressing six of the significant weaknesses identified and inspectors recognised partners collective commitment to improving outcomes for the people of Sheffield. However, transition is poor at post-16, post-18 and beyond. Parents and carers describe post-16 and post-18 transitions as cliff edges for their children and young people. A post 16 officer has now been recruited and a multi-agency transitions board is being established. Interviews have been held for seven social workers to create a transitions team of children's and adults' social workers to work across the 16- to 25-year-old age range initially.

The Sheffield City Council Delivery plan for 2022/23 recognises that Children's Services are under a significant amount of immediate pressure across all areas of business with rising costs and lack of capacity in the system, resulting in financial stress and a risk of poorer outcomes for individuals. Children's and Adults' care services represent the council's two largest areas of expenditure and the two most significant areas of risk in terms of poor outcomes for vulnerable people. There is also the ongoing risk of market failure in both the adults' and children's care sectors and the challenge and opportunity of significant policy/legislative change. Although Children's Services continues to perform well, it is at increased risk because of the loss of leadership capacity and because of the ongoing financial pressures that it is experiencing.

Several reviews were undertaken in relation to Children and Young Peoples Mental Health Services in 2021/22 and support for 16-17 year-olds in crisis. Whilst these reviews identified areas of good practice they also identified where partners needed to do more to. In addition, CQC wrote to the 3 NHS foundation trusts in Sheffield under their section 64 powers to understand the current pathway provision for young people. During their inspection they found children and young people being cared for extended periods of time in an unsuitable environment, with fragmented care provision from all the NHS trusts and no clear plans of care. In response to CQC, the partners described new and substantial action with further planned actions to improve pathways for young people with mental health needs.

CQC also inspected the child and adolescent mental health (CAMHS) wards at Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust and raised concerns around the safety of care being provided to vulnerable children. CQC have reported that since inspection, the trust has started to make improvements to make sure vulnerable children and young people receive safe care.

CQC identified significant patient safety concerns at the focussed inspection of maternity services in March 2021 at the Jessop Wing, a purpose-built maternity unit where approximately 7,000 babies are born every year. The inspection saw the rating of the service deteriorate to inadequate. A remedial action plan is in place with most actions already completed or due for completion over the summer of 2022.

I am pleased to note that actions plans have been developed to address all the findings from each of the CQC inspections, with robust reporting, governance and oversight in place. However, the SCSP needs to monitor progress with the CQC action plans and develop mechanisms for partners to hold each other to account to ensure that the risks to babies, children and young people have been mitigated and they are protected from harm. This must be a priority for 2022/23 and should build upon, rather than duplicate, the updated NHS Safeguarding Assurance and Accountability Framework.

The partnership continued to monitor performance and emerging trends on a regular basis during 2021/22. The SCSP collects an extensive multi-agency suite of data, categorised into the following datasets:

- Contextual Safeguarding
- Education, Inclusion and SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities)
- Hidden Harm

- Neglect data
- Referrals, Thresholds, and Involvements
- Transitions data

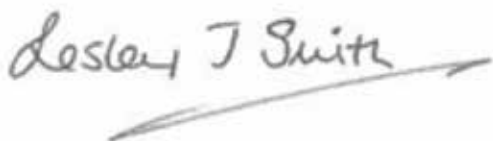
The data sets are used by the partnership's subgroups including the Learning Practice Improvement Group, the Hidden Harm Implementation Group and the Neglect Task and Finish Group, and whilst work is ongoing to understand the data and further refine the data suite there are many examples of how this intelligence is being used to shape a multi-agency approach and intervention. This is covered further within this annual report which provides examples where partners are working at the leading edge of innovation to keep children and young people in Sheffield safe from abuse and harm.

The data for children referred into services in response to identified concerns around contextual safeguarding remains a live issue for all services. A Child Exploitation Vulnerability Tracker was introduced in 2021. Promotion work is active in schools along with partnership work with safer neighbourhood teams. Referrals of vulnerable young people known to be involved in CCE have increased, however, SYP reported to a recent meeting that detection is improving with "interruption" techniques considered to be making progress. Progress in interruption is assisted by stronger joined up working across partners.

In households where a parent/carer or other family member has mental ill health, misuses drugs/alcohol, there is domestic abuse, parental conflict or harmful gambling, adult and children services must work collaboratively to ensure that the voice of the child/vulnerable adult is heard, and their circumstances safeguarded. To ensure this happens across the city, the Hidden Harm Strategy (2021 – 2025) has been updated and implementation is underway. Partners have also adopted the NSPCC Graded Care Profile 2 assessment and intervention tool across the city, with an expectation that this will make a positive impact in the response to neglect over time.

The annual report demonstrates that partners have faced significant challenges during the year and there is still much to address. However, there has also been significant innovation, and safeguarding has been maintained as a priority. Notwithstanding all the current challenges, what I have seen since my arrival is real commitment to working together, and the willingness to address the need for change. I have seen some great examples of innovation, with Sheffield at the leading edge locally and contributing nationally to emerging policy on interventions that support families and prevent escalation of need. Many examples are set out in detail in this report together with the impact they have made, and I hope you will take time to read these.

I would offer my thanks to all members of the safeguarding teams for their work and persistence in sustaining effective safeguarding in Sheffield. There are many examples of practitioners going above and beyond expectations to protect some of our most vulnerable children and families and to them I send my thanks



**Lesley Smith**  
**Independent Chair and Scrutineer**  
**Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership**

## Foreword by the Strategic Leads

### Sheffield City Council John Macilwraith

This is my final message to you as I prepare to leave the council to take up a new role. I have worked here for three years and have seen several personnel changes and the greatest challenge local government has ever had to face - the Covid19 pandemic.

#### The highlights

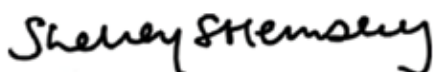
Some of the highlights of my time here include the support we provided to communities through the pandemic, especially our response on securing PPE for the four South Yorkshire authorities (at one stage colleagues in Sheffield City Council were securing, storing and distributing supplies to over 200 venues each week). I am also proud of the work of Children and Adult Services who supported our most vulnerable people through the pandemic and the fact that OFSTED at a focussed visit in November 2021 and a SEND re-visit in February 2022 recognised our collective commitment to improving outcomes for the people of Sheffield. Also, bringing the Youth Service back into the Council in 9 months was a council-wide effort that I am convinced will benefit the young people of Sheffield in the years to come.



**John Macilwraith**  
Executive Director of People Services

### South Yorkshire Police

“South Yorkshire Police and Sheffield Policing District are committed to working with partners to identify harm, safeguard and improve the lives of children and young people across the city. We have built strong professional relationships at the operational and strategic level to ensure we are fully engaged with and support the wider partnership priorities. During the 2021 – 2022 reporting period we experienced the lifting of COVID regulations and the return to normality for people across the city and country, our services and response remained steadfast throughout that time. We strive to continuously improve our understanding of neglect, abuse and exploitation to ensure our services are responsive to children and young people’s needs and promote their welfare and safety. To this end, our officers and staff received training to recognise neglect and to understand the lived experience and reflect the voice of the child in their interactions and decision-making. At a strategic level, as Sheffield Policing District Commander, I worked with counterparts in Sheffield City Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group to develop the Sheffield Children’s Safeguarding Partnership by appointing an independent scrutineer, with a view to increasing accountability and strengthening our multi-agency arrangements.”



**Shelley Hemsley**  
Chief Superintendent



## Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group

The duty to Safeguarding Children is one of the most important the CCG holds, as a lead partner in the local safeguarding arrangements, together with the police and the local authority.

Partners working across all sectors, both statutory and non-statutory, will know the continued impact that the Covid pandemic has had in the last year, with an increased demand for services and the rise in some specifically related to safeguarding, for example the increase in reported domestic abuse and a rise in requests for support with mental health and substance misuse in both adults and children. This increase in demand has not subsided during 2021, and as we start 2022, the country also faces a cost-of-living crisis. We can't underestimate the effect this will have on children generally, and specifically on the some of the most vulnerable children in our city, those in lower income households. From this perspective, the Partnership initiative to develop a workforce who are trauma informed is needed more than ever, to effectively support children and families in Sheffield.

The 'Think Family' approach of 2021 has seen the safeguarding team within the CCG undergo a restructure during the last year, including recruitment to roles with a joint adult and child safeguarding focus, to reduce silo working within the team and develop shared responsibility and co-working on cross cutting safeguarding agendas, including MAPPA, MARAC and Channel.

The CCG safeguarding team have continued to support the Safeguarding Children Partnership at all levels including all the sub-groups of the board, five of which the CCG either chair or co-chair and additionally provide administrative support to two of these.

In July 2022 the Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), along with Barnsley, Rotherham, and Doncaster CCGs, formed the South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB), following the establishment of ICBs by National Health Service England under their duty in the Health and Care Act 2022.

Although the ICB is county wide, the close multi-agency working developed during the life of the CCG, will continue to be strengthened 'at place' in Sheffield with the ICB continuing to be represented at both executive and sub-group level. Whilst remaining committed to safeguarding children and young people in Sheffield the transformation to a wider ICB footprint will undoubtedly present increased opportunities for sharing both resources and learning for all stakeholders.



**Alun Windle**  
**Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children (Sheffield)**

## Population

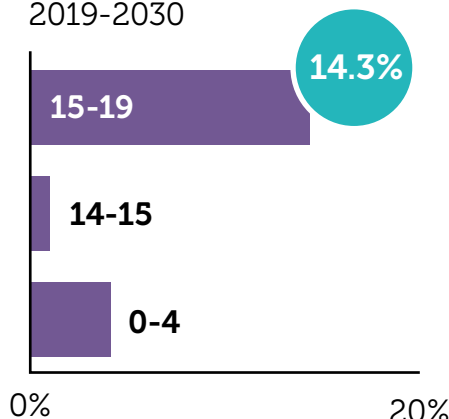


**589,207**

**106,114**  
Children aged  
0-15



### Population Growth 2019-2030



Population growth U19s  
between 2019  
and 2030



## Deprivation

### Approximately



**25%**

Children and young people in Sheffield are in low income families

National average is 19%

## Diversity

Children and young people with English as an additional language

**Primary**  
National 21.3% **23.4%**

**Secondary**  
National 17.1% **18.8%**

The largest minority ethnic group of U18s in Sheffield are Asian

Children and young people from minority ethnic groups (based on school attendance)



**Sheffield**  
**36.7%**



**England**  
**33.1%**

## Education

177 schools in Sheffield

**190**  
Nurseries

**9**  
Mainstream independent\*

**10**  
Special schools

**19**  
Integrated Resource Unit

**133**  
Mainstream primary\*

**27**  
Mainstream secondary\*

**3**  
Independent & non-maintained

**2**  
Colleges

**73,279**

children and young people attend primary, secondary or special schools within the city

**528**

Children registered as being home educated (March 2022)

**2.7%**

4,295 pupils in Sheffield have an Education Health Care Plan or Statement (April 2022)\*

National average is 3.1%

Lone parent families with dependent children 16,760 which is 25.3% of all families with dependent children. England average 24.5% (Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion) May 2022)

Using the **index of multiple deprivation** (IMD) 2019.

The concept of multiple deprivation upon which the IMD 2019 is based is that separate types of deprivation exist, which are separately recognised and measurable. The IMD 2019 therefore consists of seven types, or domains, of deprivation, each of which contains a number of individual measures, or indicators

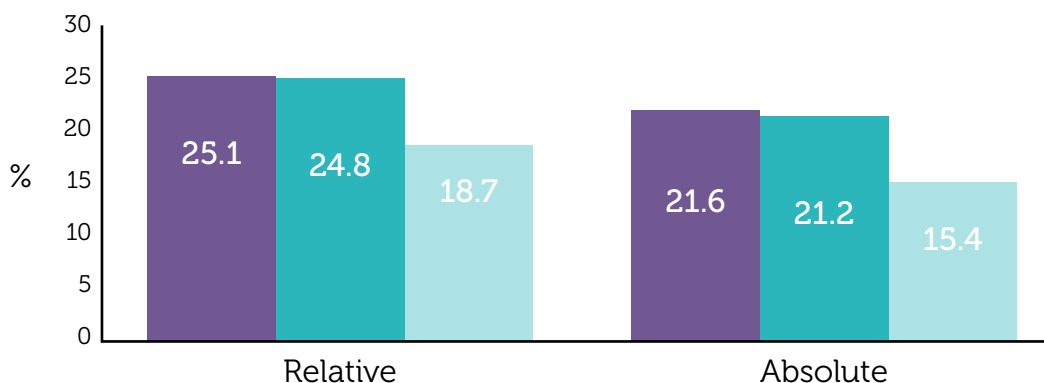
The information boxes below show the number of people in Sheffield living in neighbourhoods ranked among the most deprived 20% of neighbourhoods in England based on IMD 2019 and the seven IMD domains.

Number of people in Sheffield living in the most deprived 20% of the area by Indices of Deprivation (ID) 2019 domain

Index of Multiple Deprivation	Income domain	Employment domain	Education Domain
<b>201,109</b>	<b>196,310</b>	<b>203,019</b>	<b>215,294</b>
34.4% (England average = 20.0%)	33.6% (England average = 20.0%)	34.7% (England average = 19.5%)	36.8% (England average = 19.8%)
Health domain	Barriers to Housing and Services domain	Living Environment domain	Crime domain
<b>213,821</b>	<b>34,267</b>	<b>95,927</b>	<b>206,282</b>
36.8% (England average = 19.6%)	5.9% (England average = 21.4%)	16.4% (England average = 21.0%)	35.3% (England average = 20.4%)

Source: Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (indices of Deprivation 2019)

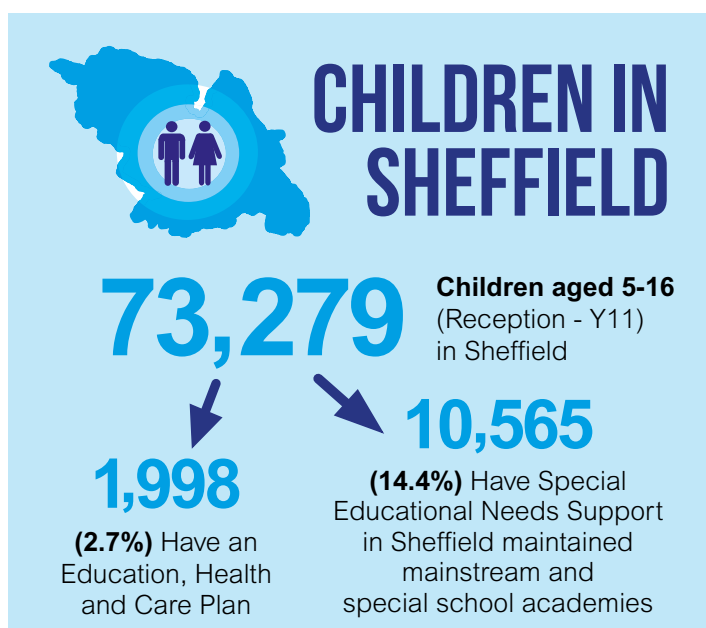
The data below looks at children in low-income families, out of work households and lone parent households. Relative low income is defined as a family in low income Before Housing Costs (BHC) in the reference year. Absolute low income is a family in low income Before Housing Costs (BHC) in the reference year in comparison with incomes in 2010/11. A family must have claimed one or more of Universal Credit, Tax Credits or Housing Benefit at any point in the year to be classed as low income in these statistics. Children are dependent individuals aged under 16; or aged 16 to 19 in full-time non-advanced education.



The information boxes below show the count of people in each of these categories in Sheffield. The bar chart shows the percentage of children in relative and absolute low-income families. Source; Children in low-income families, Department for Work and Pensions (2020)

Children in relative low-income families	Children in absolute low-income families	Employment domain	Education Domain
<b>34,219</b>	<b>29,467</b>	<b>13,812</b>	<b>13,948</b>
25.1% (England average = 18.7%)	21.6% (England average = 15.4%)	40.4% of relative low-income families (England average = 40.2%)	40.8% of relative low-income families (England average = 30.6%)

Source: Children in low-income families, Department for Work and Pensions (2020)



## TRENDS

**Population increase and placement preference** are the biggest drivers for increasing special school places.

Over the past **5 years**, the number of Sheffield children in special school has risen by **25%**. This is in similar to the national average.

Between 2014 and 2018 the population of Sheffield increased by **19,043** (3%).

We are anticipating continued increases in pressure on special school over the next **5 years**, as the population increases.



# PRIMARY SUPPORT REASONS

The **5** most common needs of pupils with special educational needs in Sheffield Schools are:

- Speech, language and communication
- Autism spectrum disorder
- Social, emotional and mental health
- Moderate learning disability
- Specific learning disability

# EDUCATION, HEALTH AND CARE PLANS

**4,295**<sup>\*</sup> Education, Health and Care Plans maintained by Sheffield City Council



## HOW MANY?

Children attend a **private school** in your borough? **1445**

Children attend an **alternative provision**? **211**

Children attend a **specialist SEN school**? **1434**

Children are registered as **Electively Home Educated (EHE)**? **528**

Children are registered as **Missing Education (CME)**? **542**

Data March 2022

Contains public sector information obtained from Sheffield City Council and licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0

The data in this infographic is drawn from the following sources: School Census 2019; SEN2 Survey; Sheffield City Council Short breaks dataset April 2018 - March 2019; Capita ONE; Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group; Office of National Statistics mid-year estimates to 2018.

• The figure for the total of children with EHCP plan in April 2022 is taken from SCC Performance and analysis service.

Please note that where figures look different, it is because the sources focus on different age ranges – for example the School Census is for 5-16 year olds whereas the SEN2 Survey is 0-25.

# Section 1

## CYP's Involvement

CYP have some of the sharpest minds about and have some incredible ideas.

CYP can understand issues affecting them that are different from adults, and they can give an insight in to what it is like to grow up in this current world.

They also sometimes need help and support to express their thoughts, wishes and ideas and given time to get their views across, particularly when they are experiencing difficult situations in relation to abuse and neglect.

It is therefore important that CYP's views are sought and heard to help develop a shared understanding and to tackle key areas identified to make the city a better place to live.

# Our Work with the Children's Involvement Team

## The Children's Involvement Team (CIT)

The CIT sits within the Quality Assurance and Involvement Service (QAIS) in the Children and Families Service, Sheffield City Council. The primary focus of the CIT is to seek children's views and opinions on what matters to them, to ensure that those views are listened to and considered by decision makers and to feed back to the children.



The Children Involvement Team delivers the following services:

- Advocacy support for children aged 5-17 in child protection conferences
- Advocacy support for children cared for by Sheffield local authority and Sheffield care leavers up to age 25
- Advocacy support for disabled children receiving short break support to age 25
- Facilitation of creative voice groups, Little Children in Care Council, Sheffield's Independent Visitor service and the Young People's Reverse Scrutiny Panel and Sheffield Care Leavers union
- Regular research of children's views of the service they receive from Social Care and facilitation of a Young People's Reverse Scrutiny Panel to ensure the voices are acted upon by the Service
- Training and support for workers supporting CYP

## Headlines

During the financial year 2021-2022, the Children's Involvement Team delivered the following:

- 348 children advocated for at their initial child protection conference.
- 61 children advocated for at first review child protection conference.
- 58 looked after children, care leavers and disabled children advocated for.
- 48 children aged 7-24 were involved in little Children in Care Council group activities, Children in care council and Sheffield Care Leavers Union Create and change activities.
- 69 relationships supported between a child in care and an Independent Visitor.
- 8 young people involved in the Young People's Reverse Scrutiny Panel.
- 124 Children and Families Service workers attended direct work training.

## Little Children in Care Council (Little CiCC)

In April 2021, a new group was established for younger children in care, the Little CiCC is aimed at primary aged children. Sessions were based outside in the city's parks due to Covid restrictions and the group met bi-monthly. Activities enjoyed included:

- Creative writing sessions with Sheffield's Writer in Residence, Nik Perring, funded by the Virtual School. Some pieces were entered into the Coram Voice national writing competition under the theme 'What makes life good' where two Little CiCC members took first and second place.
- Children took part in a number of activity days funded and facilitated by Endeavor, including a bushcraft and survival skills day in Hesley Woods and a walk and picnic at the Longshaw Estate.

- Six members of CiCC and Sheffield Care Leavers Union SCLU have supported the Little CiCC sessions over the year. They have also used these opportunities to gather the voices of younger children looked after to feed into their own work. They have facilitated a consultation on family time and led a craft activity to capture the Little CiCC members' hopes and aspirations for the future.

"I didn't really want to be in the meeting, so it helped to have someone say things for me. It was good to have someone to say what I wanted to say"

"At first I wasn't sure of (the advocate's) role or how they could support me. They listened to me and allowed me to explain things. They understood me and was good to talk to"

"I needed an advocate because not a lot of people listen to me. [My advocate] is nice, I like being with them, they help me a lot"



## Children in Care Council (CiCC) and Sheffield Care Leavers' Union (SCLU)

The CiCC are a group of energetic and enthusiastic 12–18-year-olds who usually meet every fortnight to work on projects to improve the care experiences of children in the care of Sheffield local authority. Activities enjoyed by CiCC included:

- Spoken word sessions with Sheffield rap artist, Dom Heslop, to speak out about their care experience. These sessions were funded by the Virtual School as part of their creative curriculum offer.
- CiCC and SCLU attended an outdoor activity day where they took part in a canoeing session.
- Older members of CiCC supported some of the Little CiCC sessions.
- The Assembly Squad's animation was completed and was launched by the Virtual School to all Designated Teachers. An accompanying training resource was also produced to help staff and pupils learn what it is like to be a child in care and give them tips on how improved children in care's experiences in schools.



## Sheffield Care Leavers' Union (SCLU)

SCLU membership has increased throughout the year, gaining a number of new members. 23 care leavers have been involved in SCLU activities this year which have included:

- Writing sessions with facilitators from the Hive Young Writers' Project and a Sheffield rap artist to compose pieces based on their care experiences
- Designing a new training package to be delivered to Personal Advisors (PAs) based on the Reality Cheque Challenge to open discussion on how to support care leavers in areas such as finance, accommodation, safety and aspirations. The training will be delivered to PAs on a rolling programme.
- Sheffield Care Leavers Union big news:!! Dream Big – Never Look Back
- SCLU was delighted to have been successful in an **Arts Council Bid** as partners with **The Leadmill and Sheffield Music Hub** for some of our Care Leaver Musicians to work with a composer to put their Rap and Musical pieces to a full orchestra. Seven Members of SCLU were involved in this project: meeting with the composer and Dom Heslop the 1Devotion.
- They went on to perform at The Crucible and The Leadmill in the Spring of 2021. Dom was reviewed by SCLU "on stage being the most awesome MC ever."

"Being part of the build up to Dream Big and the night itself has been totally life changing for me. I feel like I could really take my music somewhere" (Young Person)

"I have never seen anything like this before in Sheffield. It made us stop and look at some of the young people we work with a totally different way" (Sheffield Virtual School)

"These young people have spoken their truth and shown us their talent tonight. We now as a city need to listen. What are we as adults going to go and do differently because of tonight?" (Kate Josephs, CEX Sheffield City Council, addressing the room at Dream Big.)

## Fridge Plans

SCLU designed and developed the Fridge Plan. This initially started as an idea for just for Pathways Plans but during the year the idea was developed for all children's plans. Practitioners will complete the normal plans on Liquid Logic but also complete a stand-alone Fridge Plan including information for that specific child, making sure they use plain child-friendly language. There are two versions of the plan, one with just words and tick boxes which show progress, and another which includes a space for pictures and drawing for younger children. Practitioners can either complete the Fridge Plan in the office and then take it out on visits and talk to their young people about what is happening, or they can print a blank copy and complete it with young person.

Between March 2021 and August 2021, the Fridge Plan was piloted within the Leaving Care Service, Early Help and East Fieldwork. In this time over 50 Fridge Plans were completed with young people. The feedback has been positive, and workers said the Fridge Plan has:

- Helped young people see how things are moving
- Helped parents understand the plan, as the Fridge Plan is simple and easy to understand.
- Helped them, as workers to focus and break down complex cases
- Helped to focus visits with young people and parents

In November 2021, the Fridge Plan was rolled out across all service areas in Sheffield, including Children Looked After, Care Leaving Service and Social Care. This means that that all young people open to Early Help and Social Care can benefit from it.

# Fridge Plan

## My Fridge PLAN

My name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 This was done on: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date we will do a new one to: \_\_\_\_\_


**What we will do...**




## My Fridge PLAN

My name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 This was done on: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date we will do a new one to: \_\_\_\_\_

Where I live	When	Done?
○ ● ● ●		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
● ○ ○ ○		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
● ○ ○ ○		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>



# Section 2

## The Sheffield Safeguarding Children Partnership

From July 2019 the Sheffield Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) became the Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership (SCSP):

The SCSP is the key statutory mechanism that brings together representatives of each of the main agencies and professionals responsible for promoting the welfare and safety of CYP in Sheffield. It is a multi-agency forum for agreeing how the different services should cooperate to safeguard children and for making sure arrangements work effectively to promote better outcomes for children.

The SCSP provides the strategic and operational direction of safeguarding and continuous monitoring of performance in Sheffield. The Partnership produces the Annual Business Plan and the Annual Report. This annual report provides a transparent assessment on the effectiveness of safeguarding and the promotion of child welfare in Sheffield.

### **Our Vision**

Every child and young person in Sheffield should be able to grow up free from the fear of abuse or neglect.

We are committed to improving the safety of all CYP in Sheffield. If children are not safe, they cannot be healthy, happy, achieve or reach their full potential. We recognise and promote the concept that keeping children safe is everybody's responsibility.

# The Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership

## Key Roles and Relationships

### The Independent Chair

Our Independent Chair was David Ashcroft until his retirement in November 2021. Lesley Smith was appointed 5 months later in April 2021. David was supported in his role by a Senior Professional Advisor and a dedicated team of Partnership Officers. The Chair is tasked with ensuring the Partnership fulfils its statutory objectives and functions. Key to this is the facilitation of a working culture of transparency, challenge, and improvement across all partners with regards to their safeguarding arrangements.

### Lead Partner agencies

Senior Officers from SCC, SYP and Sheffield CCG form the Strategic Group with the objective of setting the strategic priorities, agreeing funding and resources and driving forward the work of the Partnership, whilst ensuring that the vision and values are upheld. 2020-2021 saw continuity of our three senior officers. They advised and supported the Executive Partnership Group to develop, implement and monitor an annual plan based on the priority actions agreed against the core business. This group have been responsible and accountable for ensuring effective scrutiny arrangements are in place across the Partnership.

### Partner agencies

All partner agencies in the city are committed to ensuring the effective operation of the SCSP. Members of the Executive Partnership Group hold a strategic role within their organisation and can speak with authority, commit to matters of policy, and hold their organisation to account.

### Safeguarding leads/designated professionals

The safeguarding leads and designated professionals contribute by dint of their knowledge and expertise in their own fields to city wide scrutiny, to practice reviews and development ongoing across the subgroups of the SCSP.

### Relationship with other Boards and Partnerships

There is an expectation that Local Safeguarding Partnerships are highly influential in strategic arrangements that directly influence and improve performance in the care and protection of children and that this is achieved through strong arrangements with key strategic bodies across the partnership.

During 2021/22, engagement continued with:

- Sheffield Adults Safeguarding Partnership (SASP)
- Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership
- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Sheffield Drug and Alcohol Strategic Board
- Youth Justice Partnership Board
- Sheffield Community Safety Partnership

The connection between the Children's and Adults' Safeguarding Partnerships is strengthened by having the same Independent Chair and the same Safeguarding Partnership Manager. The Partnership Manager role was vacated by the resignation of the post holder just as the reporting year ended. At the time of going to print the post is covered by a temporary manager and future arrangements rely on the outcome of the review underway to determine whether the breadth of responsibilities held requires one or more full time equivalent posts.

The Professional Adviser to the SCSP also maintains a key partnership role by membership of the Vulnerable Young Peoples Executive Board, The Youth Justice Partnership, the SSH Partnership Board, the South Yorkshire Teaching Partnership Strategic Board, the Children's Health and Wellbeing Board and the Hidden Harm Implementation Group. A lead member of the Community Safety Partnership and the Director of Public Health are members of the Executive Board. All of this enables clear communication and a good flow of information. The post holder changed in November 2021 and currently the responsibilities outlined are added to other statutory responsibilities held by the Assistant Director of the Quality Assurance and Involvement service.

### **Lay Members**

The SCSP encourages independent oversight, and this is enhanced by the inclusion of a Lay Member on the Executive Board. The Lay Member provides a valuable contribution by being an active participant providing challenge and an objective viewpoint.

### **Partnership Performance**

The Partnership monitors progress against its objectives and ensures self-challenge against its responsibilities through a variety of methods:

- The Business Plan, which indicates that all tasks were completed or proceeding on time
- Quarterly monitoring of progress against section 11 compliance, Serious Case Reviews which were replaced by Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews, Learning Lesson Review action plans and external inspection reports.
- The quarterly data suite, which provides information on partner compliance with safeguarding requirements, the continued re-balancing of the children's safeguarding system and assurance on the quality of multi-agency interventions with CYP.
- Oversight of work plans and action plans for the partnership sub-groups to ensure progress is being made.

### **Transition from pandemic to endemic**

Covid 19 has continued to impact on how agencies in Sheffield work. Most front-line services adopted a RAG rating in March 2020 to try to manage expectations for Sheffield children during the pandemic. Demand for services in 2021/2022 fluctuated with all agencies struggling to keep ahead of demand. Schools kept their doors open for vulnerable pupils and pupils of key workers. Schools have worked long and hard to deliver learning into the home with significant variation in engagement. The longer-term impact of the pandemic for children across the city across all ages and all back grounds will be the focus of research for decades to come. Safeguarding has been delivered in the most challenging of situations with heightened concern for vulnerable children out of sight. Children on a Child Protection (CP) plan remained a priority to be visited and this group remained on a CP plan for longer until there was evidence that the CP plan was not needed. From September 2021, upon the re-opening of schools, referrals to SSH rose as expected coinciding with SYP referrals increasing incrementally throughout the reporting year.

As services emerged from lockdowns Sheffield City Council undertook a workforce survey in the Summer of 2021 to agree working arrangements for office-based staff. Remote digital working remains popular. Staff voted to work a hybrid model of working with 60/40 spent between home and office. The Executive Group and other SCSP Sub-groups remained online throughout 2021-2022. As highlighted in the Chair's foreword there are significant levels of concern for some groups of children going forward.

The SCSP maintained its safeguarding priority areas of contextual safeguarding also known as **Harm outside the home, neglect and mental and emotional wellbeing** considering ongoing evidence that these remained our key issues. At the time of going to press SCSP Executive Board plans a development day to look at its strategy ambition and identified priorities which will shape the future business plan. The LPIG Workplan, Workforce Development Strategy and Plan, the Hidden Harm Strategy and Plan and the Developments of Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) and Licencing throughout this period will be pertinent to the development of a new plan.

## Workforce Development and Training

The Workforce Development Strategy 2021-25 was agreed by the SCSP Executive and the Learning and Practice Improvement Group. The first priority of the strategy is that all agencies are pro-active and accountable in addressing discrimination and inequity. In 2021/22 all taught courses featured aspects designed to support knowledge and skill building in relation to inclusive and culturally competent practice.

Training contacts totalled 9283 including attendance at FASD conference, workshops, taught courses and completed e-learning programmes. In comparison with last year, it is a similar number but comprises significantly fewer e-learning programmes owing to greater availability of alternatives.

A further 1715 people across the Yorkshire and Humber region attended one of a series of workshops on the topic of Domestic Abuse organised by the Yorkshire and Humber Safeguarding Trainers and hosted in Sheffield.

Throughout 2021/22 there was a substantial and varied programme of workshops including regular staples such as Trauma Informed Practice (run by SCSP Vulnerabilities Manager), Professional Curiosity (delivered by SCSP and Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership), a variety of domestic abuse training from IDAS and the Strengthening Families Team, and Signs of Safety briefings. Other workshops delivered by partner agencies are targeted to meet learning needs as identified in the Workforce Development Strategy, including the introduction of Recognising and Responding to Harmful Sexual Behaviour to support use of the Hackett Continuum which has replaced the Brook Traffic Light Tool as the recommended screening tool in Sheffield.

Amongst the longer courses offered there is a renewed version of the 1 day Working Together to Safeguarding Children which ran throughout this period, delivered by members of the SCSP training pool. The refreshed Conference and Core Group training started in January 2022 delivered by a member of SCSP training pool and a Child Protection Conference co-ordinator and both received positive reviews.

All current courses and workshops offered by SCSP can be found here <https://www.safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org/scsp/training/scsp-multi-agency-safeguarding-children-training-1>

Since Sept 2021 all participants at workshops, conferences and taught courses have been asked to provide feedback with four key measures.

1. The extent to which the training event has increased their understanding of the topic (5- point scale from 'not at all' to 'greatly increased')

2. Whether they would recommend the training to colleagues (yes/no)
3. The key message(s) they take from the training (free text)
4. What difference the training will make to their practice (free text)

The feedback is reviewed after every workshop and training session to ensure that the training is meeting the needs of the participants, that the key messages have been understood and that the training has inspired intention to improve individual and/or service practice and adjustments are made if required. The overall picture is that attendees place value in the training offer and larger-scale analysis will be undertaken so that the impact captured from feedback can be published on the SCSP website. In the future we plan to follow up with training participants at a later point to find out the extent to which practice change has been delivered.

### **Voice of the child, young person, and family**

Various workshops offered by partner agencies include and promote young people's voices. This was especially in evidence in the workshops delivered by the Carers' Centre and Sheffield Young Carers that was co-delivered by a young carer.

The FASD conference and the Yorkshire and Humber workshops were strong in delivering the voice of people with lived experience of the topics being presented.

### **Covid-19 Pandemic**

Multi-agency training remained fully online for the year April 2021-April 2022. This is an efficient use of resources and maximises the number of people who can attend, particularly for the shorter workshops where the avoidance of travel time and cost make them significantly more accessible.

Feedback particularly on longer courses often includes those who express a preference for returning to face-to-face training and there may be others who do not access the training at all owing to this preference. For this reason, a limited number of full day courses at a venue will be offered from 2023, attendance at which will be kept under review.

### **What is planned for the year ahead?**

The rollout of the NSPCC Graded Care Profile 2 training started in May 2022 with the aim of training all frontline practitioners and their managers to effectively recognise, assess and intervene with families where there are concerns about the level of care that the child/ren receive. This is the principal tool for achieving the aims of Sheffield's Neglect Strategy and represents a major commitment for SCSP and partner agencies.

In addition, we will.

- Continue to deliver a variety of training and work with partner agencies to meet the aims set out in the Workforce Development Strategy.
- Support a conference in July 2022 about Recognising and Responding to Criminal Exploitation in Sheffield.
- Work with Safeguarding Partners in South Yorkshire to deliver a November 2022 conference on the theme of 'The Myth of Invisible Men'.
- Work with Sheffield College to develop better consultation with young people.
- Publish the analysis of training feedback on the SCSP website.

## Hidden Harm

In households where a parent, carer or other family member has mental ill health, misuses drugs and or alcohol, there is domestic abuse, parental conflict or harmful gambling, adult and children services must work collaboratively to ensure that the voice of the child/vulnerable adult is heard, and their circumstances safeguarded. The main objectives of the Hidden Harm Strategy for 2021 - 2022 were to develop our work and understanding of FASD, embed being Trauma Informed into everyday practice and through training, briefings, joint case reviews, and supervision continue to promote shared discussion and understanding leading to joint planning between adult and children services to safeguard children and support parents.

Audits have continued which are reviewed **Multi-agency Audit Group**. We now have a rotating chair across the 3 lead partners and a multitude of agencies and services attend. Professional reflection and learning are key themes cited in feedback. Action for the family and action for partners are shared widely and tracked by The Audit and Performance Officer ongoing. An annual MAAG Learning Brief is produced and published summarising the key learning points and resulting developments. In addition, Joint Case Reviews involving adult mental health and substance misuse services with children's services have revisited earlier reviews to check on progress and manage drift and delay where evident.

**FASD (Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder)** is a neurological condition that affects people throughout their life. Evidence suggests that without the correct diagnosis and support an individual with FASD is more likely to have a range of issues including poor mental health, substance misuse problems, involvement with criminal justice, homelessness and difficulties with social relationships, education, and employment.



In September 2021, Sheffield Children's Safeguarding Partnership hosted a national FASD conference which introduced us to organisations that work throughout the country and are fundamental both to improving recognition and support for children and adults with FASD and promoting the message that when it comes to drinking alcohol for those who are pregnant or planning to become pregnant there is no safe time and no safe amount. Sheffield has adopted the award winning Drymester campaign from Greater Manchester, with posters, leaflets and pop-up banners being displayed across Sheffield from Jessops maternity hospital to the backs of loo doors in pubs and clubs and everywhere in between to raise public awareness and help to prevent alcohol-exposed pregnancies. **FASD is 100% preventable. No alcohol No risk. Spread the word**



## What We Will Do Next

- Build on the work already undertaken in Sheffield in relation to FASD. Joining up thinking and working to operationalise the recommendations from NICE Quality Standards for FASD.
- Hold a Parental Mental Health Workshop for adult and children services to consider the connections between the findings from the 9 multi-agency case reviews: Being Trauma Informed - consideration given to the impact on family life of intergenerational trauma; Being Inclusive - ensuring that people with neurodevelopmental diversity are included and enabled to participate by better use of language and systems; Whole Family Approach – ensuring the voice of the children and invisible fathers are heard by all services; Communication / discussion and shared planning between adult and children services to help develop Family Safety Plans.

## Safeguarding and Licensing

Our core work with the business community has fully resumed, post-pandemic and we have provided advice and safeguarding guidance to licensed operators and event organisers, via the Council's Safety Advisory Group multi-disciplinary meetings. The reopening of leisure, entertainment and sports venues has increased the number of safeguarding complaints and concerns about practice standards, and we challenge the business community, as it restarts, to prioritise safeguarding.

We have improved and developed our practice by:

- Producing practical and accessible forms of training (short videos/bespoke content)
- Expanding communication with the wider community in response to a serious case review
- Raising awareness about criminal exploitation
- Contributed to the development of transition arrangements, including safeguarding adults in the business community
- Supporting colleagues in regulatory services to develop their safeguarding practice

This year we have again received requests from regional and national authorities to share our training materials, skills, and learning. We have maintained partnership work at a national level, working with the National Working Group to deliver the 'Safe to Play' campaign and to develop the 'Say Something If You See Something' campaign; we continue to share our learning and practice via the National Association of Licensing Enforcement Officers and the UK Advisory and Implementation Panel for Contextual Safeguarding. We also continue to work with regional and national organisations to develop a local strategy, to address the impact of harmful gambling.

To measure the impact of our work, we are monitoring changes in safeguarding practice made by the business community using multi agency action plans which set out clear targets for improved practice and timescales. We use the information gathered via training evaluations to inform practice and we consult with partners and colleagues and listen to their feedback. For example, one colleague working in regulatory services said that while visiting a licensed premises, he was mindful of the disruption and impact that the enforcement visit could have on the children living at the premises and that he adapted his approach because of this awareness. Another enforcement colleague commented in evaluations that they will be "... more aware of what safeguarding is in practice and how to report it."

## What We Will Do Next

- Identify ways to measure the impact of the advice, guidance and training we deliver to licensed traders
- Contribute to the development of a harmful gambling strategy
- Develop communication pathways with the business and wider community

**Safeguarding Awareness Week** in November 2021 was a hybrid series of events delivered by SCSP with support from 20 partners across Sheffield. Our determination to have a presence at the Moor open market was challenged by all weathers but some sunshine was welcome. At the time of publication our plans for November 2022 Safeguarding Awareness week are well underway. Further details will be available on the SCSP website.

## Funding Arrangements

### Sheffield Safeguarding Children Partnership

Partners of the SCSP have continued to demonstrate their commitment to safeguarding by providing the resources required to ensure effective arrangements. The work is well supported by a Partnership Manager and a Business Unit. Current funding arrangements for the business unit are provided by key partners as follows:

Income 2021/22	
Contributors	
Sheffield City Council*	£294,800
Health: Sheffield CCG	£115,800
SY Police: PPC	£80,109
National Probation Service	£2,774
<b>Total</b>	<b>£493,483</b>

# Section 3

## How We Learn from What We Do

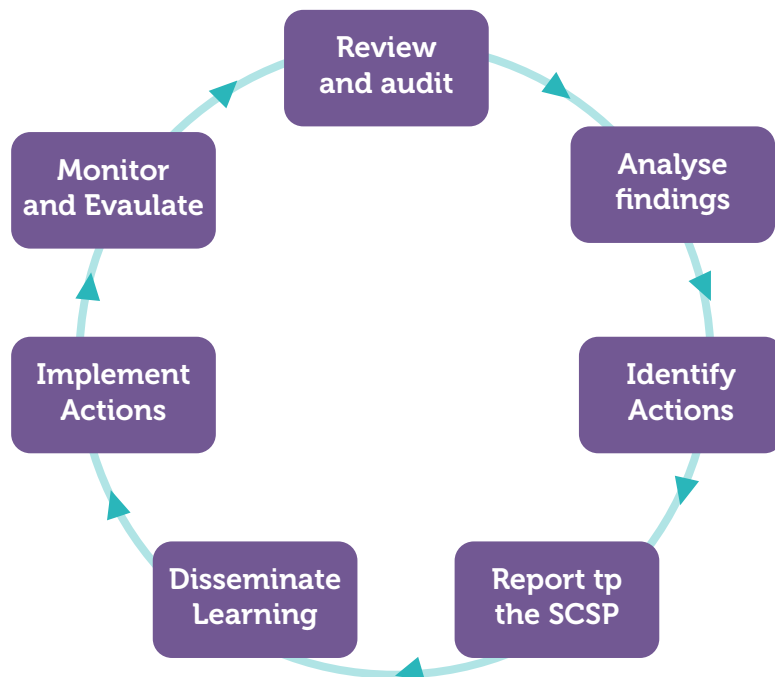


The SCSP undertakes a variety of activities to monitor the effectiveness and quality of safeguarding arrangements within Sheffield.

# How We Learn from What We Do

## Quality Assurance, Learning and Improvement Framework

Sheffield's Quality Assurance, Learning and Improvement Framework outlines how we learn through practice, assurance activity, performance management and case reviews. The Partnership is committed to recognising, reflecting, and learning from good practice and seeks to continually assess effectiveness, understand impact, inform professionals of the learning, and drive forward improvements.



### The SCSP Audit Programme

Multi-Agency Audit Group (MAAG)

- Every 2 months between October and July
- Alternately chaired by the LA, SYP, South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board.
- 1 family discussed chosen at random

### Thematic Case Reviews

- Conducted each quarter following certain theme
- Methodology changes depending on the audit
- Themes come from Child Safeguarding Practice reviews, training, Learning and Practice Improvement Group (LPIG), the Executive Partnership Group

### Learning from Audits into Practice



## Report and Learning Brief

A full report is shared with participants and a learning brief is published on the SCSP website

## Single Agency Action Plans

Recommendations are transcribed into single agency actions, which steer improvements in process and practice.

## Multi-Agency Training

Key learning points are incorporated in the SCSP Workforce Development Strategy and vice versa.

## Emerging Themes Tracker

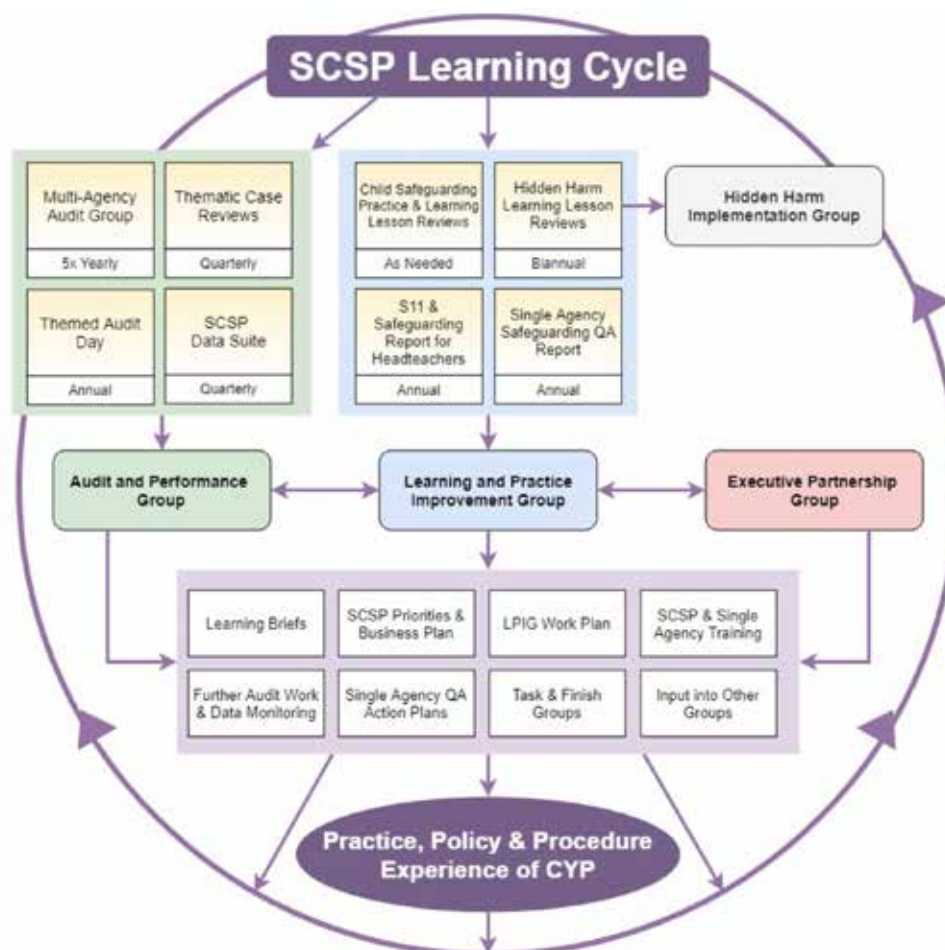
Emerging themes from the different audit work supports key issues being identified for further work, training, monitoring.

## Oversight and Scrutiny

The Audit and Performance Group, which is represented by a range of key partners, oversee this work and support the SCSP in cascading the learning from audits and data through their organisations.

Having been reviewed by the Audit and Performance Group, reports are distributed to LPIG who support the SCSP in:

- Providing scrutiny and challenge
- Deciding further Key Lines of Enquiry
- Agreeing actions and assigning task and finish groups if appropriate
- Ensuring circulation pathways for learning and actions



## Multi-Agency Data Suite

The Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership (SCSP) must ensure there is a robust, effective and comprehensive system for using data and intelligence to assess the effectiveness of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of CYP (CYP) (Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018). This duty is greater than the monitoring of key performance indicators: it embraces all activities that are designed to support the effective delivery of services. Robust performance management is at the heart of continuously improving the delivery of high-quality services.

The Data Suite has developed the Partnership's understanding of safeguarding performance across the city and provided evidence of the impact of the Boards work.

- Neglect
- Child Exploitation
- Thresholds, Referrals and Involvements
- Transitions
- Hidden Harm (Substance misuse, alcohol misuse, domestic abuse and mental health)

Data will continue to be collected and reviewed on a quarterly basis and findings presented to the Learning Practice and Improvement Group and Executive Board for scrutiny.

### Key points overall

During 2021-2022 there were between 782 and 701 children with a CP plan. This reduction to 701 at the year-end is skewed by a new approach to threshold discussed later in this report. It remains a significant worry that throughout the year one in four of children on a CP plan has been on a CPP plan before.

- The number of Child in Need Plans, which peaked during the pandemic has levelled off during the reporting year with between 4223 and 4547.
- Referrals to the Safeguarding Hub from education providers increased every quarter when schools were fully open. In the final quarter of the reporting year there were 424 referrals.
- Referrals to the Safeguarding Hub from the Police fluctuated with a high of 618 in one quarter followed by 451 in the final quarter. The impact of officers having access to bespoke training on neglect is interpreted as one of several factors explaining the rise in referrals.

## Section 11 and Single Agency Challenge Meetings

Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 places duties on a range of organisations and individuals to ensure that when they go about their day-to-day business they do so in a way that takes account of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This also applies when these agencies contract services out to others. The SCSP has a responsibility to ensure that partner agencies are meeting all the requirements of Section 11. This outlines the systems and processes that need to be in place to ensure effective safeguarding services.

In September 2021 statutory partners were asked to undertake a self-assessment online and to provide evidence of work in hand. Information submitted was channelled into a series of meetings chaired by the new Independent Chair Lesley Smith and the three Executive partners. Each partner nominated senior leaders to attend with Service Manager level or above leaders engaging from 12 agencies. Unfortunately, the resignation of the Independent Chair and the lack of any Chair for 5 months stalled progress until the accountability meetings went ahead in May 2022. Following the Accountability meetings each partner was re-contacted by the Chair to launch a series of action plans which are monitored by the Audit and Performance Officers.

## **Headlines from the Accountability Meetings**

The challenge of meeting increased demand for service whilst managing staff sickness linked to Covid throughout the year

The challenge of recruitment and retention of experienced and qualified staff to NHS, SCC, SYP and Probation posts

The challenge of recruitment to shift work on lower grade posts following the Covid pandemic across all services reliant on shift workers.

## **Themes from the Accountability Meetings**

### **Thresholds**

CSC is steering work on a review of thresholds for access to service from the Sheffield Safeguarding Hub (SSH). CSC welcomes every referrer being clearer on the remit of SSH.

Donna Taylor Assistant Director at Quality Assurance and Involvement Services is leading on a multi-agency workstream to review the “Threshold of need framework” which involves all statutory partners and is due to report later in 2022.

### **The Importance of Recognising Themes, Including Themes Arising from Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs), Serious Incidents and Child Deaths**

At any one-time SASP and SCSP is involved with in Sheffield’s response to the above. At the time of the accountability meetings (May 2022) SCSP had action plans for 4 children and 1 young person who have died , and action plans dating from 2018 – present .

The Child Death Overview panel chaired by Greg Fell (Director of Public Health) has oversight of cases referenced in this report . In addition, one domestic homicide review was published in February 2022.

### **Utilising Feedback, Service User Engagement and Hearing the Voice**

There were various ways in which partners gathered feedback. A primary medium was through groups which brought individuals together and provided opportunity for people receiving a service to give their view, for example, Youth Forum at Sheffield Children’s Hospital (SCH), Service User Led Group at Sheffield Health and Social Care (SHSC) and the Youth Council at Targeted Youth Services. Other methods included the recruitment of a Human Rights Officer in SHSC to help recognise how SHSC can support people to speak to their own rights, look at thematic issues and at how SHSC can co-produce what some of the solutions may be.

### **Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews**

Working Together 2018 identifies that where there is a “serious child safeguarding case” then partners must decide to identify, commission and oversee arrangements for a rapid review process. This may lead to a Child Safeguarding Practice Review being commissioned. The aim is to improve practice by learning from what has happened across agencies and by involving staff and families in the process.

3 Rapid Reviews were completed in 2021/22, the National Panel agreed that 2 did not meet the criteria for a Child Safeguarding Practise Review. The 3rd was carried out jointly with East Riding and the National Panel suggested it did not meet the criteria, a local review was carried out by East Riding with a focus on practice prior to the young person’s move to Sheffield. Sheffield Services were involved in a further Rapid Review carried out by East Riding Safeguarding Children’s Partnership which also did not meet the criteria for a Child Safeguarding Practice

Review.

2 NHS England serious incident reviews into the children harmed will pick up learning for the agency involved.

Work has continued the 11 recommendations made on the Family G Serious Case Review (2020) as well as on outstanding actions from previous reviews. Below is some of the work carried out on embedding these across partner agencies.

The Hackett Continuum Model tool used for recognising Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) has been made available on the SCSP website and new guidance has been written. Training on HSB to support the use of the tool has started. There is more work to be done to ensure children receive appropriate and timely support and the results of a review into how services need to change needs to progress. There is now some urgency to resolving outstanding actions particularly in how the wider workforce respond to (HSB)

- Planning is on track to deliver an annual conference in November 2022 that focuses on the Myth of invisible men following issues within a number of cases reviewed as well as the publication of the Child Safeguarding Review Panel, The Myth of Invisible Men 2021.
- Training on Professional Curiosity is now delivered every term and a short video produced to increase the number of practitioners able to reflect on and improve their practise.
- The Section 11 audit in 2021/22 was used to gain assurance from all partners on a range of issues where the Partnership were required to assure themselves of changes in process and practice. Any gaps are being followed up with individual agencies.
- The work to raise awareness of childhood trauma and ongoing impact on parenting has continued with popular monthly briefings. Planning for encouraging trauma informed leadership and trauma informed organisations is underway as part of a Compassionate City Strategy.
- Training in Contextual Safeguarding continues to be delivered and is now incorporated into training being delivered to the business community including taxi drivers and Hotel Operators. This ensures the responsibility for keeping people safe is shared with the wider workforce in Sheffield.

Following the death of Archie by stabbing in May 2018 Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership (SCSP) published the Archie Serious Case Review, in February 2020. Work has progressed to implement all but one of 19 recommendations. Sheffield has strengthened how we respond to harm outside the home with the Sexual Exploitation Service called the Amber Service bringing together multi-agency specialist partners into one service. Awareness training was carried out virtually via the SCSP to ensure as wide an audience as possible understand the issues and are aware of the referral pathway. Through the multi-agency Vulnerable Young People's Executive Board, the SCSP is assured of the ongoing commitment to maintain and build on the multi-agency response to addressing all child exploitation and reducing youth violence in Sheffield. A Contextual Safeguarding Strategy was approved by Cabinet in 2020 with a steering group overseeing its progress. Sheffield is almost ready to deliver on the outstanding recommendation; namely a new child protection conference process that works to address the risk of harm from outside the home.

A number of recommendations related to how schools operate. In response to this work has been carried out with schools where children arriving from outside the UK now receive support from the Children Missing Education team, if known to the team, including an assessment of need where additional need is identified and tools provided to schools to carry out a baseline assessment for new children. Guidance has been provided to all agencies on where reports of children not in school need to be directed.

Elective Home Education (EHE) was a factor in this review and contact with all families known to the EHE was made to check that the decision to home educate was an informed one and that the child is receiving a balanced education. **Page 138** The Children's and Inclusion service offers an update later



in this report on the current service.

Children Missing from Education are a separate group who are also a cause of concern. Overall Sheffield in line with other areas is trying to get a clearer picture of those children out of sight and sound and unknown to any provider. The Office of the Children's Commissioner has published a report (June 2022) which includes Sheffield which emphasises the cost to children if lacking access to learning in or out of school. SCSP supported the research with data and evidence of our local work in hand to support re-engagement in school and in learning.

## **Multi-Agency Audits**

### **Multi-Agency Audit Group (MAAG)**

#### **Main Achievements**

The audit is focused on the child's journey and highlights areas of good practice, areas for development and those that require improvement. It has a clear focus on impact and outcomes and promotes a culture of continuous learning and improvement. The audit group meets bi-monthly and is made up of safeguarding leads and service managers in key partner organisations. A case is selected randomly and each agency self-audits the case using the audit tool. The group's activity and findings feed into the SCSP Audit and Performance Group and are reported to the Executive Partnership Group through the Learning and Practice Improvement Group.

There were five MAAG meetings in 2021-2022 which highlighted evidence of good practice, including:

- Evidence of universal services e.g., schools pastoral care providing excellent levels of support
- Hidden Harm Factors getting more focus from practitioners.
- Evidence of communication with Dads living in and out of the home improving overall.
- Evidence of third sector organisations making a significant impact for the child whilst statutory partners often unaware of their involvement.

#### **Areas for development included:**

- Thoroughness in checking if other services are actually seeing the child and family rather than closing the case based on unchecked information.
- Taking the time to develop trust and addressing barriers to engagement.
- Realistic timescales for making changes in balance with a sharp eye on the child's timeframe.
- Consider the impact of delay in making a service available to a child.
- Avoidant parents need a coherent joined up response from agencies who in turn need to be in frequent contact.
- Undertaking a chronology at the outset to become routine. Important to learn from the history rather than remain uninformed.

#### **Impact of Achievements**

Following the MAAGs children's cases have been seen in a new light with renewed momentum to address identified gaps in service delivery across services.

#### **What We Will Do Next**

- Learning will continue to be used and embedded across partnership agencies, further audit work and training.

## Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

Local Safeguarding Children Partnerships must decide to review all deaths of children up to their 18th birthday, normally resident in the local area; and if they consider it appropriate the deaths in that area of non-resident children (Working Together 2018). This stage of the review is known as Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP). There is a responsibility for the collection and analysis of information about each death, developing a better understanding of how and why children die with the intention of improving the health and safety of children, and preventing future child deaths. All staff in all agencies have a responsibility to support and engage bereaved parents and carers after their child's death.

### Main Achievements

This year Sheffield CDOP met on 5 occasions, reviewing 29 deaths. A further panel meeting was planned but was cancelled due to a lack of cases available for discussion. With operational demands of COVID and restrictions in place we have remained working virtually with good attendance achieved by all agencies.

There were 49 deaths recorded during this period which is significantly higher than the previous year (24) but broadly in keeping with the average of 44 in the years 2008-2019.

Once again, most of the deaths occurred in those under 1 year (43% 0-27 days, 27% 28-364 days) which is slightly higher than national figures.

Chromosomal, genetic and congenital abnormalities and Perinatal/neonatal events remain the most common categories of death in those reviewed 2021/22 (63%).

79% of deaths reviewed during 2021/22 were within 12 months of death, 48% between 6-12 months and 31% in less than 6 months. This is an improvement on last year (60%). It should also be noted that of those reviewed over 12 months many had been delayed due to external issues such as inquests or other reviews being undertaken. Despite the CDOP Chair (Director of Public Health) being unavailable for the review period and Vice Chair retiring, we successfully managed to continue with meetings at the required frequency with the Safeguarding Partnership funding an Independent Chair on an interim basis and the Designated Doctor Child Deaths stepping up to Chair on occasion.

The median number of days between death and CDOP meeting is 335 nationally – the figure for Sheffield is 226.

The reviews consider modifiable factors, which are defined as actions that could be taken through national or local interventions, which could reduce the risk of future child deaths. Modifiable factors were assessed to be present in 17% of cases which is below the average for England (37%) and lower than previous years. This may be explained due to a delay with Inquests and other review processes, meaning fewer reviews of more complex cases (where modifiable factors are more prevalent) took place during this period.

The safer sleep steering group re-convened in April 2022 following a pause in meetings due to the pandemic. Bespoke multi-disciplinary safer sleep training is being delivered by the Lullaby Trust to staff working with families across all sectors to uptake knowledge and skills in offering safer sleep advice.

### What impact have these achievements had on the outcomes for children and young people in Sheffield?

CDOP has supported actions taken in 2021/22 to help reduce risk factors and improve how services respond following a child death.

There is now a satisfactory level of data completeness (with the exception of recording of Ethnicity) at notification and reporting stages. It is acknowledged that some providers still struggle with eCDOP and ongoing support and training is required.

We will continue to explore how those families where there are complex care needs can be better supported through co-ordination of care needs with the role of a lead clinician and work with Trusts to develop their understanding of the role of a Key Worker after a child dies.

Alongside other areas in South Yorkshire we are looking to improve the experience and support for bereaved families at the time of death.

Audit of implementation of Child Death Processes within Sheffield Children's Hospital was completed and will feedback during 22-23.

Agreement has been made between the Coroner/SYP/YAS and hospital trusts for life extinct 16–17-year-olds to be taken to SCH mortuary rather than medico-legal centre.

### **Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family**

Working in collaboration with the Designated Doctor Child Deaths there is continued action being taken with Trusts to develop their understanding of the role of a Key Worker after a child dies.

### **What We Will Do Next**

For the upcoming year 2022/23 the hosting arrangements for SYCDOP will be facilitated by Barnsley CDOP in line with the agreed rotation of a local authority area hosting the quarterly meetings and facilitating the shared learning reviews throughout an annual reporting year.

Sheffield will continue with their local Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) processes and the supporting pathways to review deaths of children who have died that are normally resident in their own areas. These reviews will contribute collectively to identifying the key themes for shared learning reviews across South Yorkshire.

A key role in Child Death Review process is the CDOP Manager and this post has been vacant since August 2021. This has had an impact on information gathering for Panel, contributed to delays progressing actions and our ability to participate in thematic reviews in the region and hold an annual development day. Some actions we hoped to achieve last year, in particular a focus on the impact of social deprivation, will be pursued during 2022/23.

### **A key focus for Sheffield throughout 2022/23 will be:**

- To progress the implementation of Multi-agency Safer Sleep Guidance / practice.
- Continued roll-out of ICON across out local area.
- To participate in further thematic reviews with our regional partners.
- Completion of a local Contagion Plan.
- CDOP will consider how we support and influence future strategies to reduce the harm of social deprivation

### **Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)**

Safeguarding Partnerships have responsibility for ensuring that there are effective procedures in place for investigating allegations against people who work with children using the principles outlined in Working Together to Safeguard Children. The LADO role provides advice and guidance to employers and voluntary organisations; consults with the police and children's social

care and other relevant agencies; monitors and chairs the progress of allegation cases to ensure they are managed using a timely, consistent, thorough, and fair process. Manages allegations against staff and volunteers that is a shared, multi-agency responsibility.

## Main Achievements

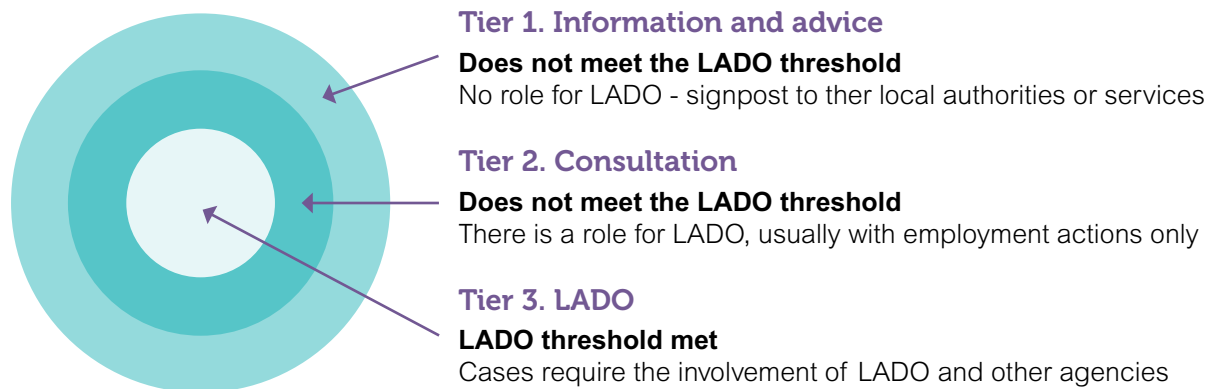
The LADO role has extended to 2 full time LADOs and rota support from 4 LADO deputies to provide a professional and accountable service. The LADO case management model is embedded into practice with a case recording system which provides reportable data for quality assurance. In May 2022 we launched the new referral process via the Sheffield safeguarding hub (SSH) to ensure priority is given to screening in any children at risk. The LADO service have provided briefings and training to SSH, Residential services, fieldwork managers and HR. We have trained Champions for the service areas in Sheffield City Council Children's services.

We are developing specific training for schools, Madrassahs and a package to be included in the SCSP training delivery

We have developed an auditing framework to report on Quality of work.

Since the pandemic access to virtual meeting platforms such as Microsoft Teams has enabled a more flexible service which we intend to continue using.

### LADO case management model



## Our work with the Islamic community

We have valued the work led by a faith leader in particular Muslim communities of Sheffield to engage mosques, madrassahs and faith-based places of learning for children. Approximately 5000 children attend some form of faith education in settings which do not require registration with Ofsted and where recruitment does not automatically require enhanced DBS checks. Working collaboratively to deliver safeguarding training has been ongoing throughout the year. Where safeguarding concerns need reporting to the LADO we have benefitted from our established links which aim to make the LADO referral process accessible.

## Impact of Achievements

Our revised recording system will allow us to quantify the work we do and analyse the information for patterns and gaps. We already know we have an average of 45 requests per month into the service and we are improving on timeliness to respond and conclude LADO case work. We are building information on who refers to the service so we know where gaps are in the children's workforce, and we can then explore with the employer for greater understanding of safeguarding in those sectors. The retention of referrals which raise low level concerns allows for robust safeguarding practice if subsequent referrals are received.

## **Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family**

The voice of the child is key to understanding the impact of harm and it is the LADO's role to promote the inclusion of the voice of the child. The LADO does not accept an 'assumed view of what the child says has happened or how they might feel.' To ensure that the voice of the child is not lost within the allegation meeting process the LADO will look to include a person who can represent the child in the initial LADO meeting. The new forms ensure that the child has been spoken to by the professional most appropriate in the circumstance and their views are gained and recorded. This recording is supported by Signs of Safety.

## **What We Will Do Next**

We are keen to reach out beyond Sheffield city council and build confidence across Sheffield children's workforce in understanding the LADO role and duty of employer to report safeguarding concerns. Building these relationships and support networks are our next steps towards promoting a "safe children" workforce in Sheffield.

## **Supporting SCSP Priorities**

Contextual safeguarding is pivotal to the work that the LADO does in understanding and responding to the child or young person's experience of significant harm beyond their families. The LADO service provides employers with advice and guidance to consider inappropriate behaviour by those who work with children and support the understanding of when inappropriate behaviour presents a risk to children.

# Section 4

## Safeguarding Children in Sheffield

There is a wealth of activity that occurs within the Sheffield area across the Safeguarding Partnership and within communities, which relates to early intervention, prevention, identification, and action in relation to safeguarding children.

The partnership work includes ensuring that there are robust and proportionate responses to child protection concerns that are raised within the city. The Sheffield Safeguarding Hub has developed over the years and continues to make strong progress in relation to screening, recognising, and responding to child protection.

There are a number of wide-reaching projects working across the city, which focus on individuals and communities, which aim to provide greater awareness, advice and guidance in relation to abuse and neglect.

In this section you will gain an overview of some of the key services and support, which directly support children and families.

# Safeguarding Children in Sheffield

## Sheffield Safeguarding Overview 2021-2022

- 1536 Referrals to SSH eligible for Social Work assessment
- 3802 Referrals reached threshold for a strategy meeting
- 710 Children became subject to a Child Protection Plan (CPP) over the year down from 867 previous year.
- 44 Children were subject to a CPP at the end of the year for the second time
- 672 Children were Looked After by the Local Authority at the end of the year
- 37 Children came off a CP plan because they became looked after by SCC.
- 2103 Children subject of a Child in need plan at the end of 2021-2022
- 348 Children were advocated for at their Initial Child Protection Conference
- 61 Children were advocated for at their follow up Review Child Protection Conference
- 166 SYP attended 166 missing strategy meetings to share information and support a joined-up response to find the child.
- 184 Children/young people have been safeguarded through joint proactive work between South Yorkshire Police and the Amber Service and other partners.
- 600 Young people were supported from NEET to EET by Targeted Youth Advisors.
- 836 Young people referred to Community Youth Teams for support, a 50 % increase from last year. The school referrals for 'exclusions – violent/aggressive behaviour' remains the highest category.
- 751 Young people were referred to Door 43 which was an increase from the previous year of 110%
- 86 Children and 80 adults were supported in the refuges by Haven in recognition of the ongoing impact of domestic abuse after fleeing on emotional health
- 41 Children looked after in adoptive families secured an adoption order although some had waited a long time due to court backlogs linked to Covid.
- 31 Children in Sheffield were known to be privately fostered. Of this number 8 children returned home.
- 86 Children in Sheffield were looked after by "connected persons", known to them rather than placed with foster carers.
- 41 Children ceased to be "looked after" as they became subject of Special Guardianship orders
- 55 Children ceased to be "looked after" as they became subject of Child arrangement orders. Taking these two groups of children together they represented 31% of the total population of children looked after.
- 140 Of total of children looked after have remained with same foster carer for 2 years or more
- 54 Young people who were CLA remained living with foster carers post 18, 10 more than the year before.

## Early Help Services

The Ofsted inspection in November 2021 involved in a focussed visit to the Sheffield Safeguarding Hub. With reference to Early Help Services the inspection report stated children are receiving appropriate and effective interventions from the Early Help service. Workers are absolutely committed to the ethos of offering 'the right support at the right time' and demonstrate how their interventions are making a positive difference. Some children have to wait for a short period for a service.

During 2021-2022 Sheffield continued to review its internal Early Help Services, with the following vision and ambition:

### **Vision for the Early Help Review** (intentionally shared with the Inclusion Strategy)

Sheffield will be an inclusive city where we work together to ensure that all children receive the right support at the right time so that they live a happy and fulfilled life.

### **Ambition**

To have a clear pathway into one integrated early help offer that has been co-produced with all stakeholders including children, young people, families, staff, practitioners, and partners

We made significant progress as outlined below:

### **Workforce**

- Developed Early Help Knowledge and Skills Framework that defines the level of knowledge and skills required to provide good quality early help support across the range of grades within the Early Help workforce
- Facilitated an Achieving Change process to align most practitioner Early Help roles with delivering on the Early Help Outcomes Framework and working to the appropriate level of the Early Help Knowledge and Skills Framework
- Developed Early Help Practice Guidance document covering most Early Help practitioner roles.

### **Interventions**

- Developed an Early Help Outcomes Framework with input from the Early Help workforce, parents, partners, children and schools.
- Created an Early Help Interventions Menu to pull together in one document the breadth of the SCC Early Help Offer to support the Integrated Front Door workers to recommend the right service at the right time for children and families needing Early Help Support.
- Reviewed commissioned Early Help services and contract renewals to ensure that delivery against the Early Help Outcomes Framework is included.

### **Impact: How do you know you are having an impact?**

We are developing an Early Help Impact dashboard based on the Early Help Outcomes Framework.

Our government returns for the Building Successful Families Programme met 100% of the target for the reporting year ending 31.3.22.



## **Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family**

Young people have experienced positive changes since having a MAST worker.

They identified a range of ways that their worker has helped them, including:

- Helping with anger
- Help with mood
- Improving family relationships
- Sorting exam arrangements

## **What We Will Do Next**

In Feb 2020, the Lead Member for Children and Families agreed a Review of Early Help. The next phase of the Early Help Review (2022-2023) aims to focus on how Sheffield City Council Early Help services connect and work with other agencies to create a robust multi-agency Early Help offer for children, young people, and families. It will also look to deliver any outstanding activity from Phase 1 that needed more time for successful completion.

## **Children in Need of Help and Protection**

Sheffield received a Standard Ofsted inspection in July 2019 and was found to be good across all areas apart from Help and Protection which was judged to be “requires improvement.” Ofsted returned in November 2021 with a focus on the service to children from the Sheffield Safeguarding Hub (SSH). In the letter from Ofsted (December 2021) it noted “A highly detailed improvement plan, coordinated through a multi-agency improvement board, was shared with inspectors and accurately identifies the strengths and weaknesses of the services. In the main, inspectors’ findings were positive, in that they observed that decision-making and follow-up action are timely and of an appropriate quality, although these are not consistently well recorded”.

What needs to improve in this area of social work practice?

- The pace of implementation of the improvement plan, relevant to the findings of this visit.
- The quality of recording, particularly in respect of concerns when consent has not been given by parents and in relation to the work done with families.
- Sharing of information with other agencies following domestic abuse management meetings.
- Ensuring that the voice of the child is sought, and their views considered in plans.

## **The Impact of COVID-19 on Children in Need of Help and Protection**

Throughout this focused Ofsted visit, inspectors recognised the service described to them by senior managers prior to being on site. This demonstrates a good understanding by managers of the services, which have been under increased pressure during the pandemic, and a realistic understanding of what needs to be done. Services are evidently stretched due to the increased demand and the impact of COVID-19 on Sheffield communities and the multi-agency workforce. Management oversight is evident and, in the main, is resulting in appropriate and timely services that meet the needs of families.

## **Main Achievements**

- The numbers of contacts and referrals received initially reduced when partners reduced their contact with children and families. Since schools re-opened and services resumed contacts, referrals and requests for advice have significantly increased.

- The percentage of referrals progressing to assessment has remained consistent resulting in increased demand on children's social care.
- Access to virtual meetings has helped to ensure that the right professionals have been able to contribute to Strategy Meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Many schools signed up to deliver a modified Operation Encompass and the MARAC and MADA meetings have operated virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Early Help Pathway and Advice/Guidance pathway has been embedded

### **What We Will do Next**

- Develop a model for an integrated front door, to reduce duplication in the screening of early help and CAMHS referrals
- Review if strategy meetings are overused and if they are the best route to identify next steps?
- Review the Threshold of Need guidance with partners as it may no longer be fit for purpose
- Review if CP registration is a suitable response to some young people experiencing harm outside the home also known as contextual safeguarding
- Facilitate a peer review of the service available from SSH from Kirklees local authority and address their findings
- Prepare with partners for upcoming Joint Area Targeted inspection
- Improve how we reach children in our direct work and ensure we record thoroughly
- Ensure we do not just offer numerical scores in critical meetings (Strategy meetings, Initial Child Protection conferences, core groups etc) but that we articulate our chosen score for each child using analysis and ensure this is recorded.

### **Child Protection**

Initial child protection conferences (ICPC) and review child protection conferences (RCPC) are arranged when a child (under 18 years old) has suffered or is likely to be at risk of suffering from significant harm. Social care will complete an assessment which concludes that a Child Protection Plan (CPP) might be necessary. Child Protection (CP) Co-Ordinator's will chair both ICPC and RCPC: Ideally the same CP coordinator will remain allocated to a child for the duration of the plan. An ICPC should take place within fifteen working days of the strategy meeting that started the Section 47: determining whether threshold of significant harm was met.

### **Main Achievements**

During 2021/22:

- Between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022, the Child Protection Service convened and chaired 515 Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs), relating to 1001 children, and 1016 Review Child Protection Conferences (RCPCs).
- There were 1014 meetings in the year for 1340 different children.
- 842 Child Protection Plans have been started and 907 Child Protection Plans were ended.
- Of these 907, the largest majority - 708 in total - were ended as the child was no longer considered to be at risk of significant harm (other reasons for plans ending included the child became Looked After or moved/transferred to another Local Authority), which evidences the positive impact of Child Protection Planning in reducing risk and safeguarding vulnerable children within Sheffield.

**Harm outside the home** cases need to be managed differently and the current format of a CPC needs amending for children experiencing harm outside the home. Meetings are now taking place with our internal and regional peers to develop an appropriate model for these cases.

- **0-2 Scaling Tracker** Signs of Safety (SoS) model implemented in conferences to draw out risks and strengths and safety scaling taking place with all attendees. Those children who are scored between 0-2 – and therefore deemed to be at the highest risk – are closely monitored and tracked and liaison takes place between Child Protection Coordinator (CPC) Service Manager and fieldwork Service Manager immediately following conference to discuss safety planning and agree next steps, including discussions at area case management meetings and escalation to legal gateway to consider Public Law Outline or care proceedings.
- **Formal triangulated review of children who have been subject to Child Protection Plan for extended periods** – at 12-, 18- and 24-months point – with clear action planning from this; additional process being introduced to commence. CPC and CP Service Manager review of children coming up to 2nd RCPC (at 9 month point of CP Planning) to provide analysis of the effectiveness of the current plan and drive next steps. These systems facilitate a triangulated approach across CPC and fieldwork services and ensures Child Protection Coordinators are providing oversight and challenge outside of the Conference arena to support the development and implementation of plans in the best interests of children.
- It is noted that the number of children subject to CPP for longer than 12 months has reduced, which indicates positive impact.
- Duty consultation system appears to have supported a further reduction in number of ICPCs . However, we need to review the impact of recent approaches.

## **Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family**

Feedback is used to make any necessary changes and look at workforce development. Advocates support young people to attend conferences, and all feedback is welcome.

Families told us they want us to keep review case conferences virtual so we have listened, and we will sustain this offer.

We realise some families struggle with virtual access so we will offer a hybrid conference and we will sustain this dual offer.

Our colleagues in the Children involvement team reached 348 children to advocate for them at their first child protection conference and their direct advocacy is well reviewed and invaluable.

In addition, families are asked to participate in randomised case audits where feedback is requested in relation to the reason for social care involvement and their understanding of the current plans. Families also refer to their experiences of conferences and CPC within this feedback. These are provided to the auditor and recorded within the audit on case files.

## **What We Will Do Next**

### **Harm outside the Home:**

Introduce and embed Harm Outside the Home Conference pathway, acknowledging this cohort of young people do not fit the usual child protection process as parents are often protective factors

**0-2 scaling tracker:** The review of the tracker will look at outcomes and timescales.

**Offer consistency of Oversight:** Improve staff consistency so each child has oversight from the same CP Chair.

**Challenge:** Improve the quality of reports being submitted by other agencies to conferences including recommendations and scaling

## Children Looked After and Adoption

### Main Achievements

1. We sustained but did not improve placement stability for looked after children. 12% of children looked after were moved 3 or more times in the previous 12 months.
2. In 2021/22 there were 41 children who were adopted from care, up from 33 in 2020/21. The increase is in part due to a backlog of applications in the Courts from the previous year due to the impact of COVID. A challenge has been that it has been taking longer from children entering care to them being placed in their permanent adoptive families.
3. It should be noted that while the number of adoption orders grew, the number of children placed for adoption in the year continued to fall. We placed 26 children for adoption during the year 2021/22, compared to 37 the year before. As an agency, we need to better understand the reason for this fall in the number of children with adoption plans.
3. Our goal has been to place Sheffield children with adoptive families who live within the South Yorkshire region, so they can be better supported. Another benefit is that we know more about those approved adopters in SY approved by the Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) so this should lead to better informed matches.
4. Developments:
  - RAA appointed a clinical psychologist to support adoptive families across the RAA. As we now belong to the RAA a positive for adoptive families is that we can spend more on adoption support packages.
  - We have set up a second Connected Persons team in response to demand.
  - We have established our second Mockingbird Family Model of Fostering constellation which has just been launched with a celebration event.
  - We appointed a part time speech and language therapist for our in-house Fostering Service to join our Fostering service psychologist.
  - In August 21, the Fostering Service hosted our first 'Fostering Fiesta'
  - A Foster Carer Celebration Event in November 21 gave a chance for our Foster Carers to enjoy and celebrate their achievements over the last two years. The event comprised a dinner and dance and was very well attended

### Impact of Achievements

The development of the Regional Adoption Agency and the Mockingbird Family Model in fostering will mean we are better placed to meet the needs of children needing foster care or adoption.

### Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family

- Looked after children contribute to their statutory looked after children reviews and annual reviews of their foster carers sometimes.
- Managers leading on our Corporate Parenting Strategy have been reporting to the 'reverse scrutiny panels' (the young people scrutinise the work of managers in the service in addressing issues they have raised) made up of Children in Care Council young people and care leavers in the Care Leavers Union. They have an action plan managers and staff are working to and reporting progress back to the young people.
- We have utilised findings from the recent 'Bright Spots' Survey and introduced our Fostering Five based on what children say that they want more of from their foster carers.

- Feedback to us has come from a regional survey of adopters. In response we are allocating resource to strengthen support packages for our adoptive families.
- Feedback from our adopted teenagers has confirmed and clarified their support needs are ongoing.

### **Areas for improvement**

The target set for the service in 21/22 was to approve 40 new mainstream foster carers. The Service fell short of this target with 26 mainstream fostering households being approved, which is a drop from the previous year where we approved 32 families.

In 21/22, 27 fostering households were 'lost' to the Service through resignation, deregistration, or retirement or changes in family circumstances. Carers may decide fostering is no longer for them, or that their family circumstances have changed, so there is a need to continually recruit significantly just to maintain capacity. Whilst it is clearly important that we maintain a focus on our recruitment activity, it is equally important that we consider the retention of our mainstream fostering population.

We are undertaking a refresh of our recruitment and Marketing Campaign, and a redesign of our images and messages to reach out to a wider audience, to reflect the diversity of children in care, and carers required to meet their holistic needs.

- To better understand our fostering community, we have developed a foster carers satisfaction survey and use the findings to inform our fostering development and action plan.

### **What We Will Do Next**

- We will be looking to develop more strategic commissioning of placements, to manage the market better.
- We will be looking to embed the Regional Adoption Agency and to develop a comprehensive and consistent adoption support service across South Yorkshire.
- We will look to develop further Mockingbird constellations within our Fostering Service
- Adopted young people tell us there needs to be better understanding by both professionals and the wider public of the complexities of adoption and how these impact upon their day to day lives.
- The key message is for more integrated multi agency adoption support, across health, education, and children's services.

### **Priorities of Mental Health, Neglect and Contextual Safeguarding**

Providing permanent stable families for children with difficult starts in life, gives opportunities to provide better outcomes for those children. The appointment of a clinical psychologist will form the nucleus of a planned multi-disciplinary team to improve adoption support across the region.

### **Private Fostering**

Parents can choose to have their children cared for away from home by someone who is not a close relative. This is known as private fostering (PF). Under the Children Act 2004, private fostering is defined as a child under 16 years (or 18 years if they have disabilities) who is looked after for at least 28 consecutive days by someone other than a close relative. The Local Authority must be notified of these arrangements and are responsible for ensuring that these arrangements meet the National Minimum Standards for Private Fostering and regulatory requirements. There is a legal requirement for the Local Authority to satisfy themselves that a privately fostered child is being safeguarded and their welfare is promoted. All private foster carers and the children are

seen every 6 weeks in the first year and every 12 weeks thereafter. Support and advice are given during visits and carers are aware they can contact the Connected Persons' team for any support or advice in-between these times.

## **Main Achievements**

When a notification is received the Connected Person's Team are notified alongside the area fieldwork team. Initially assessment work is undertaken jointly to determine the suitability of the Private Fostering arrangement. Our private fostering arrangements received positive feedback from Ofsted in July 2019, who reported that "private fostering arrangements and practice are a strength".

We have continued to monitor our Private Fostering arrangements and continued to build on the awareness and understanding of Private Fostering around the Council through improved communications and collaborative working.

## **Targeted Services**

Targeted Services are a specialist set of services for vulnerable young people that offer targeted, early help to support young people achieve positive long-term outcomes. This includes Community Youth Teams, Youth Work and Child Exploitation Teams.

## **Main Achievements**

### **Community Youth Teams (CYT)**

CYT received 836 referrals in 2021-22 for support, a 50% increase compared to last year. The school referrals for 'exclusions – violent/aggressive behaviour' remains the highest followed by anti-social behaviour 'ASB in the community' are all primary reasons for referrals, and includes gang association, on-line safety, and sexual exploitation.

Targeted Youth Advisors supported over 600 young people from NEET to EET, with tailored one to one support around accessing Employment, Education or Training. Advisors have also worked closely with schools in providing support for young people in Year 11 transition to Year 12 positively.

### **Youth Work Delivery**

The service has delivered on average 35 youth work sessions per week in key neighbourhoods and communities, delivery has been open access youth clubs and detached youth work, engaging young residents through informal education, sport, art, and personal development.

Young People and youth workers plan quarterly, and decisions are made on local, regional, and national issues/trends. i.e., Knife Crime and Cat Calling, supporting young people to develop stronger relationships and respecting and valuing difference.

An integral part of the delivery has been our offer to provide a wide range of holiday activities.

Post Covid we have been able to reopen our SEN provision. A key aspect of our work has been the ability to deploy youth workers in communities which are experiencing high levels of anti-social behaviour.

Sheffield Youth Cabinet continued this year with elections to recruit a new cabinet. The team continued to support SYP Youth Independent Advisory group and have undertaken various tasks including test purchasing for knives, alcohol, and fireworks, being part of speed awareness operations as well as reviewing SYP's social media - providing feedback on how they could

effectively engage more young residents. Members were also part of the recruitment process for the Sheffield Safeguarding Board Independent Chair.

### **Amber Service: Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**

As part of the multi-agency Amber Service, specific support is provided for children and young residents identified as being involved in, or at risk of CSE. Working closely with NHS, social care, and SYP colleagues, 39 young residents have been supported using a strengths-based approach.

All cases have had input from the CSE Specialist Nurse. Health assessments are undertaken and specific interventions around sexual health are delivered jointly with the workers in the team. Young residents who needed more specialist input were supported to attend the Sexual Abuse Referral Centre (SARC).

An overall drop in CSE referrals has presented a challenge this year however training has continued to be delivered to Social Care field work teams, junior doctors, and residential care homes to raise awareness.

**Missing Return Home Interviewers** have evolved in their practice during Covid to ensure contact and offers of an interview in a way that enables the young person to take part. The focus remains on seeing the young person face to face. Alongside interviews taking place in school settings, the offer can take place by phone, on-line or out in the community.

If the young person does not want to engage with the process, parents, carers, teachers, and other professionals are spoken with to build as complete a picture as possible to understand the missing episode and safeguard them.

Referrals are made to a wide range of agencies where a need is identified. Follow up appointments are also made to ensure that those identified as being particularly vulnerable are spoken to more than once and have every opportunity to speak with a return interviewer.

562 young residents had 2001 missing episodes in 2021 – 2022.

### **Impact of Achievements Amber Service/Missing Return Home Interviews**

1. We have identified any emerging themes and issues/barriers with the operational process and procedures – i.e., missing notifications, timeliness of strategy meetings when triggers have been reached, multi-agency attendance at meetings, trigger plans, Return Home Interviews (RHI's) etc.
2. Reviewed the collated information from all RHI's to identify the emerging trends, themes, and outcomes so that this can be used to inform practice across the partnership.
3. Have a focus on young people with repeat missing episodes or where there are significant concerns around a specific missing episode, using their cases as learning opportunities. The aims will be to identify themes, escalate any concerns, look at how we can maximise engagement opportunities, minimise risk, strengthen the safety plans and ultimately reduce missing episodes.

### **Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family**

#### **Amber Service (CSE / Missing RHI)**

Provide a safe space where young people can speak and give their perspective of what is happening to them without having assumptions made or being judged.

Opportunities for the voice of the young person is captured within the Return Interview Forms, with a section specifically for them to speak about the missing episode.

## **Youth Work Delivery and Youth Involvement**

Through quarterly action plans, this determines what activities and issues/trends young people want to participate in or learn about.

### **Feedback: What has been particularly good about the service you have received?**

- Had the opportunity to try another service.
- The communication between myself, my child and our worker has been amazing.
- Given him confidence to open up and talk more. He seems happier to talk more.
- Really helped my son settle down.
- It's helped me by someone else outside of family to talk to him about his bad behaviour and feelings.
- They have helped him with his needs.

### **What was the best thing about the advice?**

- One year of esol reading to improve his English before continuing his college education.
- Worker spoke to my father about opportunities to help me out. However, I never spoke to her myself. I've been going to skills training.

### **How has the community Youth Team helped you?**

- I guess it made me wiser.
- Helped with anger management. Helped with behaviour and consequences and controlling my anger with different techniques.
- The Community Youth Team changed my attitude in learning and my attitude outside of school and at home.
- Had chats with me, told me to behave, told me to make good choices.
- She helped me with school and home and how to calm myself down and how to stay out of trouble.

### **What We Will Do Next**

- Remain involved with the Transitions agenda, exploring how to support young people post 18.
- Move all case recording onto Liquid Logic so social workers can readily see interventions being completed by our service.
- Each Local Authority residential home to have an allocated Return Interviewer to contact if needed and maximise engagement opportunities, minimise risk, strengthen the safety plans and ultimately reduce missing episodes.
- Increase number of sessions for young people across the city, develop our digital offer. Develop an annual training plan for youth workers.

### **Supporting the SCSP Priorities**

- Continue to have strong and seamless links with the Amber Service, referring where appropriate.
- Continue to work closely with partner agencies i.e., Door 43, The Corner, Reconnect to ensure referrals are made and fast tracked where necessary.
- Recruitment of a Trainer to develop and deliver sessions for professionals and young people around contextual safeguarding – including exploitation, missing young people, the impact of peers and culture on relationships



## Door 43

Door 43 is an emotional health and wellbeing support service for 13–25-year-olds and operates as a YIACS (Youth Information Advice and Counselling Support service). Door 43 offers drop-in sessions and self, parental and professional requests for support to a multi-disciplinary team that blends emotional wellbeing support with a youth work approach.

### Main Achievements

Sheffield Futures Door 43 Service offers a one stop shop of emotional wellbeing support for young people and young adults when they need it and prevent problems becoming worse or reaching crisis.

In 2021-22, Door 43 received a total of 751 referrals; a 110% increase on 2020-21 despite being closed to new referrals in Q2. Enhancing the breadth of support, our Counselling service expanded to offer provision related to domestic abuse, bereavement, and loss, while our Social Prescribing service extended to 8 of the 15 Primary Care Networks in Sheffield, improving our reach.

In addition to face-to-face support, continued delivery of virtual and digital support, including video and phone calls, and text messaging has further contributed to our outreach. Across all platforms, we have sustained our delivery of structured one-to-one support, Wellbeing Café's, and Wellbeing Wednesday provision within GP's, schools, and local community facilities, offering a step-up/step-down, person centred service to advocate the most appropriate support.

### Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family

After each intervention, we ask young people to complete a feedback form so we can learn.

The online Door 43 Service Feedback Survey went live at the beginning of Q4 which allowed us to review our interventions and practices from the perspective of young people, evidencing the following results:

- Overall services rated 4.77 out of 5
- 100% would recommend Door 43 to a friend who needed help
- 100% felt listened to
- 83.3% felt it was easy to talk with workers
- 100% felt their views and worries were taken seriously
- 100% felt workers knew how to help them
- 100% felt workers had been respectful of their identity
- 100% felt safe during the sessions
- 66.7% felt able to access the service at a convenient time

### What We Will Do Next

- Continue to roll out curriculum group work programme
- Commence an under-18's Wellbeing Café, in addition to our Wellbeing Cafés for 18-25 age group.
- Increase attendance to our open access group work provisions to encourage more opportunities to develop positive relationships and support networks with peers along with prospects to enhance social skills and self-esteem.
- Continue and develop alliances with existing and new partners to ensure the most appropriate wellbeing support is offered to children and young people.

- Extend our group work offer across more schools, introducing local voluntary and community sector services within our delivery.

## Access and Inclusion

Sheffield City Council's Access and Inclusion service focuses on reducing barriers to education with the aim to reduce exclusion in all forms. The service focuses on attendance, educational engagement, exclusions, school admissions, children missing education (CME), elective home education (EHE), Alternative Provision, and the delivery of the virtual School for looked after children.

### Main Achievements

- We have implemented an attendance campaign 'Every School Day Matters' and are striving for all children to be back in school, full time as soon as possible, unless they are educated other than at school. This has raised awareness about the challenges of school attendance in the city both pre- and post-Covid.
- We have created a data set to identify children who are 'excluded in all forms' including those on reduced timetables, persistently absent, educated off schools' site, receiving suspensions or permanent exclusion or absent due to illness. We are supporting schools to ensure these children receive short term interventions and support from a key worker: Keyworkers have advocated, supported, and worked with over a 1000 CYP and families.
- We have developed educational screening working with the Sheffield Safeguarding Hub meaning that where critical decisions are made about children then there is greater understanding of their education and care needs.
- We have developed our partnership working with health providers to ensure children with health needs can access and engage with their education. We have commissioned additional capacity for pupils unable to attend school due to their health needs.
- Our Children Missing Education Team (CME) continue to work to identify children who are not in education and to secure school placements quickly, thereby ensuring that children have access to safeguarding in schools. The timeliness of allocation of places has improved in the past 12 months.
- The Admissions Team ensures that applications are processed quickly, and places secured at schools for children who are missing education. We secure school places for all new to City Looked After Children and have supported families from Hong Kong, Afghanistan, and Ukraine to secure school places during the last year. This has often meant brokering places at schools that are "full" especially in the South West.
- Our Elective Home Education team (EHE) are working with families to ensure suitable education is provided, or the child is supported to return to school. A higher percentage of families are now evidenced as providing a suitable education.
- We advocate for children and families that are faced with (permanent) exclusion from school to ensure that their exclusion was appropriate or alternative options found. 22 potential exclusions have been avoided or rescinded due to effective working.
- The Sheffield Alternative Provision (AP) framework ensures that checks on suitability are made on providers of AP who are not regulated schools, giving schools confidence that they are appropriate to address the needs of CYP at risk of exclusion
- The virtual school continues to advocate for all children and young people. Personal Education Plan compliance is high. A Children Looked After "education solutions panel" has been put in place to ensure that barriers to learning are removed.

## **Impact of Achievements**

- Customer feedback collated at the point of closure tell us families knew their key worker, felt listened to and their views are understood when plans are being formulated.
- A high proportion of families improved the educational outcomes for their child/ren.
- Key workers offering Transitional Pathway Support use a child first approach using Signs of Safety.
- EHE children are seen, and their voice heard during home visits.
- Families tell us they appreciate conversations with previous schools when returning to school post EHE.
- Feedback from families following a successful transition is captured through case studies and shared to improve future service delivery.
- Families tell us they appreciate a home visit to explain next steps and process when their child has been permanently excluded from school.
- In CME appointments, we take account of child and family voice especially for children arriving in the City in KS4 who may need a more bespoke offer.
- Where CYP are accessing alternative provision, their attendance and re-engagement with learning has increased.
- Data sets have been developed through this year and will provide new benchmarks post-Covid for areas such as attendance, exclusion and suspensions. In 2022/23 these will be used to measure impact.

## **Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family**

- Inclusion and Attendance specialists use Signs of Safety methods and Trauma Informed Approaches to capture the child's voice and ensure this is central to all work and plans.
- Meeting with the child before and after" team around the family" (TAF) meetings ensures the child's voice is captured, heard, shared in the meeting to formulate the plan, and that the young person knows the plan and who will do what element.
- Where a child is unable to share their voice (due to age, ability, aptitude, or any SEND needs) their voice is captured through their play, interactions, body language and from the professionals and parents who see them every day.
- Young people who are EHE have their voice captured during home visits.
- CYP voice is gathered through the Alternative Provision referral process to ensure that provision is meeting their needs. It is also collated whilst they access provision. A recent consultation has captured the view of CYP and their families on the future design of Alternative Provision.

## **What We Will Do Next**

- In line with the recommendations from the new DFE 'working together to improve attendance' guidance, increase capacity to ensure each locality A-G receives a dedicated linked attendance officer to look at early prevention of persistent absence.
- Work together across early help to ensure children who are severely absent and persistently absent receive the support required to re-engage with their education.
- Use all parental responsibility measures available to us when children continue to be persistently absent from school.
- Work with schools and partners to ensure children receive the full-time education they are entitled to through greater challenge to ongoing reduced timetables.
- Work with schools to analyse, interpret, and use the data available to us to identify cohorts of children who require more support to engage with their education.

Work to reduce exclusion in all its forms particularly the number of fixed term exclusions and permanent exclusions

The service has also set KPIs which are more directly within the control of the service. As such we will:

- Work to reduce the number of children registered as Pupils not on a School Roll.
- Work to reduce the number of children without a school place within 15 school days of application.
- Continue to work collaboratively with the Inclusion Centre to provide a quick route back into mainstream education for permanently excluded pupils.
- Work to reduce the number of children who access only unregistered alternative provision.
- Revise our practice with parents who home educate to provide more support. We will ensure children not receiving an appropriate education through EHE are given a named school to return to, and if necessary, will apply for school attendance orders to ensure the child receives their right to education.
- We will develop the Sheffield inclusion model to include piloting a 'team around the school' approach which focuses on joined up practice around safeguarding and family support, SEND, mental health and access to learning.
- Lifelong Learning Skills and Communities.
- Lifelong Learning Skills and Communities is a local authority education provider which oversees provision that is delivered at Sheaf Training, Red Tape Central, Construction Design Centre, and by the FACES team. Sheaf Training offers provision to 180 learners with Education, Health, and Care plans, aged 16-25. Red Tape Central, Construction Design Centre and FACES offer provision from 16 and into adulthood, with around 3000 students on roll. The FACES team make use of several venues across the city (as well as elements of remote learning), while Sheaf Training, Red Tape and CDC deliver learning from respective sites.
- Students access provision directly through one of these services and both long- and short-term courses are offered. For example, courses at Sheaf Training are delivered over a full academic year, while adult learners under the FACES team may enrol on a shorter course to access something such as work skills. Positive outcomes vary based on individual and provision, however our aim is for students to progress towards further learning, employment, volunteering, or social care (if appropriate).

## **What We Achieved in 2021/22**

Throughout the last year our service has expanded to accommodate a larger cohort of complex learners with additional high needs, learners who may have otherwise become NEET or accessed less appropriate provision. This additional influx widens our scope to monitor vulnerable young people and leverage our centred position to notify and enlist the support of multiple agencies with existing or required involvement. Furthermore, a significant move to building relationships with colleagues across these agencies (such as Social Care, CYT, Youth Justice, CAMHs, CLDT) has supported a streamlining in the referral process and likewise more meaningful communication. This has notably reduced waiting time for services and helped to ensure that the correct service and support is presented.

In considering the impact of Covid on our learners, our service has made great strides in, not only providing a stable route back to normality, but making a concerted effort to exceed our pre-Covid provision to supplement deficiencies that have likely formed following multiple lockdowns. More opportunity for more social interactions between peers and staff, peer led focus groups (such as students councils and tutorial workshops), work experiences and visits to employers across the city and additional support to participate in extracurricular activities have

a significantly positive impact on the overall wellbeing of our young people. As important, is the increase in visibility and crucially; more opportunity to monitor for concerns and act quickly when required.

### **Feedback from young people**

By in large, our young people express that they can engage in a happy, safe environment. This is highlighted broadly during our EHCP annual review process where students can take in the wider scope of their accomplishments throughout the year. Many of our learner's request that various professional communicate through our service as an intermediary or arrange meetings and visits through our service because they feel that they have strong advocacy and are within a safe and stable setting.

However, we have not been immune to criticism. For example, some learners have expressed a lack of knowledge around 'who is the right person to speak to' about given concerns. Others have expressed specific concerns which signposted us to wider concerns. This has been crucial in the development of our service, and we have been able to act on feedback to improve .

### **What We Will Do Next in 2022/23**

One key area we will be focusing on through 2022/23 is the implementation of a robust, individualised, and relevant safeguarding plan for learners with additional vulnerabilities or concerns. Along with this, a strategy of continuous review and refresh, directly involving the young person, key staff, as well as families and other agencies where appropriate.

Our intent is to reduce the number of students that require safeguarding interventions at a crisis point, with more early intervention, key staff who are better informed to monitor and report, and a student cohort who are more able to keep themselves safe.

## **Sheffield City Futures and Operational Services**

We manage 39,000 homes in the city, maintain and run all of the city's parks; assist businesses, support the development of the arts, culture and heritage of the city. We help vulnerable people to stay in their homes; support the reduction of climate change; provide things for people to do in the city that are fun or help them stay active and healthy and maintains the fabric and function of many of the city's buildings.

### **Main Achievements**

#### **Housing and Neighbourhoods Service**

- Continued to attend/contribute to Child Protection Conferences
- Provision of housing related information to the SSH
- Ongoing learning and development for staff regarding safeguarding
- Sixteen of our parks have received Green Flag awards this summer, an international mark of quality for well managed parks and green spaces all over the world. It can be all too easy to take for granted the fantastic parks and woodlands we have to enjoy across our city

#### **Transport Services**

We have continued to deliver a fully operational service and we have ensured the safeguarding code of conduct has been promoted.

## Impact of Achievements

**Housing and Neighbourhoods Service** - We have resumed in person tenancy inspections which has improved our ability to safeguard, ensuring onward referrals as necessary.

**Shisha Premises Inspections** - The LGA is calling for councils to be given the freedom to adopt local licensing schemes that could cover shisha bars if there are concerns about how they are operating. This would enable us to monitor shisha bars and cafes for harmful activity and seize equipment or revoke licences for repeat offenders breaching licensing conditions.

**Transport Services** - Children with SEND have been able to attend their educational environment during the pandemic through safe transport that meets their needs.

## Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family

**The SEND Home to school transport survey for 2021 received 185 responses. 75% of respondents rated the service as excellent, 18% rated it as good and 0.54% rated it as poor.**

## What We Will Do Next

**Transport Services** – Respond to concerns Post 16 Travel Payments are taking too long, try to offer more notice when changes happen, try to offer Makaton training for transport staff.

**Shisha Premises Inspections** - Continue to monitor the Shisha premises and react to all complaints. This includes complaints received via the safeguarding board, members of the public or other inter agency partners.

**Housing and Neighbourhood Services** - Encourage all staff to refresh their safeguarding knowledge, including about Trauma Informed Practice and Contextual safeguarding.

## Youth Justice Service

The Youth Justice Service (YJS) continues to work in partnership to reduce the number of young people entering or re-entering the criminal justice system in the city.

## Main Achievements

Many of the young people involved with the YJS are among the most vulnerable children and are at greatest risk of social exclusion.

Our multi-agency approach ensures that we play a significant role in contributing to addressing the safeguarding needs of these young people.

An example of this is that the well-established and embedded multi-agency Out of Court Disposal process continues to be an effective mechanism and ensures that all individual circumstances and lived experiences relating to all children and young people are assessed to determine what is in the best interest of the child.

The support, interventions and services we provide are based on identifying, maintaining or improving desistance factors such as lifestyle, education/employment, accommodation, perception of self and others, attitudes to offending, thinking and behaviour or motivation to change, positive family and social relationships and concentrating on what will need to happen or be provided to stop a child offending rather than what made them offend in the first place.

## **Impact of Achievements**

Putting children first and partnership working are at the heart of our delivery of efficient and effective and timely services to reduce re-offending, ensure public protection and the safeguarding of children.

The range of outcomes available allows for required interventions to be delivered where appropriate and supports opportunities for diverting vulnerable groups from the criminal justice system.

The outcome is that young people get their needs appropriately assessed, and either diverted away from the criminal justice system or be referred to the appropriate service – including Community Youth Teams for crime prevention and Youth Justice Service and all its partners for formal disposals.

The YJS partnership and the wider criminal justice system has been able to deliver most services which has reduced the impact of the pandemic and has ensured that the health, safety and wellbeing of the children and their families within Sheffield YJS has not been compromised.

## **Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family**

There has been a range of feedback from the children, young people and families with regard to;

- Their experience of being involved with the YJS
- The environment in which the service is delivered.
- Their preferred communication methods.
- The range of interventions offered.
- The involvement of other agencies.
- Personal feedback about individual staff.

All comments and feedback are positively received and responded to and where reasonably practicable adjustments are made to improve the overall experience for children, young people and families.

All feedback about individual staff is shared and positive feedback is celebrated.

**Positive feedback relating to our children and young people from other agencies such as court is shared and celebrated with them and their families.**

## **What We Will Do Next**

One of our overarching priorities is regarding transitions.

A virtual “cliff edge” develops for many young people particular for those who receive additional support from various children’s services including our own and at this time it is important that the level of support provided is maintained.

Our transition processes will be underpinned by the following principles:

- Individual needs and safeguarding requirements will be recognised and addressed.
- Children and young people are allocated to adult services at the earliest point .
- Every young person will have a transition plan.
- Planning will be tailored to meet individual needs.
- Robust information sharing.
- Collaborative working between all partners and services.
- Active involvement of young people and their families.

Evidence suggests that the most profound impact of the pandemic will relate to CYP's mental health with increased reporting of "trauma like symptoms" related to the pandemic in addition to the complex needs that some of our children already have. In response to the increasing risk and complexity of cases and to strengthen our trauma informed approach the YJS has commissioned extra specialist therapeutic support. This will ensure support and supervision of CYP, and their families is reflective of the trauma they have experienced, and that staff undertaking direct work can access peer and individual supervision regarding complex cases from an appropriately trained and experienced clinician.

The YJS has been in a continual process of adaptation and change and we will continue to be creative, innovative, flexible and responsive in the support we provide.

### **Support for the SCSP Priorities**

This specialist therapeutic support for the service will continue to ensure support and supervision of children, young people and their families is reflective of the trauma they have experienced, and that staff undertaking direct work have opportunity to access peer and individual supervision regarding complex cases from an appropriately trained and experienced clinician.

The YJS and its partners will continue to deliver or commission a range of assessments, services and interventions informed by research and best practice.

Through a shared understanding of risks, shared workforce development, shared pathways, and shared responsibility we will continue to use our collective powers and tools to protect our vulnerable young people.

### **National Probation Service**

The National Probation Service (NPS) works with offenders who are serving their sentence but are not in prison. This could be because they are serving a community sentence or have been released from prison on licence or parole. People on probation have regular meetings with an Offender Manager and may have to do unpaid work, complete an education or training course, and/or get treatment for addictions, like drugs or alcohol.

### **Main Achievements**

It is an achievement that all facets of the Service have been delivered throughout the pandemic continuously and in the last 12 months there has been an increase in face-to-face delivery following staff returning to the office as part of service recovery following COVID-19.

During the pandemic, the operation of **Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements** (MAPPA) has continued to ensure public protection and safeguarding has been a deliverable priority, particularly regarding individuals assessed as posing the highest risk of serious harm to the public, including children. Similarly, probation practitioner presence at Child Protection Conferences has also remained an operational priority to contribute to children's safety.

The Sheffield Probation Delivery Unit (PDU) has since moved practitioners to one site in the city centre and has realigned teams with attendance at multi agency meetings, particularly child protection conferences, a priority. Senior and middle managers are visible and engaging with local strategic meetings and are driving quality and performance internally, particularly with a commitment to safeguarding training and development.



## **Impact of Achievements**

The Probation Service does not work directly with children, however our focus on child welfare remains a high priority, and the assessment of the risks posed by adults towards children is continuously assessed and referrals made when appropriate. As part of said assessments and referrals, the voice of the child is considered, particularly when contributing to more formal scenarios such as child protection conferences. The increased use of door-step visits and subsequent visibility/contact with partners and children in the households of our people on probation has meant that probation practitioners have been better able to assess child welfare.

Similarly, the robust management of people on probation assessed as posing a risk to children means that we have the ability to remove direct threats to children's safety from home environments, reducing the risk of harm to those children. We subsequently continue to work with those individuals, and associated partnership agencies, to assist them to understand the type and level of harm that their behaviour can cause to a child with a view to assist them to improve their behaviour to the point where they can positively contribute to a child's life and development where possible and/or appropriate.

## **What We Will Do Next**

Whilst continuing to work to the Prioritising Probation Framework ( PPF) and continuing to 'recover' from COVID-19, the Probation Service will also continue to progress with reunification and the transition to the new unified Target Operating Model (TOM) over the next 12 months. Safeguarding children shall remain a priority area of work throughout, particularly in regard to risk assessments and intervention delivery. Furthermore, operational staff will engage with continued professional development and learning that is inclusive of safeguarding children and promoting child welfare and development.

## **Use of Restraint in the Secure Estate Aldine House**

Aldine House is a secure children's home in Sheffield that provides a high quality, safe and therapeutic environment to support the individual needs of the vulnerable CYP in its care. The overarching aim is to encourage residents to develop a range of personal skills that will enable them to manage safely and responsibly when they leave. The home provides care and accommodation for up to five children placed by the Youth Custody Service and five children accommodated under Section 25 of the Children Act 1989 placed by local authorities. Admission of any child under Section 25 of the Children Act 1989 who is under 13 years of age requires the approval of the Secretary of State. Education is provided on site in dedicated facilities. The commissioning of health services in this home is the statutory responsibility of NHS England under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

## **Main Achievements**

Aldine provided for 6 placements on welfare grounds in the year ended 31/03/22 and for 3 youth custody placements. Within this total one young person was initially a welfare placement and after his court appearance was returned to Aldine for detention as an offender . It is usual for children living out of Sheffield anywhere in the UK to be placed at Aldine and vice versa. Aldine has capacity when fully staffed for 10 children and is expanding to offer 12 beds in the coming year.

Unfortunately, the registered manager has left his post which is vacant at the present time and his manager has also left in the timeframe of this report. This follows a lengthy period of stability in the management team at Aldine for 7 years.

It should be noted that Aldine received an Ofsted inspection over 3 days in February 2022. Ofsted stated as follows.

- Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, considering
- Children's education and learning **outstanding**
- Children's health **outstanding**
- How well children and young people are helped and protected **good**
- The effectiveness of leaders and managers **outstanding**

The secure children's home provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good. The actions of the children's home contribute to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for children and young people who need help, protection and care.

### **What we will do in 2022-23**

- Expand our training courses for staff, building on their specialisms, including Flower 125
- Making psychological formulation increasingly young person-led
- Extending our Leaving Project for young people leaving the home to ensure they have good endings to their placement
- Finish building our extension, which will allow us to accommodate up to twelve young people

### **Online Safety**

Online Safety now covers a wide range of safeguarding themes including, sexual exploitation, radicalisation, bullying, addiction, health misinformation e.g., pro-suicide, criminal exploitation, and cybercrime. Central to young people becoming confident and safe users of the internet is their development of digital literacy skills and knowledge of the range of data that is shared about them online by themselves and others and the implications for their future.

As of April 2022, SCSP now commissions Online Safety support from Learn Sheffield. This commission covers training, policy and curriculum advice for schools and alternative providers in addition to Online Safety consultancy for the wider children's workforce through multi agency seminars, web-based advice and individual support for the Safeguarding Education Advisors team.

### **Learn Sheffield**

Learn Sheffield is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, of which 80% is owned by Sheffield schools and colleges and 20% by Sheffield City Council.

### **Main Achievements**

The SCC eLearning Service (eLS) delivers Online Safety training and consultancy. The pandemic has seen an increase in the use of technology for most of the population and accordingly a subsequent increase in the need for digital inclusion for those residents of our city who have no access. It is unlikely that technology use will decrease, and a challenge will be to ensure that those working to support our most vulnerable people and families have the necessary skills and understanding to do that safely and securely and that our digital divide does not increase.

In September 2020 the government introduced the new Relationships, Sex and Health Education Curriculum (RSHE). Building on the success of the publication of the Sheffield Online Safety Curriculum, distributed via Learn Sheffield to all schools, the eLS is leading on the production of Sheffield's RSHE Curriculum through a commission between Learn Sheffield and Sheffield City Council (SCC). The new curriculum (Teaching Online Safety in Schools) states that Online Safety

should form an integral part of relationships education, which was the strategy adopted with the Sheffield Online Safety Curriculum.

A major development over 2021-22 has been the publication of the Sheffield Primary and Secondary Relationships Sex and Health Education curriculum and training for schools on its implementation. A driver in the lack of parental opposition to this curriculum in Sheffield compared to other major cities has been the clear link to Online Safety and working with parents to understand that young people will access “Google” to ask any questions around relationships that are not directly addressed by parents or teachers and that such searches will yield content that is far more explicit than anything covered in schools.

A development for this year will be to link the content of the curriculum with good practice advice and signposting of support from professionals within the wider children’s workforce and appendices to support SEND, Early Years and Post 16 children.

Ofcom have produced Children’s Media Lives: Life in Lockdown and it is likely that their findings will be replicated in Sheffield. Their report highlights a lack of daily structure resulting in a large increase in time spent online, an increased consumption of online content (e.g., Netflix) and a more simultaneous and blended use of gaming and apps e.g., chatting on one app whilst gaming on another. TikTok use has largely increased and there are concerns around extreme body conscious exercise. Young people also report a disengagement with the news, whilst gathering news indirectly from unreliable sources. They also report problems with disturbed sleep patterns. We will look to validate these themes in Sheffield.

Young people’s voice in Sheffield reflects that our students continue to operate in line with national trends as documented in the Ofcom Children and Parents: Media Use and Attitudes Report 2022. Key headlines are the lowering of the average age of first use of social media, particularly Tik Tok, to lower key stage 2 (7-9 years) the persistence in the increased amount of time spent online seen during the pandemic, and the amount of hate and inappropriate material seen by children and young people.

Anecdotally schools have reported some aspects of behaviour around gaming which can be viewed as veering towards addiction rather than heavy use during this time. The Internet Watch foundation report large increases in the prevalence of young children being groomed to provide illegal content of themselves or more worryingly content also involving their siblings. Whilst we have had concerns about this around some primary age children, those children have been safeguarded by the intervention of their peers involving adult help either at home or at school. Promoting “What a good friend would do” is a cornerstone of our Online Safety education. Secondary schools report some concerns about sites such as Only Fans and interest amongst young people about selling their images to fund their lifestyle.

## **South Yorkshire Police**

Through delivering the Police and Crime Plan, SYP work to keep people safe by fighting crime, tackling anti-social behaviour and protecting vulnerable people, including children.

### **Main Achievements**

Sheffield District continue to focus on child neglect and SYP have provided training for all staff within SYP which has seen a significant increase in the number of vulnerable children forms submitted by our frontline staff identifying concerns of neglect and risk to children. We have worked with our partners and ensured the correct support and investigations have followed continuing our work towards the protection of children. The increase demonstrates the effectiveness of the Neglect training for SYP staff enabling early identification of neglect issues and warning signs using the SHARED tool.

SYP continues to improve its response to child exploitation, and we continue to embed better working practices within the district in conjunction with our partners. SYP and the Amber project hold a daily intelligence meeting to review the risk and action information and intelligence relating to exploited children, which was introduced in February 2022. The Child Exploitation Tasking Group has recommenced along with the Vulnerable Young Persons panel co-chaired with Children's services. These governance structures are allowing the clear exchange of information and joint working to protect our most vulnerable children.

Multi Agency Criminal Exploitation meetings are monitored and well attended by all agencies. SYP continue to support the partnership producing data sets to monitor the risk of child exploitation within the district. SYP analysts produce infographics on a quarterly basis from the datasets available through the MACE tracker.

### **How do you know you are having an impact?**

Since the introduction of the MACE within Sheffield in January 2021 over 500 children have been referred and discussed at the multi-agency meetings. The increase demonstrates we are improving our ability to recognise the risk of exploitation and have confidence in the referral process and risk management through the MACE multi agency meetings.

SYP has a Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) Governance team in place, the team complete regular data for Sheffield Districts. One area where we have seen increased scrutiny is under the Quality Assurance Thematic Testing Analysis (QATT). This introduced a framework of quality assurance for our criminal investigations sat within Sheffield PVP teams. The emphasis is on investigation quality including victim focus and suspect management. The testing has identified common themes for improvement in victim service and under the Vulnerability Assessment Framework. Further training has been implemented on common themes with a view to improving our standards and impact of investigations for children who are victims of crime.

### **Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family**

Through the neglect and child matters training plus internal audits, emphasis is placed on voice of the child with a view to improved engagement with the child to understand lived experience and record the observations whilst managing risk.

### **What We Will Do Next**

SYP are currently working on the next training package focussing on Child Exploitation. This is a Force priority and SYP continues to increase the spot the signs knowledge through the organisation. SYP media team are developing a media campaign for child protection which highlights the signs to recognise in all areas of child exploitation.

Operation Makesafe will be a focus in the next year, working with partners and the public in recognising and reporting children who may be at risk of exploitation both criminal and sexual.

Sheffield Police are working with our partners to review the amount of data and referrals sent to partners. This will be a progressive area of work throughout the next 12 months and will ensure we focus on current processes with a view for improvement in the volume and quality of data sent to our partners.

### **Public Health**

Public Health has attracted positive coverage across our local news platforms in response to recently published data which shows we have almost the lowest rate of smoking in pregnancy in Yorkshire. This success is having a very positive impact on our rates of infant mortality.

Infant mortality (IM) is technical speak for babies who die before their first birthday, something that is unspeakably tragic. Ten years ago, we were above the national average in terms of infant mortality rate. We set out to change this with a wilful and deliberate strategy. This was implemented. A very wide range of partner organisations were involved. As a result, the IM rate has been significantly cut, and the inequality gap has narrowed. The importance of that cannot be understated. We are now refreshing the strategy. Poverty is a crucial concern, in addition to keeping doing all the things we already do as a city

## **Main Achievements**

Public Health (PH) has continued to commission (through the PH grant) a range of services that provide safeguarding support. These include the 0-19 Healthy Child Programme, substance misuse and sexual health services and early intervention and prevention support focused on emotional wellbeing, and mental health, young carers and vulnerable groups.

The doula volunteer programme has continued offering support to vulnerable women having babies, and in person support during the birth if they had no birth partner.

Advice and support were available 7 days a week for schools, colleges, nurseries and residential CandYP's social care, to best manage transmission of Covid in their settings. This included providing technical Public Health outbreak management, carefully considering risk and impact on safeguarding.

There has been continued support for the development of trauma informed practice. This work has been led strategically by Public Health to ensure that services are moving in the same direction and are putting trauma informed practice in place.

Public Health has had responsibility for managing other non-COVID health protection outbreaks and increasing uptake of children and young people's vaccination/immunisations with a particular focus on reaching those most at risk or most vulnerable in areas of low vaccination uptake.

The team facilitated joint work by the NHS and LA to improve the management of immunisations data for looked after children to increase uptake. A review of the early years' immunisations pathway is taking place to identify and improve uptake for families known to early year's services receiving extra support above universal care.

The Director of the Public Health normally chairs the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP), and the Public Health team provides support in taking forward actions to reduce risk factors and improve how services respond to a child death. The pandemic limited Public Health's capacity to attend meetings on a regular basis in 2021/22. However, the team is now able to resume its contribution to the Panel's work.

The infant mortality strategy provides focussed action to address the risk factors associated with child death before the age of one year, many of which are strongly linked with deprivation and low income. This work includes a focus on health during pregnancy, good infant health and safety combined with action to address deprivation. Latest data indicates that infant mortality rates have now reduced below the national average and inequalities in infant mortality rates between the most and least deprived families also fell.

## **How do you know you are having an impact?**

The Public Health Outcomes Framework provides a robust opportunity to monitor and analyse outcome indicators across a range of themes.

There is rigorous and regular monitoring of commissioned services and performance monitoring of all contracts funded via the Public Health grant.

During the pandemic there has been a particular requirement to measure serious incidents related to Covid, Covid outbreaks in children and young people’s residential settings and review how transmission and risk was managed.

Over 4000 staff across a range of settings have been trained in trauma informed practice, 150 schools have at least 1 member of staff trained in in trauma informed practice. Safeguarding Section 11 self-assessments also now require trauma reflection by key agencies (CYPF, Police, SHSC, STH).

These achievements positively impacted the safeguarding of CYP in Sheffield, particularly their emotional health and wellbeing.

### **Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family**

Reassurance that was provided to interpret national data, guidance and information to help settings to continue to remain open during Covid outbreaks to maintain safeguarding and access for vulnerable children, young people and families.

“I was in a right mess until I spoke to the Corner”  
(Substance Misuse Service)”

“Recommend Personal Health Budgets) to others and it should be available as an alternative to CAMHS. I know lots of young people that would benefit” (16-year-old)”

### **What We Will Do Next**

Contribute to designing and commissioning children and young people’s services funded via the Public Health grant with a focus on improving access to early intervention and prevention support (e.g., 0-19 Healthy Child Programme Service).

Further develop trauma informed practice in Sheffield by all services becoming trauma informed and identifying a lead, auditing current practice and identifying action plans.

We will refresh our infant mortality strategy to develop wider understanding of the risk factors and the relationship with poverty and deprivation, and the roles which individuals, teams, organisations and communities can all play in reducing the risks.

## **Sheffield Children’s NHS Foundation Trust**

### **Main achievements**

- We now have “**Violence reduction youth navigators**” based in the Emergency Department . The aim is to support children and young people who attend Sheffield Children’s Hospital with any violence or suspected violence related injury or threat, to live a happy, safe and fulfilling life. We are better at referring on to Sheffield Safeguarding Hub SSH as necessary.
- **An increase in vulnerability and complexity** have been noted by all services; within safeguarding supervision, in the SSH and in Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC). Safeguarding support and supervision have been extended to skill mix colleagues within the 0-19 service e.g., B5 Practitioners. The safeguarding supervisors meet regularly for

ongoing promotion of best practice and for peer support due to the challenging and stressful nature of safeguarding work.

- **Covid impact and challenges** – All teams have continued to respond to the impact and challenges, to ensure that colleagues remain vigilant and professionally curious to safeguarding concerns. More children and young people are now seen face to face and ways of practising safely continues.
- **Recruitment of Named Doctor for Looked After and Adopted Children Health** - The recruitment of a LAACH Named Doctor has been successful, the postholder will be starting in Sept. 2022.
- **Safeguarding Reviews** - Family G Sheffield SCR action plans have been completed with regard to the 0-19 service, Speech and Language Therapy (SandLT) and Acute services.
- Supporting city wide working to enhance the recognition and response to **Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)**. This is city wide work that aligns with the refreshed neuro developmental pathway.

### **How do you know you are having an impact?**

- A standardised approach to young people presenting to ED following assaults has been developed through the peer review to ensure that there is a clear process and pathway to escalate to the hub for young people who have been assaulted. Our peer review has resulted in an improved service to this group of children who are better safeguarded.
- A specialist nurse located in the Amber Service works with colleagues from South Yorkshire police, social care, Community youth teams( CYT), Specialist intervention practitioners, Missing's return practitioners. The nurse focusses on packages of support for children and advises and supports health professionals
- Our Paediatric liaison service is based within the 0-19 service. Through learning from practice the Paediatric Liaison service identified the need to update the Emergency Department Handbook in respect of the management of dog bites especially in respect of safeguarding concerns linked to children presenting with mammalian bites.
- Another nurse from the Paediatric Liaison service is based in drug and alcohol service. This has contributed to the parental mental health work ongoing.
- Regarding the Jessop Neonatal unit: admission and discharge summaries were not reaching community-based nurses quickly enough. Our review led to a new system which ensures the relevant Health Visitor receives information in a timely manner.

### **Feedback from Children and Families**

SCFT has processes in place to seek feedback from Service Users, such feedback is taken seriously and acted on. The feedback obtained from children, young people and their families attending the Safeguarding Support Unit at SCH was highly positive about their experiences, at a very difficult and challenging time. In brief, the feedback provided highlighted the following:

- Caring, compassionate and efficient staff
- Friendly environment
- Staff were responsive and helpful
- An explanation was always provided

There is a rolling audit programme within the SSU/SARC covering hand hygiene, environmental audit and patient feedback.

## **What We Will Do Next**

### **Training**

- Revision of training delivered in the trust to cover the change from 6 hours 3 yearly to 8 hours
- To explore how to capture training activities for staff members needing to demonstrate Level 3+ competences in conjunction with LandOD
- Promote a 'trauma informed' workforce via training and supervision
- Promote uptake of the Graded Care Profile 2 Training for effective assessment and response to Neglect
- Promote completion of survey to evaluate knowledge and skills regarding identification and response to domestic abuse; analyse survey data and plan report writing

### **Trust specific**

- Continue to pursue the business case for the Community safeguarding service and their role in the SSH; now reflected on the risk register.
- Work with the relevant Trust services and CPC Convening team to improve health contribution (includes CPC report submission 2 days before CPC) and the recording of these activities by the Convening team.
- Prepare for CQC inspection and continue to embed previous actions.

### **Partnership Work**

- Following submission of S11 audit last year, annual accountability and QA meeting with SCSP this year, implement subsequent action plan.
- Implement safeguarding reviews' action plans and embed these in practice.
- Prepare for Joint Targeted Area Inspection, the current theme is CCE (Child Criminal Exploitation).
- Contribute to the work of the Hidden Harm agenda
- Work with the Safeguarding Hub to improve receipt of feedback following referrals.
- Contribute to review of the Sheffield Thresholds of Need Guidance.
- Complete work identified in the workplan of the different SCSP sub-groups.

## **Sheffield Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust**

### **Main Achievements**

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on Sheffield Teaching Hospital's service provision priorities. Despite this, the Sheffield Teaching Hospital's Safeguarding Team has remained operational and has continued to support patients, families and staff, where safeguarding concerns have been identified. The Team has also been able to expand its capacity following the successful recruitment to two new posts.

The Safeguarding Team has continued to deliver on the safeguarding children's agenda and work within a multi-agency context to ensure that we have contributed to keeping children and families safe. Where necessary there has been timely liaison with the Sheffield Safeguarding Hub and other professionals and agencies to discuss and agree actions and safety plans for CYP with known vulnerabilities or complex contextual circumstances.



## **Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family**

Young people between 16-17yrs accessing Trust services either face to face or virtually have been given the option to be seen alone to have their voice heard and be involved in the decision making regarding their care.

### **What We Will Do Next**

- Continue to contribute to SCSP and city-wide safeguarding forums and work streams
- Undertake an audit of the effectiveness of Safeguarding Supervision at STH.
- Update and deliver a programme of safeguarding training incorporating new and emerging safeguarding themes and lessons learned from reviews. This will include recognition of the impact of COVID-19 on children and families.
- Review and update internal safeguarding and related policies to reflect changes to local and national safeguarding children policy and practice guidance.

# Section 5

## Safeguarding Priority Areas

The SCSP, its partners and officers are committed to keeping up to date with new and emerging trends in safeguarding whilst at the same time maintaining progress over key safeguarding priority areas. This has led to innovative and creative developments and projects in the city and input into the national safeguarding agenda. In the last year, the SCSP has had oversight of the following key priority areas:

- Child Exploitation
- Children who live in households with Drug and Alcohol Misuse
- Domestic Abuse
- CYP that Go Missing

# Safeguarding Priority Areas

## Child Exploitation

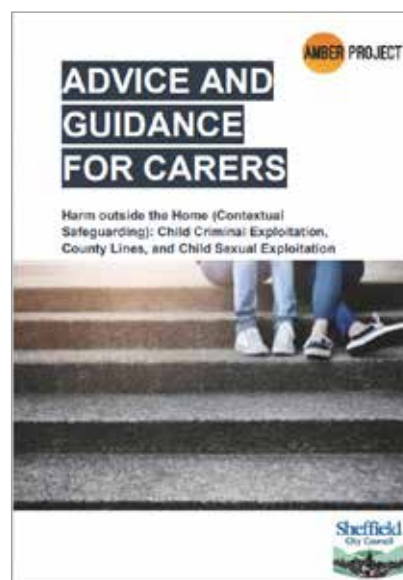
### Main Achievements

We have embedded the **Multi-Agency Child Exploitation pathway (MACE)**. The purpose of the MACE meeting is to provide multi-agency management oversight of the risk management for individual children and groups of children identified as being vulnerable to child exploitation. The MACE meeting uses the Child Exploitation Vulnerability Tracker, which scores CYP and vulnerable adults who are being exploited and creates a single vulnerable cohort database. This is used to inform safeguarding responses and better understand the strategic picture of child exploitation within Sheffield. A Senior Fieldwork Manager chairs the weekly meeting. We have 74 young people who are on our tracker currently.

MACE meetings are monitored and well attended by all agencies; SYP continue to support the partnership producing data sets to monitor the risk of child exploitation within the District. SYP analysts produce infographics on a quarterly basis from the datasets available through the MACE tracker.

SYP continues to improve its response to child exploitation and continues to embed better working practices within the District in conjunction with partners. SYP and the Amber project hold a daily intelligence meeting to review the risk and action information and intelligence relating to exploited children, which was introduced in February 2022.

Capacity in the Amber service has increased to respond to demand with 10 Social Workers and 6 intervention workers managed by two Senior Fieldwork Managers. We are recruiting an additional 2 SWs currently. Our staffing allows us to offer an intensive response with joint work from a SW and intervention worker on high-risk cases. Regarding the 74 children and young people discussed at the MACE meetings we know 55/74 are/have experienced CCE and we know 19 have suffered CSE. We know that CSE and CCE go hand in hand and we respond with this awareness in mind.



- We have delivered workshops and training within and beyond Social Care to medical students, residential staff and the MAST service. In all we have reached well over 5,812 staff virtually and in person. We have reached 22 schools, community groups, youth clubs, foster carer's, including our colleagues in Social Care.

## **Impact of Achievements**

Contextual Safeguarding is extremely important part of safeguarding children ensuring we are working with children who are being exploited and vulnerable to exploitation is our main aim in Amber service in Sheffield. As a result, children and young people who are at the greatest risk receive effective and timely support so they and others are safe, and they can get their lives back on track. Ensuring we are working with children at the earliest opportunity is key, ensuring services are working in partnership to enable joint working to support, divert and disrupt exploitation which we know is everyone's responsibility.

- Between 01/04/21 to 27/06/22, 184 children and young people have been safeguarded through joint proactive work between South Yorkshire Police and the Amber Service and other partners.
- These include children of organised crime group (OCG) members, children who have been exploited by OCG's. we also work with children who have been exploited either sexually or criminally and it has been clear that more often than not the two are interlinked. We also work with children who have been involved in Peer-on-Peer violence, gang violence.
- Improved engagement with children and families – persistent and consistent approach to the work we do having children jointly allocated SW's and Intervention workers.
- Given one of our teams has a smaller caseload they can work intensively with children, meaning we can work on relationships with children which will in turn enable us to have a better working relationships. Being consistent and working intensively with children helps with the interventions that we have developed.
- Extra-familial risks to children and young people are identified, understood, and responded to at the earliest opportunity, meaning we work with children in schools, can give advice and support and pick referrals up earlier or work with small groups in schools.
- Our approach is relationship based social work with the intensive work that enables children to have all services involved that they would require to understand risks and work with children around diversions and ensure we disrupt the perpetrators with support from Police.

**Whilst working jointly with services we can support children who are NEET to be supported to access Education, Employment and Training post 16.**

## **Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family**

We have a commitment to children and families in our services that we listen to their views and wishes, to deliver a service that meets their needs and ensure we are able to work with children who are at risk and are able to sustain any changes that they have made, and they are able to lead successful lives, free from exploitation. Through the community work we do we have also been talking to communities to continue to speak to children and families about contextual safeguarding what it means and what the signs are. This may lead to us getting referrals in sooner from hard-to-reach communities or working with communities on a much more proactive level.

There is a strong commitment to hear the feedback of CYP and for their views to influence service delivery and practice. Learning through engagement with CYP and families has shaped our intervention techniques and all delivery work is CYP centred: assessments are carried out with CYP, and they have ownership of any intervention plans developed including co-production of care plans. The emphasis of our work is a move away from a top-down 'expert' culture towards one that seeks the views and involvement of individuals and communities, through a process of co-production. This has included gaining the views of CYP on service developments and youth proofing documentation; recognising that CYP also hold solutions to the challenges they face.

Feedback from parent:

"SW had really listened to her and to A and had been really kind to her which had made the experience of working with her a nice one."

"Owt I ask her to do she does. She keeps me updated. I think she's alright, she's alright."

- They have helped and encouraged me lots  
- Anything I needed; they always came straight away. I am happy and appreciative of the help.

It is helping. She keeps in contact with B all the time. She updates B. She went to see B on Monday. She supports him in lots of ways. B gets on with her and jokes with her.

### What we will do next

- Training package for Social Care will be a rolling programme
- A new model of conferences for Harm outside the Home cases will be implemented, including a community assessment model that supports risk management and case progression.
- Need to ensure that we have the option on our data base to record where a child is impacted by both CSE and CCE as currently we can only choose one and this impairs our data accuracy.
- Sheffield has been selected as one of 6 research sites for the "Innovate Project" researching youth, risk and complexity. We are developing an innovative response to Transitional Safeguarding to address contextual safeguarding risks. Transitions in particular for this cohort of young people is crucial and ensuring that we are able to link in with adult's services when required as the risk does not diminish when they turn 18.
- Continued community visibility and undertake awareness raising campaigns.

## Hidden Harm

### Main Achievements

In households where a parent/carer or other family member has mental ill health, misuses drugs/ alcohol, there is domestic abuse, parental conflict or harmful gambling (i.e., Hidden Harm), adult services and children services must work collaboratively to ensure that the voice of the child/ vulnerable adult is heard, and their circumstances safeguarded. The main objectives of the Hidden Harm Strategy for 2021 – 2022 was to develop our work and understanding of FASD, embed being Trauma Informed into everyday practice and through training, briefings, joint case reviews, and supervision continue to promote shared discussion and understanding leading to joint planning between adult and children services to safeguard children and support parents.

Multi-agency case reviews have been undertaken to improve the communication and discussion between adult and children services when they are working with families where there is Hidden Harm within the household. They identified areas of good practice and areas for development with a clear focus of what works for families. Briefings have been shared widely across all services and Parental Mental Health Workshops have been held to both increase practitioner's knowledge and provide opportunities for workers from adult and children services to share expertise and knowledge.

## **Impact of Achievements**

Through training, briefings, and supervision, workers from both children and adult services in Sheffield have increased their understanding regarding the impact on children where there is Hidden Harm within their households. The increased awareness is demonstrated through requests by workers from all services for advice regarding either substance misuse, mental health, or safeguarding children.

## **What We Will Do Next**

- Build on the work already undertaken in Sheffield in relation to FASD. Joining up thinking and working to operationalise the recommendations from NICE Quality Standards for FASD.
- Hold a Parental Mental Health Workshop for Adult and Children services to consider the connections between the findings from the 9 multi-agency case reviews: Being Trauma Informed – consideration given to the impact on family life of intergenerational trauma; Being Inclusive – ensuring that people with neurodevelopmental diversity are included and enabled to participate by better use of language and systems; Whole Family Approach – ensuring the voice of the children and invisible fathers are heard by all services; Communication / discussion and shared planning between Adult and Children services to help develop Family Safety Plans.

## **Domestic Abuse**

### **Main Achievements**

The Domestic Abuse Act came into law in April 2021. Under Part 4 of the Act, the Local Authority has a new statutory duty to provide support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in Safe Accommodation – safe accommodation means: refuges, dispersed safe accommodation or where Sanctuary Scheme measures have been installed. This meant that the Council was provided with 'new burden's funding to enable us to meet our obligations under the new duty and as a result we were able to commission some new services for families affected by domestic abuse.

Haven, the specialist children's support service was awarded more funds to provide one to one and group support to children in safe accommodation. Support was provided to 143 children and young people during the year. During the year Haven launched some films aimed at families who may want to use their services and also aimed at professionals who are supporting children affected by domestic abuse.

According to the Crime Survey of England and Wales 36.7% of women needing to access safe accommodation are put off doing this because they have children in their care. Therefore, we awarded Sheffield Women's Aid extra Domestic Abuse Act funds to support children and young people and their parents living in our women's refuges. In 2021/22 80 adults and 86 children were supported in the refuges. 63% of refuge users had dependent children and 65 were pregnant.

We have continued to roll out the Safe and Together model in Sheffield. 144 professionals have been trained between April 2021 – end of March 2022. 201 in total so far since January 2021. Good practice tools promoting 'domestic abuse informed language' – that moves accountability for the abuse from the victim to the perpetrator, have been developed and shared. The changing use of language is noticeable at meetings such as Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) and this will help build trust between survivors and statutory services and make it easier for services and families to work together to safeguard children.

Escape the Trap training was provided to 30 practitioners from Youth services, Social Care and voluntary sector services. This means professionals are better equipped to work with young people at risk of becoming a victim or causing harm in their intimate relationships.

The Sheffield Needs Assessment and Strategy for people affected by domestic abuse in need of safe accommodation found that approximately 28,334 children were affected by domestic abuse last year.

The Domestic Abuse Act recognises that children don't simply witness domestic abuse when their parent or carer is being abused by a partner or family member, they experience the abuse as victims in their own right. In Sheffield we have been having conversations over the last 12 months about what that means in practice following the change in the law. We are waiting for the government to finalise the statutory guidance in relation to the Domestic Abuse Act in order for us to consider the impact on Sheffield procedures.

However, we hope that the new services and increased support available thanks to Domestic Abuse Act funding will have a greater and greater impact on the lives of children and young people affected by domestic abuse in the city.

DACT team members have also delivered training / presentations during the year on post-separation abuse, the impact of which was also recognised in the Domestic Abuse Act, overturning the assumption that once a survivor and their children have left a domestic abuse situation that means the risk is automatically reduced and the abuse is over. The evidence from our service user group and research is that instead abuse can continue for many years – often through the family courts.

A new safe accommodation offer started during the year – Safe Zones provides a fully furnished house or flat for families needing to escape domestic abuse for whom refuge is not suitable e.g., male victims including gay, bisexual and trans people, and women with complex needs.

### **Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family**

Providers such as Haven, Independent Domestic Abuse Service etc. are commissioned to seek views from users and use these to inform service development.

### **What We Will Do Next**

Support the roll out of a new programme called Level Up provided by Cranstoun, for children and young people aged 10 upwards who are causing harm in their family or intimate relationships.

Launch a new toolkit on Child Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse.

Continue the roll out of the Safe and Together programme in Social Care and raise awareness of the programme with partner agencies.

### **Support for the SCSP Priorities**

Children living with domestic abuse are often also living with neglect or a parent / carer with a mental health issue. We will continue to commission counselling services for people affected by domestic abuse including children and young people. We will continue to work with the

partnership to support better recognition of domestic abuse when the presenting issue appears to be neglect.

Training will be provided during the year to the Amber Service in relation to identifying and supporting children and young people impacted by domestic abuse.

## **Children and Young People that go Missing**

Sheffield Sexual Exploitation Service (SSES) and Missing Young People Team (MYPT) is co-located with the Amber Service and prioritise the protection and safeguarding of young people and works effectively and collaboratively together with many agencies to reduce risk and vulnerability. This team provides a dedicated resource for the recording and reporting of missing episodes, supporting investigations and risk assessment, and coordinating Independent Return Interviews.

### **Main Achievements**

South Yorkshire Police have two dedicated missing from home staff members who sit within the Local Referral Unit (LRU) with responsibility for all missing people. LRU triage referrals in and out of the organisation making key decisions around safeguarding children within the Sheffield Safeguarding Hub (SSH). Missing referrals from front line police staff enter the SSH through this process. SYP missing officers attend missing strategy meetings if they have met the criteria with a view to safeguarding through partnership work. This ensures a consistent approach from the police perspective and develops relationships within partners.

Officers have attended 166 missing strategy meetings in the last 12 months. Sheffield has recognised that there are gaps for a problem-solving approach to repeat missing people and we are currently setting up a missing team with the view to reducing demand through problem solving with partners. The long-term objective will include the missing children. Officers will work with the problem-solving team to reduce demand, improve safety, and reduce risk. Officers from SYP have started the team providing management of current missing people ensuring there is a robust locate plan and accurate risk assessment, this includes children. Once located our officers ensure there is a return interview to identify risk, crimes, safety and gather any intelligence regarding the missing episode.

### **How do you know you are having an impact?**

SYP has introduced a new system for how we capture data on missing people since November 2021. The system will enable more accurate data which supports us to analyse and understand repeat missing episodes for Sheffield.

### **Voice of the Child, Young Person and Family**

The voice of the CYP is captured within the Return Interview Form, which is managed by a bespoke team sitting within the Amber Service. However, an internal audit, within SYP, prior to lockdown had identified a need to capture the voice of the young person in relation to the delivery of the service itself. We approached how to get feedback on service delivery carefully to avoid overwhelming the young person and a form has now been re-designed to improve and direct the SYP response.



## **What We Will Do Next**

A gap for SYP is the regular auditing of the missing reports and action taken throughout the missing episode and correct identification of risk. To address this, SYP have employed auditors that sit at a Force level to identify and robustly check the quality of our data concerning repeat missing / exploited children and reports and ensure SYP are capturing information, recording crimes identified and are compliant with crime data accuracy policy for onward investigation.

# Appendix 1and2

Partnership Agencies

Glossary

## Appendix 1: Executive Partnership Group Members

Independent Chair and Scrutineer	SCSP
Assistant Director / Professional Advisor to the SCSP	Children, Young People and Families, Sheffield City Council
Safeguarding Partnership Manager	SCSP
Executive Director: Chief Operating Officer/Chief Nurse	Sheffield Health and Social Care NHS FT
Chief Nurse	NHS Sheffield
Detective Superintendent	South Yorkshire Police
Designated Doctor	NHS Sheffield
Director of Children, Young People and Families	Sheffield City Council
Chief Nurse	Sheffield Teaching Hospitals
Cabinet Member for CYP	Sheffield City Council
Director of Public Health	Sheffield City Council
Executive Director: People Services	Sheffield City Council
Chief Executive	Sheffield City Council
Lead for Community Safety Partnership	Sheffield City Council
Head of Barnsley and Sheffield LDU	NPS South Yorkshire (Sheffield and Barnsley)
Service Manager, City Futures and Operational Services	Sheffield City Council
Director of Nursing and Clinical Operations	Sheffield Children's Hospital
Group Manager for Community Safety	South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
Director of Education and Skills	Sheffield City Council
Chief Executive	Learn Sheffield
Deputy Chief Executive	Sheffield College
Assistant Director - Legal Services	Sheffield City Council
Designated Nurse	NHS Sheffield CCG

For an up-to-date list of Board representatives and agencies, please see the induction pack listed on: SCSP Website Annual Reports, Business Plans and Induction Pack

## Appendix 2: SCSP Annual Report Glossary

AP	Alternative Provision
ASB	Anti-social behaviour
BHC	Before Housing costs
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
CCE	Child criminal exploitation
CDOP	Child death overview panel
CiCC	Children in Care Council
CIN	Child in need
CIT	Children's Involvement team
CLA	Children looked after
CLDT	Children with learning disabilities team
CCG	Clinical Commissioning Group
CME	Children Missing from Education
CP	Child Protection Plan
CPC	Child protection coordinator
CQC	Care Quality Commission
CSC	Children's Social Care
CSE	Child sexual exploitation
CSPR	Child's Safeguarding Practice Review (Formerly Serious case reviews)
CYP	Children and Young People
CYT	Community youth teams
DACT	Sheffield Drug and Alcohol/Domestic Abuse Coordination Team
EET	Children/young people - In Education training or employment
EHCP	Education Health and care plan
EHE	Elective Home Education
FASD	Foetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder
GCP	Graded Care Profile
HSB	Harmful Sexual Behaviour
ICB	Integrated Care Board
ICON	A programme to support parents with babies crying. I-infant crying is normal, C-comforting methods can help, O-Its okay to walk away, N-never ever shake a baby.
ICPC	Initial child protection conference
IMD	Index of Multiple Deprivation

KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
LADO	Local Authority Designated Officer
LGA	Local Government Authority
Little CiCC	Little Children in Care Council
LPIG	Learning from Practice Improvement Group
LRU	Local Referral Unit
MACE	Multi Agency Criminal exploitation pathway
MADA	Multi Agency Domestic Abuse
MAPPA	Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements
MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences
MAST	Multi Agency Support Team
MYPT	Missing Young People Team
NEET	Children and young people - Not in Education training or employment
OCG	Organised crime gang
PA's	Personal Advisers
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PVP	Protecting Vulnerable People
RAA	Regional Adoption Agency
RCPC	Review child protection conference
RSHE	Relationships Sex and Health Education
SASP	Sheffield Adults Safeguarding Partnership
SARC	Sexual Abuse Referral Centre
SCC	Sheffield City Council
SCH	Sheffield Children's Hospital
SCLU	Sheffield Care Leavers Union
SCSP	Sheffield Children's Safeguarding Partnership
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
SHSC	Sheffield Health and Social Care
SoS	Signs of Safety
SSES	Sheffield Sexual Exploitation Service
SSH	Sheffield Safeguarding Hub
SYP	South Yorkshire Police
VYPB	Vulnerable Young Peoples Executive Board
YAS	Yorkshire Ambulance Service





# Contents

## Section 1

### Foreword

Introduction from the Independent Chair and Scrutineer  
Strategic Safeguarding partners

## Section 2

### Sheffield at a glance

## Section 3

### Who we are, what we do and how we do it

Leadership structure and management arrangements  
Independent scrutiny  
Funding arrangements

## Section 4

### Highlights and work of the Partnership

Learning from reviews  
Multi-Agency training  
Workforce development  
Children and young people's involvement

## Section 5

### Partner progress with joint priorities

Sheffield City Council  
South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board  
South Yorkshire Police

## Section 6

### The data

## Section 7

### Our plan and priorities and what we have done

## Section 8

### The next year

Future strategic priorities  
Introduction from the new executive partners

## Section 9

### Overview from the Independent Chair and Scrutineer

## Section 10

### Relevant agencies

## Section 11

### Glossary

## Section 12

### Thank you

## Section 13

### Contact us

Page 180





# Section 1

## Introduction

Welcome to the annual report of the Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership. I am pleased that you are taking the time to read this report, which outlines continuing progress in the multi-agency work to protect and safeguard children and young people at risk in Sheffield.

page 185



# Introduction from the Independent Chair and Scrutineer

**This report covers the period from April 2022 through to March 2023, a period that continued to present unprecedented challenges for partners against a backdrop of increasing referrals to services in both volume and complexity, workforce shortages, ever increasing pressures on public sector funding and a worsening cost of living crisis, which is impacting most on our most vulnerable children and families.**

I joined the Partnership in April 2022 as Independent Chair and Scrutineer. The role of scrutineer is intended to support partners by providing an independent perspective on their work to safeguard children and to highlight challenges where appropriate. You will find my scrutineer's overview at the end of this report.

As Chair, my role is also to set the conditions in the Partnership that enable constructive challenge and mutual accountability to thrive. This approach has enabled the Partnership to embed scrutiny within the annual report. This year's report not only provides updates on activity but also seeks to address the impact and outcomes for children and young people in Sheffield.

The annual report demonstrates that partners have faced significant challenges during the year and there is still much to address. However, there has also been significant innovation, and safeguarding has been maintained as a priority. Notwithstanding all the current challenges, what I have seen since my arrival is real commitment to working together, and the

willingness to address the need for change. I have seen some great examples of innovation, with Sheffield at the leading edge locally and contributing nationally to emerging policy on interventions that support families and prevent escalation of need.

Many examples are set out in detail in this report together with the impact they have made, and I hope you will take time to read these.

I would offer my thanks to all members of the safeguarding teams for their work and persistence in sustaining effective safeguarding in Sheffield. There are many examples of practitioners going above and beyond expectations to protect some of our most vulnerable children and families and to them I send my thanks.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley J Smith" with a long horizontal line underneath.

**Lesley Smith**

Independent Chair and Scrutineer  
Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership

## Sheffield City Council

**The foreword in last year's report was provided by John Macilwraith, Executive Director of People Services. It was his last report before leaving the council in August 2022.**

This heralded the development of separate adults' and children's services, and I took up a new acting post as Director of Children's Services (DCS) in the same month. This was more than just a symbolic act and created a new focus for children's work across its constituent parts of social care, education and skills.

Since August, the new Children's Services team has worked hard in establishing new ways of working, inter-service collaboration and a new identity for the service. While I'm proud of all we achieved in the last year, I'm really excited by all that is to come as we continue to make Sheffield Children's Services the best possible service for Sheffield children and young people.

The significant internal changes were matched by a significant number of external changes including new legislative activity in children's social care, schools and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

From July 2022, the new Integrated Care System in health brought new changes for others but,

also, new opportunities for us to renew partnerships and to make better provision for children overall.

Finally, the recent development and launch of new threshold arrangements in children's social care ended what has been an extremely busy and dynamic period. I passed the DCS baton to Meredith Dixon-Teasdale in June 2023, who has been appointed to the post on a permanent basis.

I've now resumed my post as Director of Education and Skills. While I'm proud of all we achieved in the last year, I'm really excited by all that is to come as we continue to make Sheffield Children's Services the best possible service for Sheffield children and young people.



**Andrew Jones**

Interim Director of Children's Services



## South Yorkshire Police

**This will be my last contribution to a Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report. I am leaving my role as Sheffield District Commander with responsibility to lead the police response to improving the safety and wellbeing of children in our city.**

In this last year, police leaders have been actively involved in strengthening the strategic relationship between police, health, and the local authority, and improving oversight of partnership responses through reviews and workshops. This has also included practitioner events to advance understanding of roles and powers of agencies' first line responders to improve outcomes and joint responses to children.

During 2021 -2022, South Yorkshire Police (SYP) has undergone rigorous inspection by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) which assessed our response to protecting vulnerable people as outstanding.

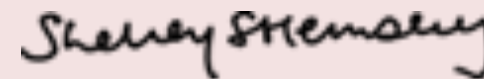
This assessment confirms our focus on services and responses to children, and our emphasis on working with partners to improve safety and wellbeing through investigation, information sharing and appropriate risk assessment. We intend to build on our current approach to consistently improve our services. To visit the report, [please use this link](#).

Throughout this time, we have also demonstrated our commitment to the Partnership's [neglect](#)

[strategy](#), recognising the need to improve and enhance frontline responders' knowledge and skills to identify and act when children may be neglected.

Sheffield officers and staff, including myself, have participated in 'Child Matters' training, which was developed by SYP in partnership with the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) and a range of other partners.

This training has supported staff in Sheffield to respond effectively to incidents where they see and suspect neglect and has improved information sharing and joint activity with partners to protect children. I am certain beyond my tenure in Sheffield that this improved knowledge, partnership working, and mutual professional respect will continue to improve the safety and wellbeing of children in our city.



Shelley Hemsley  
Chief Superintendent



## Foreword from the Strategic Partners

### South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

In July 2022, the Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), along with Barnsley, Rotherham, and Doncaster CCGs, formed the South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB), following the establishment of ICBs by National Health Service England under their duty in the Health and Care Act 2022.

An integrated care board (ICB) is a statutory NHS organisation which is responsible for developing a plan for meeting the health needs of the population, managing the NHS budget, and arranging for the provision of health services in a geographical area. The ICB CEO holds statutory accountability for safeguarding and is legally responsible for delivering the multi-agency working requirements set out in **Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018**.

Whilst the ICB in South Yorkshire has a county wide governance framework for safeguarding arrangements, the previous statutory CCG functions were conferred to ICBs which includes the role as the statutory partner for health, alongside our police and

local authority colleagues on the Safeguarding Children Partnership in Sheffield. The close multi-agency working developed during the life of the CCG, has continued to be strengthened 'at place' in Sheffield during the previous year, with the ICB continuing to be represented at both executive and sub-group level. This contribution at every level in the Partnership ensures the ICB continues to exercise a key strategic role alongside our statutory partners in Sheffield, in collectively shaping and driving the shared purpose and ambitions of the Safeguarding Partnership. The ICB is committed to strengthen our local relationships with our safeguarding partners during the next twelve months, so we can make these ambitions a reality for the children and young people in Sheffield.

All children have the right to grow up in an environment that is nurturing, safe and free from harm, and we all have a responsibility both individually and collectively to do what we can to make that a reality. Changes to Section three of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 came into force on 31st January 2022, which specifically states that a child who sees, hears, or experiences the effects of domestic abuse and is

related to the victim or the suspect is also to be regarded as a victim. The safeguarding team within the ICB in Sheffield has worked closely with health providers and partner agencies during the past twelve months to communicate this message across the city. There are plans to continue promoting this key legislative change in 2023 during scheduled training and supervision delivered to both primary care and ICB staff.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alun Windle', written on a light-colored background.

**Alun Windle**

NHS SY ICB Chief Nurse (Sheffield)  
Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children (Sheffield)



# Section 2

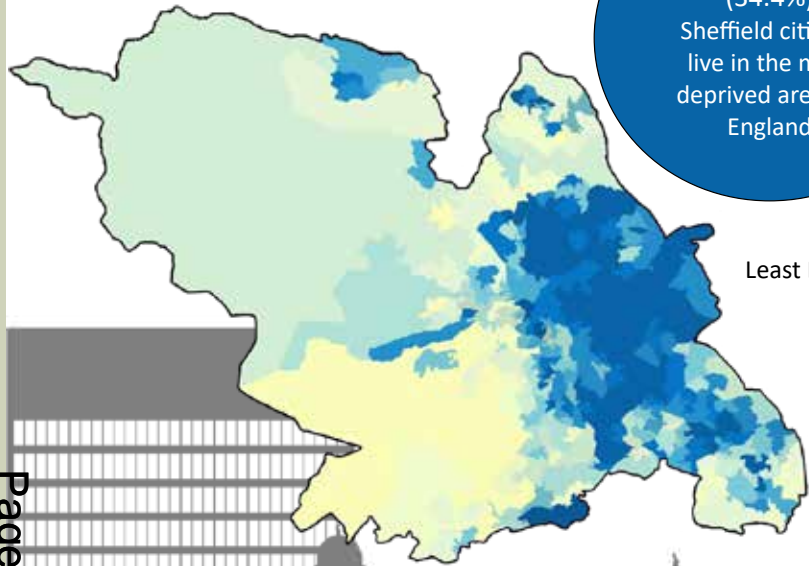
Sheffield at a glance



Page 136

# SHEFFIELD

at a glance



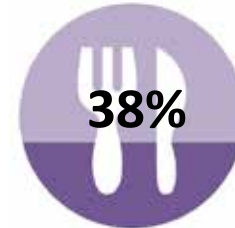
Most Deprived

**201,109**  
(34.4%)  
Sheffield citizens  
live in the most  
deprived areas of  
England

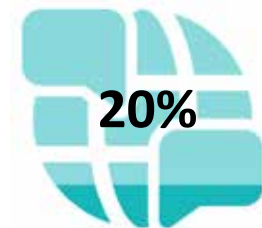
Least Deprived



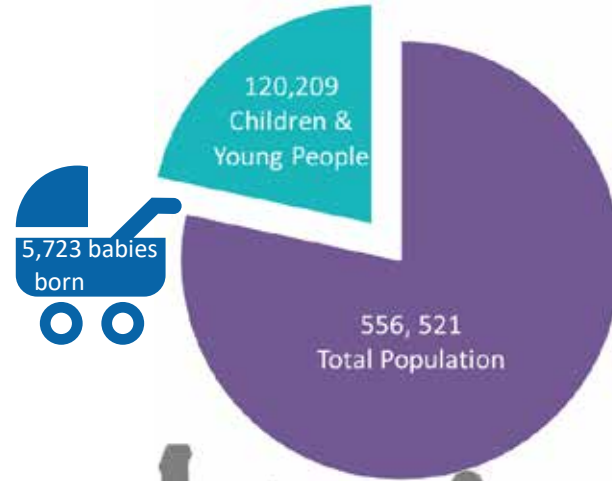
**29,665** children  
and young people  
live in relative low-  
income families



**27,370** children and  
young people are  
eligible for free school  
meals



**14,468** children and  
young people speak  
English as an additional  
language



Around 141  
languages are  
used in  
Sheffield

Page 107



**140** of **177** schools are rated  
Outstanding or Good  
by Ofsted

**561** children are electively  
home educated (EHE)

**161** children electively home  
educated have  
special educational needs (SEN)

**4,964** children have  
Education, Health and Care  
Plans (EHCPs)

**147** pupils were expelled from  
school



# Section 3

Who we are, what we do and how we do it

## Vision

**Every child and young person in Sheffield should be able to grow up free from the fear of abuse or neglect.**

We are committed to improving the safety of all children and young people in Sheffield. If children are not safe, they cannot be healthy, happy, achieve or reach their full potential.

We recognise and promote the concept that keeping children safe is everybody's responsibility.



# Leadership Structure and Management Arrangements

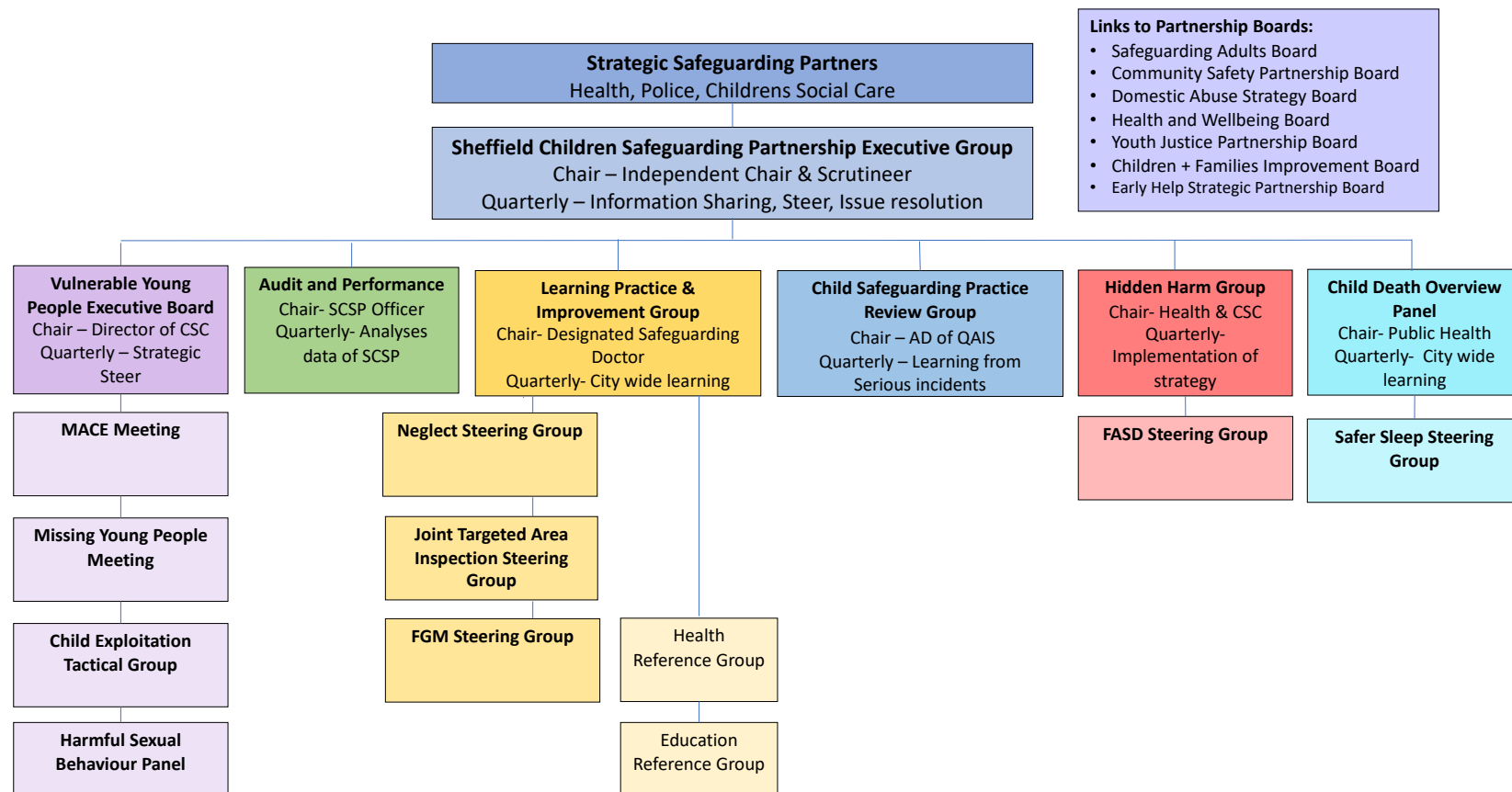
The Partnership operates in line with the requirements of the statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018' and covers the geographical area of Sheffield.

The safeguarding partners and other organisations and agencies included in these arrangements fulfil their statutory duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people from Sheffield who live or are placed outside of our local authority area.

## The three local safeguarding partners jointly leading the Partnership are

- **Sheffield City Council:** represented by the Director of Children's Services
- **NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board:** represented by the Chief Nurse
- **South Yorkshire Police:** represented by the Chief Superintendent District Commander

The structure chart below outlines the current Leadership and Governance Arrangements for the Partnership:



## Strategic Group

The three strategic safeguarding partners form the Strategic Group and set the strategic priorities, agreeing funding and resources, and driving forward the work of the Partnership, whilst ensuring that the vision and values are upheld. They advise and support the Executive Partnership Group to develop, implement and monitor an annual plan based on the priority actions agreed against the core business.

## Executive Partnership Group

The Executive Partnership Group has a wide strategic membership of key stakeholders and relevant agencies, including schools, probation services, the lead member for children's services and health providers. The Executive Partnership Group propels the work of the Partnership, in line with the vision and values. This group develops, delivers, and oversees the agreed annual plan and directs the Partnership's subgroups into implementation of the plan.

## Learning and Practice Improvement Group (LPIG)

LPIG identifies multi-agency safeguarding learning needs that require addressing to ensure partner agencies develop their workforces to a high-quality standard and are keeping children safe. The group also has oversight of the SCSP's Learning Cycle to ensure effective join up across the whole system.

## Key Developments

### How has the Safeguarding Partnership Governance Arrangement been working over the past twelve months?

- This year the Sheffield Safeguarding Children Partnership (SCSP) has said goodbye and thank you to both Executive Partners, Shelley Hemsley District Commander, and Andrew Jones Acting Director of Children's Services. In Spring 2023, we welcomed our new Executive Partners Lindsey Butterfield Chief Superintendent and Meredith Dixon-Teasdale Director of Children's Services.
- There continues to be two separate partnerships for Children and Adults, however both partnerships are committed to working together to keep adults, children, young people, and families safe in Sheffield. We recognise that there are some key issues which require a holistic approach to deliver this and have developed seven joint key priorities, which are overseen by the Joint Executive Board. This year both SCSP and Sheffield Adults Safeguarding Partnership (SASP) have recruited Board/Partnership Managers, who work closely together to ensure greater collaboration and connectivity. This includes bimonthly joint team meetings.
- To ensure coordination with other partnership arrangements, members of the Executive Partnership Group sit across all the partnership boards with a safeguarding remit. These links promote effective communication and engagement and ensure not only that "safeguarding is everybody's business", but also bring about a synergy of work programmes.
- The Partnership's Workforce Development Team continues to plan and deliver a programme of safeguarding training courses for front line practitioners, considering feedback from the learning cycle and LPIG when developing the annual training programme. The multi-agency training offer is being refined to reflect new and innovative practice and interventions, sometimes at a faster rate than the SCSP overarching priorities.

- Workplans of the Partnership subgroups and task and finish groups are now evolving and being updated at a faster pace than the overarching priorities of the SCSP Executive. This presents a challenge in terms of the executive group not becoming a passive receiver of information rather than being a force for improvement through leadership, constructive challenge, and mutual accountability.
- To address the above challenge, a review of the reporting of subgroups and workstreams to the Partnership Executive group has been completed to ensure that the executive members are sighted on and addressing emerging risks, and that robust reporting governance and oversight is in place. Following the review, we have made changes to the reporting mechanisms, which focus on outcomes rather than outputs.

**Key questions we will continue to ask ourselves, now, and over the next 12 months:**

- How well sighted are we as SCSP Executive on our priorities?
- Are they still the right priorities? Are they based on knowing what life is like for children and young people in Sheffield?
- What difference are we making? What are the outcomes for children, young people and their families?
- How well do we do what we do? What is the quality of our safeguarding practice?
- Are the voices of children, young people and families shaping our priorities and all that we do as a partnership?
- As partners, are we open to reflection, learning and improvement, to provide assurance to the SCSP Executive regarding impact?
- What do we do next? What actions will be taken to ensure informed and improved practice?



# Independent Scrutiny

**It is recognised that the role of independent scrutiny is to provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.**

The Partnership has a range of ways which our work is scrutinised and evaluated, including:

- Feedback from Children and Young People through:
  - Children’s Involvement Team
  - Advocacy for Child Protection
  - Children in Care Council
  - Sheffield Care Leavers Union
  - Youth Parliament
- Multi-agency audit and focus group activity
- Considering data from partner agencies to understand the impact of changes to the system locally
- Our Independent Scrutineer.

Our Independent Chair and Scrutineer, Lesley Smith, was appointed in April 2022 and sits across both the children and adult partnerships. Lesley acts as a constructive critical friend and is a key driver to promoting reflection for continuous improvement across the Partnership.

In the independent chair and scrutineer’s six-month review report, Lesley stated...

“*Since my arrival I have observed a real commitment to working together, and the willingness to address the need for change. I have seen some great examples of innovation, with Sheffield at the leading edge locally and contributing nationally to emerging policy on interventions that support children and families and prevent escalation of need.*”

In Lesley’s capacity as independent scrutineer, she has scrutinised the Partnership’s “live” priorities, through a review of: business and work plans for SCSP and its sub groups; responses to the ongoing work of regulators such as Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC); reviews undertaken by National Health Service (NHS) England and Improvement; in-year assurance and monitoring reports brought to the Partnership Executive, national policy and local learning; development papers and proposals we have considered and agreed; Annual Accountability Meetings with partners in May 2022, in which we sought assurance about the robustness of safeguarding practice and partner contributions to the Annual Report.

**From the observations, Lesley made the following recommendations within her six-month review report:**

## **Recommendation 1: 2022/23 Priorities and Business Plan**

- There is a need to refine the SCSP in-year priorities for 2022/23, as a framework for good governance, scrutiny, leadership, and performance reporting.

## **Recommendation 2: Maturing our Partnership Governance**

- SCSP should use the consolidation of 2022/23 priorities as a framework to develop scrutiny, mutual accountability, and constructive challenge in the SCSP Executive, asking ourselves the key scrutiny questions about how well we understand the lived experiences of children and families and what impact we are having to improve these.

## **Recommendation 3: Performance, Quality assurance and Improvement Framework**

- SCSP should develop its performance reporting, monitoring, and assurance to the SCSP Executive, building the golden thread between the SCSP Executive, its subgroups and its frontline practitioners and its partners.

## **Recommendation 4: SCSP Ambition, Strategy and Priorities for 2023/26**

- The SCSP Executive should take time to review its ambition, strategy, and priorities for the next three years.

## Achievements

- In November 2022, a review was completed on the reporting of the SCSP subgroups and workstreams to the Executive Partnership Group, to ensure better connectivity and reporting mechanisms. Changes to the business process and templates have ensured that the executive is better sighted on the delivery arm of the Partnership, allowing for robust reporting, and addressing emerging themes and risks.
- A workshop was held in February 2023, facilitated by 10 members of the National Facilitator Safeguarding Children Reform. The workshop brought together both the strategic and operational key members of the Partnership, to “Reset, Refresh and Revitalise” the work of the Partnership and strengthen the relationships and leadership of the local arrangements.

## Funding Arrangements

36. Working in partnership means organisations and agencies should collaborate on how they will fund their arrangements. The three safeguarding partners and relevant agencies for the local authority area should make payments towards expenditure incurred in conjunction with local multi-agency arrangements for safeguarding and promoting welfare of children.

37. The safeguarding partners should agree the level of funding secured from each partner, which should be equitable and proportionate, and any contributions from each relevant agency, to support the local arrangements. The funding should be transparent to children and families in the area, and sufficient to cover all elements of the arrangements, including the cost of local child safeguarding practice reviews.

*Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE 2018)  
(Chapter 3)*

### Agency Contributions 2022- 2023

Agency	Contribution
Sheffield City Council	£ 300,800.00
Health: ICB	£ 115,800.00
South Yorkshire Police: PCC	£ 80,109.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 496,709.00</b>



# Section 4

Highlights and work  
of the Partnership



## Learning from Reviews

The SCSP undertakes regular reviews of cases, to provide useful insights into the way organisations are working together to safeguard and protect the welfare of children.

**To support the SCSP's statutory function in responding to and managing serious child safeguarding incidents, the following work has been undertaken:**

- Review and update of SCSP's rapid review process and supporting templates, which has led to improved quality of analysis and decision making in the process.
- Launch of the new Child Safeguarding Review subgroup which is responsible for the implementation and review of action plans and learning following either a Rapid Review or Child Safeguarding Practice Review, including learning from relevant local Domestic Homicide Reviews.
- Development of learning briefings for each rapid review to raise awareness across the Partnership.

## Developments for 2023/24

The SCSP is committed to developing a continuous learning and improvement cycle as part of the wider training and workforce development programme. To achieve this, a new Workforce Development subgroup is to be established, focusing on bringing together the learning from case reviews, audits, data and feedback from professionals and children, young people, and families.

To improve the quality of analysis and decision making in the rapid review process, further work is planned to deliver learning workshops for agency leads who are involved with rapid review work.

To develop a better understanding of how different types of dissemination of learning from reviews informs practice, multi-agency consultation workshops are to be held.



## Rapid Reviews

**The Partnership has completed three rapid reviews during the reporting year April 2022 to March 2023. One rapid review has resulted in a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review being recommended.**

The reviews identified some key areas for consideration, learning and action for the local safeguarding system as set out below:

- Raising Professional Curiosity and challenge.
- Recognition of indicators of Neglect.
- Embedding Trauma Informed Practice.
- Effectively work with vulnerable young people in relation to knife crime.
- Impact of domestic abuse within families.

The following is an outline of some of the work that has been undertaken or being further strengthened as an outcome of learning from the rapid reviews:

- Learning from reviews has informed updates to multi-agency training. As part of the **workforce development strategy**, there are now two multi-agency workshops running each year looking at professional curiosity.
- The re-establishment of the multi-agency Neglect steering group has supported the **Sheffield Neglect Strategy**. The steering group is currently reviewing the implementation of the **Graded Care Profile 2** (GCP2) and developing systems to measure the effectiveness of the GCP2.
- A multi-agency learning event is planned for October 2023, looking at one of the rapid review's key learning themes, with a particular focus on the impact of knife crime.
- Monthly level 1 Trauma Informed Practice training continues to be delivered, which is ensuring we have a trauma-aware workforce.

- 'Becoming a Resilient, Compassionate and Trauma Informed City' event was held on 15th March 2023. Michael West from Kings Fund was the keynote speaker and discussed the benefits of compassionate leadership and structures.
- For 2023-2024, the proposal is that the Learning Practice and Improvement Group will focus on domestic abuse, considering the learning from rapid reviews and from the recent paper by the Child Safeguarding Review Panel and changes to the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.
- Domestic Abuse is being considered as a key priority for the Safeguarding Partnership for 2023 -2025.





# Domestic Homicide Reviews:

Sheffield DACT has completed one domestic homicide review during the reporting year April 2022 to March 2023. To read the report in full click [here](#).

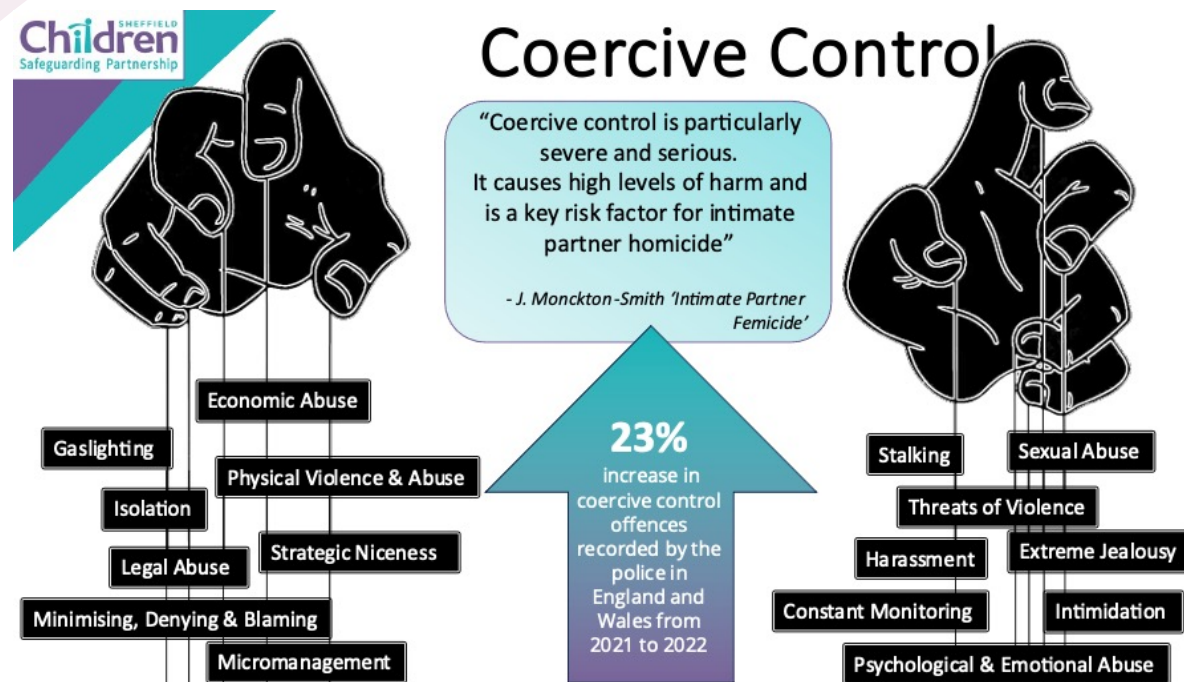
This review identified some key areas for consideration, learning and action as set out below:

- Agencies failed to identify and address the risk of suicide as a possible outcome of the domestic abuse.
- Coercive and controlling behaviour was not recognised.
- A trauma informed approach was required to better understand the context of their life histories and experience. This may have changed practitioner’s attitudes towards them, built trust and engagement in support.
- The police missed opportunities to fully understand risk and refer to Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC). The police did not use previous incidents to inform the risk assessment process. Holding perpetrators to account disrupts abusive relationships. The perpetrator was not breached for failing to comply with his probation order or bail.
- Safeguarding children’s referrals were not completed following all domestic abuse incidents.
- Professionals did not use a trauma-informed approach or professional curiosity. Therefore, they did not always understand the risk to the victim and why she distrusted children’s agencies.
- Recording spellings of names correctly is essential to help find individuals on systems when safeguarding checks are undertaken.

Page 207

## In future, the following are to be considered:

- Use a trauma-informed approach with complex cases of domestic abuse.
- Professionals DASH risk assess all victims, consider their children and refer to social care.
- Check the correct spellings of names.
- Consider if it is self-defence and/or violent resistance when women apparently perpetrate domestic abuse.
- Report and act on breaches of orders such as Domestic Violence Protection Orders.



## Joint Case Reviews

Joint Case Reviews sit within the SCSP's Hidden Harm framework. SCSP, in partnership with Sheffield Health and Social Care (SHSC), undertake reviews with the overall aim of ensuring that the adult mental health services are engaged in safeguarding children.

Families where parental mental ill health is a feature are reviewed with leaders from different service areas, including adult mental health and substance misuse.

The review identifies what worked well and what could be improved in terms of supporting the whole family and any learning that can influence future practice.

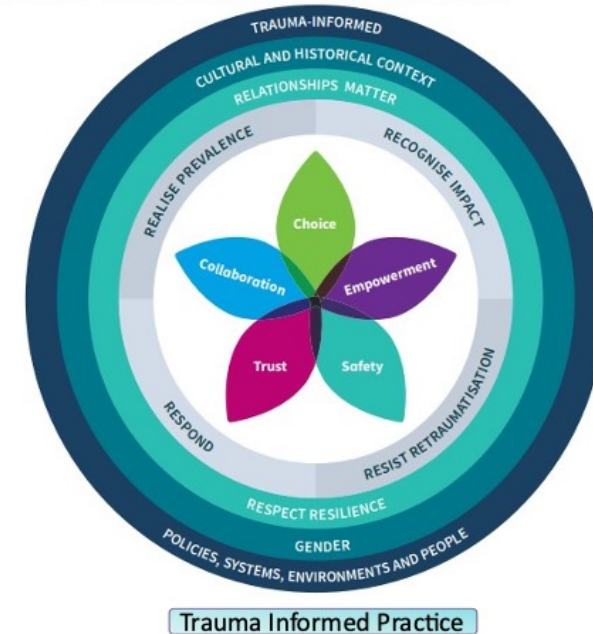
The review focuses on the family's journey (children and parents) and collaborative working between adult and children's services.

The Partnership has completed one Joint Case Review during the reporting year April 2022 to March 2023. To read the learning brief in full, click [here](#).

### This review identified some key areas for consideration, learning and action as set out below:

- Consideration should be given to both the current presenting problem and past trauma, including historical contact with services.
- A greater understanding of both the families the child spent time in.

## Intergenerational Trauma



- Identifying and understanding the impact of parental mental ill health on the emotional health and wellbeing of children.
- Recognising the current impact previous domestic abuse has on the family's lived experience.
- Need to see the whole picture rather than assessing individual events.
- Hearing the voice of the child.
- Assess together and plan together.

## Disseminating Learning from Joint Case Reviews

In June 2022, a multi-agency review meeting was held to revisit previous Joint Case Reviews (JCR) to establish whether the lessons learnt had changed practice and whether there were better ways to disseminate information.

The major improvement identified was improved communication between adult mental health and children's services, including attendance at meetings. There was also greater recognition by services of intergenerational trauma and the impact this has on family life.

In some of the JCRs we could see better discussion and joint working which had led to a greater shared understanding of how parental behaviours impacted on children.

In November 2022, the eighth Parental Mental Health workshop was held in person with ninety participants from children and adults' services.

Presentations on Professional Curiosity, Think Family and Intergenerational Trauma were delivered, and multi-agency round table discussions followed considering what stops professional curiosity and what people's experiences were and challenges of identifying and working with intergenerational trauma.

The final round table discussion looked at what the barriers were in applying the learning from the JCRs. Participants were also asked to consider their current ways of working and asked to identify what they would like to keep; what they would like to improve; what they would like to develop and what they would like to stop.



## Multi Agency Audits

**The Multi-Agency Audit Group (MAAG) sits within the learning and practice improvement group framework. Its purpose is to support the SCSP's statutory function in monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of single agency and multi-agency safeguarding processes.**

### Cases considered for a MAAG meeting should offer the following:

- Cases which provide significant learning for partner agencies; the aim will be that cases will provide different themes and learning.
- Cases which are receiving or should be receiving a service from several partners. There may be cases where a child is not receiving a service from an agency where it appears that they potentially should be, and this will also be considered.
- Cases which do not meet the criteria for a Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) but there is still some learning to be had from the case.

The Partnership has completed four multi-agency audits during the reporting year April 2022 to March 2023, with excellent engagement from partners in statutory and voluntary services.

### The audits identified some key areas for consideration, learning and action as set out below:

- The challenges of working with peer on peer violence with young people as both the victim and the perpetrator.
- How professionals can best re-engage young people in education and learning to reduce the risk of harm outside the home. It is critical that agencies work together.
- Importance of the whole family working model, when identifying safety plans.
- The importance of identifying neglect and responding effectively- with agreed actions to use the graded care profile 2 tool.
- Disguised compliance was recognised as difficult to overcome, making it more important that frontline workers offer a cohesive approach.
- Learning identified how critical it is to review the family history and give it due weight, to avoid an event-based approach to assessment.

- Where services have not worked collaboratively, we have unpicked and agreed a way forward. This has been a recurring theme across the four audits.

Although the SCSP does not consult with children and young people directly, our audit is designed to ask practitioners how they have listened to each child and young person in the family. Each meeting is supported by a case summary report and an analytical chronology which highlights the impact on each child at particular ages of intervention.



## Disseminating Learning from Multi Agency Audits

**The purpose of the audit is to highlight areas of strengths and good practice for both single agencies and in partnership working, areas requiring improvement, areas of identified learning and emerging themes to enable a culture of continuous learning and improvement.**

Following each audit cycle, we produce a learning brief which is disseminated throughout each organisation and held on the SCSP website. To read the learning briefs in full, click

[Learning Brief MAAG Family A](#)  
[Learning Brief MAAG Family D](#)

Following a review of the MAAG process in January 2023, we decided to reduce the number of MAAG's from five per year to three. A separate evaluation/learning session will be held every January to scrutinise the learning from the previous year's audits, allowing members to report on progress of any significant changes to practice, processes, thresholds, multi-agency working and identify any continued workforce development.

## Section 11 Audits

**The SCSP and SASP jointly revised and delivered a self-assessment to thirteen statutory services across Sheffield as part of their Section 11 responsibilities.**

Several virtual meetings were held in May 2022, which offered an opportunity for senior leaders to meet with Lesley Smith, Independent Chair and Scrutineer and the three strategic safeguarding partners: Shelley Helmsley South Yorkshire Police (SYP), Alun Windle Chief Nurse, South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB), and John Macilwraith Executive Director of People Services.

Each partner had an hour to discuss issues of concern and challenge in their respective agency. Prior to the meeting, the panel members were briefed on agencies' Section 11 self-assessment reports and provided data on partnership engagement in city-wide meetings of the Executive, partner engagement in SASP/SCSP led training and data on participation in Child Protection case conferences.

Following this, all services have signed up to action plans to ensure an enduring impact beyond the assurance meetings. SCSP has welcomed feedback on the content of the self-assessments and on the framework used to ensure continuous improvement.

### Developments for 2023/24

The Partnership will seek assurance through next year's Section 11 audit, that all agencies continue to listen and respond to the lived experiences and views of children and families and ensure that service development considers these views.



# Multi Agency Training

**Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership has delivered sixty courses and seventy five multi-agency workshops to 4,538 staff members and volunteers in the children and adult workforce during 2022-23.**

The rationale for all courses and workshops delivered is contained within the [Workforce Development Strategy 2022-2025](#).

Details of course and workshop attendance can be found [here](#).

4817 e-learning courses were accessed and completed through the SCSP website, bringing the total number of training places completed to 9355, not including attendance at conferences.

This is an increase from last year and comprises a greater number of taught courses and workshops than in previous years.

All participants at workshops, conferences and taught courses provide feedback with four key measures:

1. The extent to which the training event has increased their understanding of the topic (5- point scale from 'not at all' to 'greatly increased')
2. Whether they would recommend the training to colleagues (yes/no)
3. The key message(s) they took from the training (free text)
4. What difference the training will make to their practice (free text)

The feedback is reviewed after every workshop and training session to ensure that training meets the needs of the participants, that the key messages have been understood and that the training has inspired an intention to improve individual and/or service practice. Adjustments are made if required. The overall picture is that attendees place value on the training offer and overwhelmingly identify changes they will make to practice because of their new learning.

Currently, for the Graded Care Profile 2 training, as a condition of receiving their licence, further evaluation and reflection takes place after a practitioner has used the tool in practice. This both encourages use of the tool and highlights the strengths and any difficulties of applying the training.

Several workshops delivered on behalf of SCSP are directly informed by children's experiences, these include Online Safeguarding and Understanding Young Carer's Needs.

This year we heard about the realities of knife crime from Alison Cope, a mother whose son was murdered via knife crime, and who campaigns for better understanding from professionals. We learned from her that to really understand the experiences of young people, not to ask children whether they are carrying a knife, but to ask whether their friends are.



# Safeguarding Awareness Week 21-25 November 2022

**During Safeguarding Awareness Week 2022, SCSP and SASP worked together to create a full programme of learning activities.**

From bookings taken by SCSP alone, approximately 1,500 places were booked and there was a high level of attendance and excellent feedback for the variety of trainers that took part.

More than 700 people attended the conference 'Ey Up Dad!: Working with the men in children's lives'. This online conference was produced by South and North Yorkshire members of the Yorkshire and Humber Multi-Agency Safeguarding Trainers (YHMAST), and had national speakers, including Mark Gurrey, the 2021 reviewer and author of "The Myth of Invisible Men" from the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel, along with practical examples of how services can better engage dads.

As part of Safeguarding Awareness week, the Online Safety lead delivered a seminar for professionals in the children's workforce. This was exceptionally well attended and reflected a need for training and reflective practice on Online Safety for all those who work with young people and vulnerable adults.



## Developments for 2023/24

- In 2023-2024, we intend to keep delivering a programme of high-quality workshops, events, and courses according to the SCSP Business Plan and Workforce Development Strategy 2022-2025 and remain alert to developments, emerging themes and knowledge regarding safeguarding.
- We hope to reach out to more of the paid and voluntary workforce by the introduction of a direct-booking system which will ease the experience of accessing training.
- We will look to extend our understanding of the impact of training by asking more trainees about the impact of training once they have had the opportunity to implement it.
- We will be delivering a full programme of training and activities during Safeguarding Awareness Week, 20th -24th November 2023.
- We will advance plans to work with Sheffield College to develop better consultation with young people to capture their voice to inform training.

# Workforce Development

## Learning and Practice Improvement Group (LPIG)

LPIG ensures that the SCSP **Workforce Development Strategy 2022-2025** is implemented effectively across all partner agencies, so the children's workforce receives an appropriate level of guidance and support in safeguarding children.

LPIG also oversees the Partnership's learning cycle and seeks assurance from agencies that recommendations are acted on and policies and procedures are followed.

In accordance with our Workforce Development Strategy 2022-2025, the SCSP Executive Board endorsed the plan for three priority areas for workforce development to be considered during 2022/23.

This was done using a process of agencies submitting self-assessments and creating action plans for improvement and providing feedback on their submissions at each LPIG.

**For 2022/23, this process has been completed on the following topics:**

**Diversity:** In accordance with the Equality Act 2010, supporting the initial findings of the Race Equality Commission in Sheffield, and in recognition of discrimination as a source of significant harm, SCSP agreed to view all activity through the lens of promoting equity in services and for children and families.

**Neglect:** This topic was agreed to support the implementation of the Sheffield Neglect Strategy and to underpin the implementation of the NSPCC Graded Care Profile 2.

### **Engaging with the men in children's lives:**

Self-assessment in this area followed the publication of **"The Myth of Invisible Men" – Safeguarding Children under 1 for non-accidental injury caused by male carers,** (Child Safeguarding Review Panel 2021) and the work was further supported by the regional conference detailed above.

The self-assessment work generated activity in services and agencies developed their own action plans, including highlighting areas of good practice, which were shared via learning briefs on **diversity** and **neglect**.

**In December 2022, the SCSP Executive Group agreed for the 2023/24 learning from practice priorities to focus on:**

**Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB):** In response to the **Family G Serious Case Review**, Social Care have led on the redevelopment of the city-wide response to identifying, assessing, and providing interventions to children and young people presenting with harmful sexual behaviour.

Since Hackett Continuum Model for screening harmful sexual behaviour replaced the Brooke Traffic Light Tool in Sheffield, a guidance tool to support its use has been developed. In response to this, the SCSP in partnership with Youth Justice Service, developed the multi-agency workshop 'Recognising and Responding to Harmful Sexual Behaviour'.

The self-assessments will focus on the effectiveness of the new HSB pathway and the implementation of the SCSP multi-agency training offer.

### **Children as victims of domestic abuse:**

Considering the recent paper by the Child Safeguarding Review Panel **Multi-agency safeguarding and domestic abuse (publishing.service.gov.uk)** and the changes in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, which sets out that children are victims of domestic abuse in their own right, it is timely for agencies across the city to self-assess their understanding and response to domestic abuse.



# The Audit and Performance Group

**The Partnership uses data intelligence and audits to ensure the help being provided to children in Sheffield is effective.**

To achieve this, the Audit and Performance Subgroup is responsible for receiving, analysing, and challenging relevant single agency audit reports and performance reviews, identifying any significant issues that need to be monitored and/or raised to the Learning and Practice Improvement Group and the Executive Partnership Group.

## Hidden Harm Group

The Hidden Harm Group is responsible for overseeing Sheffield's **Hidden Harm Strategy 2021 – 2025** which commits city-wide services, both adults and children, to work collaboratively in households where there is drug and alcohol misuse, poor mental health, harmful gambling, and/or domestic abuse to ensure that the voice of the child or vulnerable adult is heard, and their circumstances safeguarded.

The main objectives of the strategy are identified in the **Hidden Harm Implementation Plan**, with the overall aim of embedding a whole household approach and improving joint working focusing on shared assessments, shared understanding and joint planning.

## Achievements in 2022/23

Adult and Children Services have increased their understanding of the impact on children where there is Hidden Harm within their households. Evidence from both adult and children services case records shows greater communication and discussion and a greater shared understanding.

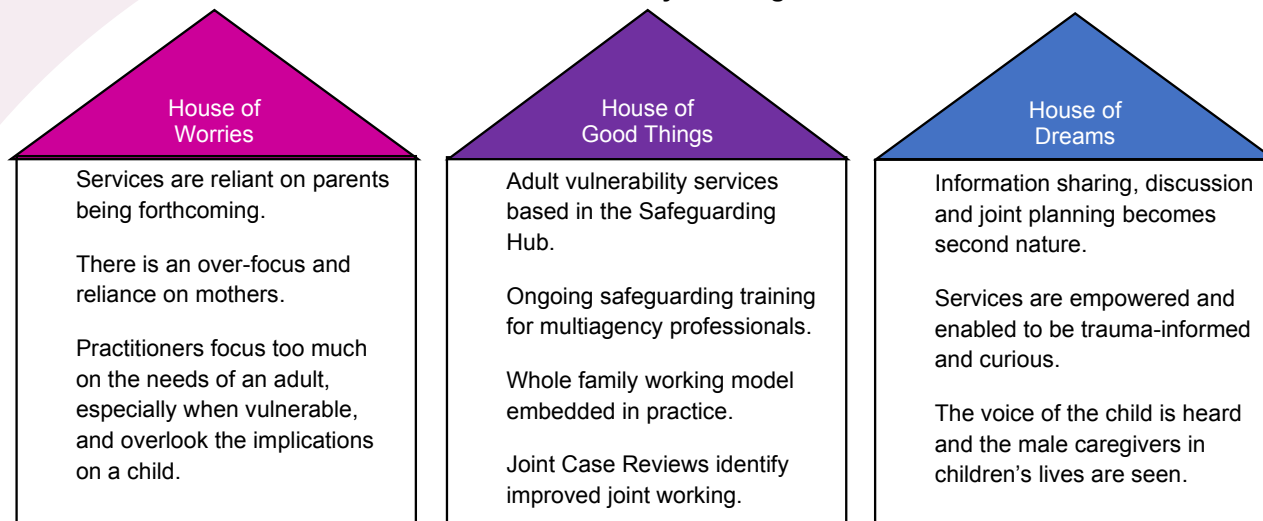
## Developments for 2023/24

We will hold a Parental Mental Health Workshop for adult and children's services to consider the connections between the findings from the **multi-agency case reviews:**

- **Being Trauma Informed** – consideration is given to the impact on family life of intergenerational trauma.

- **Being Inclusive** – people with neurodevelopmental diversity are included and enabled to participate by better use of language and systems.
- **Being Family Focused** - the whole experience of the child is looked at instead of treating each incident as a single event. The voices of children and male caregivers are heard by all services.
- **Being Comprehensive** – there is communication, discussion and shared planning between adult and children services to help develop Family Safety Plans.

### Whole Family Working



# Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Steering Group

FASD is a neurological condition that is entirely preventable and affects people throughout their life. FASD impacts on maternity, children, young people, and adult services, both individuals and families.

Evidence suggests that, without the correct diagnosis and support, an individual with FASD is more likely to have a range of issues including poor mental health, substance misuse problems, involvement with criminal justice, exploitation, homelessness and difficulties with social relationships, education, and employment.

Page 29



## Achievements in 2022/23

The NICE Quality Standards for FASD were published in March 2022 and the FASD work programme has continued to ensure that Sheffield meets these national guidelines:

- **Prevention** - Reducing alcohol exposed pregnancies by raising public awareness.

Awareness raising posters are spread across the city in pubs and clubs, libraries, markets, workplaces, GP surgeries, sexual health clinics, refuges, family hubs, and substance misuse services. The key message is being promoted that 'No amount of alcohol at any stage of pregnancy is safe for the developing foetus'.

- **Identification** - Increasing practitioner's understanding and confidence in identifying FASD and offering appropriate timely support.

2000+ practitioners from across Sheffield services have attended multi-agency training about FASD: How it is caused, how it can be identified, and the impact it has on children, young people, and their families.

- **Assessment and Support-** Multi-Agency Assessment will help the individual and family access the appropriate support.

The FASD work programme has continued to build on the pre-and post-diagnosis support that is needed and can be provided in the city. A peer support group was established. Practitioners have access to FASD resources to use with families.

Sheffield is being recognised nationally as an area of expertise and development in FASD and now all regions in South Yorkshire have adopted the above strategic priorities that Sheffield's FASD work programme developed.

## Impact

Preventative awareness raising, both public and professional, will reduce the number of alcohol-exposed pregnancies and the likelihood of children born with FASD.

The training offered to professionals has been well received, and services have already started to change their approach to supporting children and young people with possible or diagnosed FASD. Appropriate intervention and support for people with FASD hinges on correct diagnosis, and the ongoing FASD work programme has improved access to diagnostics citywide.

## Developments for 2023/24

Working in partnership across South Yorkshire, we will run a digital media campaign to raise awareness of the harm that can be caused by drinking alcohol when pregnant.

The FASD work programme will continue to raise the profile of FASD and will support Sheffield Children's Hospital in including FASD as part of their Neuro-Disability pathway.



Page 297

## Education Safeguarding Advisors and Education Safeguarding Subgroup

**In Sheffield we have Safeguarding Children Advisors for education. These roles exist to support education settings to ensure the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children in our city.**

The safeguarding advisors are an advice and support resource for all education settings, with a named advisor linked to them. The advisory team also offer safeguarding training. See here for more information regarding the offer. Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership - Sheffield education settings ([safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org](https://safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org))

The new Education Safeguarding Subgroup was established in November 2022, as the Partnership recognised that early year's providers, schools and colleges form part of the wider safeguarding system. The purpose of the subgroup is to maintain strong relationships and engagement opportunities within the Education Sector across Sheffield.

It also ensures a central point for disseminating learning from safeguarding reviews. The subgroup also provides an opportunity for early year's providers, schools, and colleges to share educational strategies with both the Partnership's Learning and Practice Improvement Group (LPIG) and the SCSP Executive Group.

An education workshop was held in March 2023, which brought designated safeguarding leads together to look at the issue of "transitions" and to develop a transitions passport across the city.

# Licensing and Contextual Safeguarding

The Partnership's licensing officers support the licensing authority and licensed operators to meet the core objectives of the legislation and to ensure that an effective and meaningful response is made in terms of safeguarding children at licensed premises.

## Achievements in 2022/23

- Investigated complaints about locations where children may be at risk, escalating to action plans for improvement and licence reviews.
- Shared information and contributed to disruption at problem locations via the Child Exploitation Tactical Group.
- We continued to promote contextual safeguarding practice and have presented this at the Local Government Association's Essential Leadership Seminars.
- Delivered safeguarding awareness training to stewards at Sheffield Wednesday Football Club.
- Responded to 181 licence and 9 gambling applications.
- Supported the development of the Gambling Strategy to prevent harmful gambling.
- Offered advice about safeguarding practice at major events children attend and in the wider business community.
- Worked with Safe Places to produce a training resource film, about working with vulnerable

- passengers. The film will be used as part of the taxi driver training.
- Continued to promote Safe to Play campaign and have extended the resource to secondary schools, colleges, and young carers groups. Over the coming months, we will revisit sports centres, football clubs and leisure centres to evaluate the impact of the initiative.
- Supported the FASD awareness campaign, by providing licensed operators in the city centre with posters for display in their premises, to encourage consumers to make informed decisions about drinking when pregnant, and briefing operators about FASD and the related risks of drinking in pregnancy.
- In response to risk associated with gender inequality and violence against those who identify as women and girls, we have collaborated with the Sheffield Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Forum to produce new guidance for public event managers.

- Written material to raise awareness of VAWG with taxi drivers, which will form part of the new extended training session we plan to deliver in partnership with Sheffield College.
- In our training, we use the locally produced **My Pockets - be THAT mate** video to raise awareness of preventing violence against women and girls.

## Impact

The work of Sheffield's licensing officers has attained a reputation for innovative work, and they have received local, regional, and national awards for their proactive approach. We routinely share our good practice, materials and strategic approaches with other organisations and local authorities.

We use feedback from training sessions and from safeguarding meetings with regulatory services to evaluate impact and prioritise need; we revisit problem locations to assess improvement in safeguarding compliance. The impact of this is that business operators, education,

social care and regulatory staff are increasingly able to recognise and respond to risk in the business community, making the city safer for children and young people.

## Developments for 2023/24

- Move towards a quality assurance role in training and monitoring compliance in the business community.
- Continue to work with South Yorkshire Police to raise awareness of child exploitation and the hotel/temporary accommodation trade. We recently joined the National Systems Change meeting with the Children's Society, which has a national focus on how the hotel trade is used by local authorities.
- Continue working with the Child Exploitation Tactical Group, Sheffield City Council Tax Licensing and other organisations, to explore how existing systems can be improved to safeguard children looked after who are travelling by taxi and/or using hotels.

# Vulnerable Young People Executive Board

The Vulnerable Young People's Executive Board (VYPEB) oversees the delivery of the contextual safeguarding strategy and action plan to monitor the multi-agency response to this cohort of young people. This is co-chaired by the Director for Children and Families and South Yorkshire Police.

## Achievements in 2022/23

- The process for reviewing high, medium and low risk cases in Multi Agency Criminal Exploitation (MACE) meetings has been reviewed. This has made the processes for MACE more manageable with more time being given to high-risk cases.
- The Child Exploitation Tactical Group (CETG) has done training with Licensing, Hotels and Taxi Services on identifying and combatting child exploitation.
- Sheffield's Missing Policy has been reviewed.

The following are examples of how the VYPEB are delivering against the priorities in the Contextual Safeguarding Strategy:

- 1. Young people engage with our interventions** – There are currently 75 children open to the Amber Service who are at risk of exploitation. As social workers in the Amber Service have smaller caseloads, they can visit young people more intensely, even daily. There are several intervention workers, with whom the young people work well. The service also works with 26 schools delivering preventative work, looking for signs of exploitation. The Missing Service is in contact with three local authority care homes working closely together to enhance the quality of responses from residents following their return.
- 2. Impact of interventions** - To evidence impact, Amber Service completes an improved Safety Scale when it closes cases or steps them down. Since 03.02.2022, out of 217 open cases, 144 have been successfully closed, evidencing the intervention's success.
- 3. Young people remain cared for in the family and/or community** – Of 75 children open to the Amber Service, 43 are CIN, 11 CLA, and 22 CP. 14% are looked after, and the rest are within a home environment.
- 4. Young people provided feedback that informs our service delivery and development** – The Amber Service has had positive feedback. However most feedback is verbal, so we are developing a process for obtaining written feedback.
- 5. Young people have a robust safety plan coordinated by a Strategy Meeting (if needed) if they go missing or run away** – A strategy meeting is arranged when a child is missing for 72 hours or if there have been three missing episodes within 28 days. These are never missed and there is a running count of when these are needed. Within the strategy meeting there is a clear plan to support robust safety planning.

## Developments for 2023/24

- In 2023/24, the VYPEB will focus on 'deep dives' into themes identified by partners. These include,
  - First-time entrants into the criminal justice system.
  - Serious Youth Violence, including peer-on-peer violence and knife crime.
  - Diversity, including mixed-race teenage boys and the Roma community.
  - Sexual exploitation, sexual abuse, and harmful sexual behaviour.
- A Directions Panel is scheduled to start in October 2023, looking at support for young people at risk of exploitation as they transition to adulthood.

# Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

**The child death overview panel reviews individual cases of all child deaths of children and young people normally resident in the area.**

Between 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023 there were forty-four deaths of Sheffield children. This figure is in keeping with the annual average of 43.5 per year since the child death processes began in 2008/09.

Sheffield CDOP met on five occasions, reviewing the deaths of thirty four children. Panel have continued to meet virtually with good attendance achieved by all member agencies. Most deaths (65%) occurred in those under one year (34% aged 0-27 days, 31% aged 28-364 days), which is slightly higher than national figures. Chromosomal, genetic, and congenital abnormalities and perinatal/perinatal events remain the most common categories of death in those reviewed in 2022/23 (50%).

While there are no strict timescales for review, we aim to discuss cases at CDOP at the earliest opportunity to ensure learning is identified and implemented as soon as possible. 68% of reviews undertaken during 2022/23 were held within twelve months of a death. The median number of days between death and CDOP review was 335 nationally; in Sheffield this was 280.

CDOP considers whether any modifiable factors were present for each case. These are defined as actions that could be taken through national or local interventions which could reduce the risk of future child deaths. Modifiable factors were assessed to be present in 32% of cases, which is slightly below the average for England (37%). CDOP continues to feed data into the National Child Mortality Database (NCMD), which was introduced in 2019 to systematically capture information following a child's death; this has enabled learning at a national level and informed changes in policy and practice.

Quarterly meetings have also been held with our regional partners in South Yorkshire CDOP to share learning.

## Achievements in 2022/23

- Implementation of multi-agency Safer Sleep guidance and practice - Membership of the safer sleep steering group has been expanded to include representation from South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue, social care and primary care. The group has met every two months and an action plan with priorities for all agencies has been created which is subject to regular review. Safer sleep training has been delivered by the Lullaby Trust to practitioners citywide; this included a separate training session for safer sleep champions.
- Continued roll-out of ICON across the local area - Sheffield has continued to work with regional colleagues in relation to **ICON**, Safer sleep and Drymester, and regional guidelines for these areas are being considered.
- Participation in thematic reviews with our regional partners - We did not participate in a regional thematic review in 2022/23 due to ongoing staffing capacity. However, a task and finish group was initiated at the end of 2022/23 and a resource has now been identified to contribute to future reviews, and a thematic review is in progress as of Quarter 1 of 2023/24.



Infant crying is normal



Comforting methods can help



It's OK to walk away



Never, ever shake a baby

- Completion of a local suicide contagion plan - A local contagion plan was finalised during 2022/23 and unfortunately there were circumstances where this was put in to action, though it is positive to note the plan operated well. In addition, guidance has been produced for schools about responding to traumatic events, which has also been positively received.
- To consider how we support and influence strategies to reduce the harm of social deprivation - There have been amendments to the national data collection and CDOP now routinely considers the impact of social deprivation during reviews. There will be further consideration with regard to this area during 2023/24.

**The following learning points were noted from cases reviewed:**

- CDOP noted the importance of addressing safer sleep in inpatient settings - Safer Sleep champions have been identified for all acute wards at Sheffield Children’s Hospital and a mandatory training plan is being considered. Further work will be undertaken with the neonatal unit to establish a baseline of Safer Sleep knowledge and training plans based on the outcome proposed.
- The recognition that access to language interpretation has a direct impact on quality of care -This was raised with the Safeguarding Partnership and Health and Wellbeing Board to consider any further action that may need to be undertaken.

## Developments for 2023/24

- For the upcoming year 2023/24, the hosting arrangements for South Yorkshire CDOP will be facilitated by Doncaster CDOP in line with the agreed rotation of a local authority area hosting the quarterly meetings and facilitating the shared learning reviews throughout an annual reporting year. Sheffield will continue to contribute to these meetings and work with regional partners.
- Sheffield will continue with their local CDOP processes and the supporting pathways to review deaths of children who have died that are normally resident in their own areas. These reviews will contribute collectively to identifying the key themes for shared learning reviews across South Yorkshire.
- The continued absence of a CDOP Manager in post has impacted on CDOP in delays with collecting information, progressing actions, undertaking planned development work with Panel and reduced capacity to engage with regional thematic reviews. To address the current gap in service provision, recruitment of a CDOP Manager is in progress.
- Following the death of a child, bereaved families should be supported by a Hospital Trust and provided with a key worker who can act as a point of contact. There is continued action being undertaken across Hospital Trusts to fully embed the Key Worker role.
- The development and delivery of a tiered Safer Sleep training offer for practitioners in Sheffield as part of the Early Years training offer.
- The development of support materials for families and professionals following infant bereavement, which will describe help available, including key roles and responsibilities and processes for delivering support.

# Children and Young People's Involvement

The Children's Involvement Team (CIT) sits within the Quality Assurance and Involvement Service (QAIS) in the Children and Families Service of Sheffield City Council.

The primary focus of CIT is to seek children's views and opinions on what matters to them, to ensure that those views are listened to and considered by decision makers and to feed back to the children.

## The Children Involvement Team delivers the following services:

- Advocacy support for children aged 5-17 in child protection conferences
- Issue based advocacy support for children cared for by Sheffield local authority and Sheffield care leavers up to age 25
- Issue based advocacy support for disabled children receiving short break support to age 25
- Facilitation of creative Voice groups, including Little Children in Care Council, Children in Care Council and the Sheffield Care Leavers Union
- Facilitation of Sheffield's Independent Visitor (IV) service, including children looked after, care leavers and a pilot of IVs for adopted children and those in connected care
- Regular research of children's views of the service they receive from Social Care and facilitation of a Young People's Reverse Scrutiny Panel to ensure their voices are acted upon by their Service
- Training and support for workers supporting children and young people to ensure their voices are heard and listened to.

## During the year, the Children's Involvement Team delivered the following:

- 192 children aged 5 – 17 years received independent advocacy support at Initial Child Protection Conferences
- 43 children aged 5 – 17 years received independent advocacy support at First Review Child Protection Conferences
- 41 children looked after, care leavers and disabled children received issue-based advocacy support
- 3 create and change groups met regularly to listen to the voices of children and young people aged 7 to 25 years
- 10 young people were involved in 12 'experts by experience' interview panels
- 10 young people were involved in Young People's Reverse Scrutiny Panels to review service managers' action plans
- 6 training sessions were delivered

to 91 workers across Sheffield Children and Families worksites

- 12 workers showcased 6 areas of good practice and innovative direct work at 2 Whole Service Events to 239 attendees
- 87 children were matched with an Independent Visitor
- 15 audit interviews were completed for Social Care and Multi Agency Support Team (MAST).





## Advocacy – child protection

The Children’s Involvement Team provides independent advocacy for children and young people aged 5 to 17 years in child protection processes. Advocates use a wide range of child-friendly tools and techniques to engage with children and seek their voice, wishes and feelings.

An advocate will present a written report of the child’s words in the conference, support a child to participate in the conference if they wish to attend, ensure the child’s wishes and feelings are reflected in the plan, feedback to the child following the conference and evaluate the service the child has received.

Advocacy support is offered to every child within the commissioned age bracket on an opt-out basis for the child, following permission being granted by a parent or carer.

During 2022-23, 192 children received independent advocacy support at Initial Child Protection Conferences. 43 children aged 5 – 17 years received independent advocacy support at First Review Child Protection Conferences.

“An advocate is important to make sure my point of view is getting out there and my opinion is listened to. [My advocate] is understanding, polite and easy to share things with, they made me feel relaxed. I wish I’d met [my advocate] before all this happened so I could voice my opinions earlier!”

“I needed an advocate because it helped me speak in the meeting and gather my thoughts. They helped me write down my thoughts and speak in the meeting.”

### Feedback from children

“It’s important to have an advocate to be our voice. It’s good because when they come it’s fun and it makes me really happy. I wish I could see [my advocate] again to help me before the next meeting.”

“It’s important that my say on the matter is advocated for to help the situation. It helped with the questions and meetings and [my advocate] has been very straightforward and clear about the information. They spoke to me with understanding and on a helpful level.”

“I think I need an advocate because sometimes I feel like people don’t listen to me because I’m a kid. I think it’s good having [advocate] as my advocate because they do their job right and write down things that I say.”

## Issue based advocacy – children looked after, care leavers and disabled children accessing Sheffield’s short break homes

An issue-based advocacy approach means that an advocate will be allocated to work with a child who has a specific issue that they feel is not being listened to or isn't progressing in the way they would like. The advocate always works under the instruction of the child they are advocating for. The service also provides advocacy using a non-instructed approach for children who are unable to instruct or direct their advocate.

During 2022-23, 45 children looked after, care leavers and children with disabilities who access short break homes received issue-based advocacy support; this included 28 new referrals and 17 cases carried over from the previous year. Of the 45 advocacy cases:

- **12 (27%)** children had a disability
- **13 (29%)** live in a children's home
- **11 (24%)** were care leavers aged between 18 and 25 years
- **10 (22%)** living out of city.

The most commonly received referrals included support for young people regarding placements, education, finances and support at review meetings. The average age for young people needing support was fifteen years, as the change from being a child looked after to a care leaver approaches.





## Feedback from children

*“I needed an advocate because I wouldn't have been able to do it and get what I wanted myself. We can't talk to the social services bosses but [an advocate] can. [My advocate] has helped me so so so much. I would score them 10/10.”*

*“I don't need an advocate anymore because I don't have any more problems! [My advocate] solved them all. I score them 10/10. [My advocate] has helped me so much. They have been battling for me and have worked so hard. It would be better if I could still have an advocate even though I have no problems. I wish they had...done nothing different. They did it so good!”*

## Voice and Influence Structures

**The Children's Involvement Team provides a range of formal and informal structures for children and young people to have their say and influence services. These include:**

- Create and Change Groups:
  - Little Children in Care Council (Little CiCC): ages 7 – 11
  - Children in Care Council (CiCC): ages 12 – 17
  - Sheffield Care Leavers Union (SCLU): ages 18 – 24
- Young People's Reverse Scrutiny Panel
- Young People's Interview Panel

## Create and Change groups

This year the groups returned to face-to-face meetings following the relaxing of the Covid restrictions. Key pieces of work included:

- **CiCC and SCLU jointly took over the Corporate Parenting Board** and delivered a session about the lived experiences of care experienced children and young people.
- **CiCC and SCLU launched a poetry book** called 'Find Your Spark, Leave Your Mark' which was launched at the city's Off The Shelf festival partnership with Hive South Yorkshire.
- **All members of the three groups spent sessions making a patchwork quilt** to share messages about their care experience. The tapestry was launched at Off The Shelf book launch in October and displayed in the Millennium Galleries.
- **SCLU and CiCC took part in a photography project** with Site Gallery. The theme was 'Hidden Sheffield' and linked to the young people's experiences of being in care. Posters will be printed of their work and, along with their words, will be printed and displayed across the city centre.

- **The groups have met for summer sessions in parks** across the city to discuss what issues are important to them and potential projects they may like to take on following the summer break.
- **SCLU made two podcasts:** one was about mental health and one about their experiences of working on the studio orchestra project.
- **SCLU members performed their own pieces of spoken word and rap** at The Crucible Theatre. They worked in advance with composer and rapper George Morton and, accompanied by Sheffield Youth Orchestra, performed to a public audience. The project won national recognition and was short-listed for a Children and Young People Now award.
- **Members of SCLU presented at a city-wide health conference online.** They shared their 'Top Tips for GPs' from care leavers and launched a national discussion on Twitter under the hashtag #bigGPconvo. This project was showcased by Coram Voice as a good practice example for their national online 'practice bank'.

**GP awareness - Coram Voice**



## Young People's Reverse Scrutiny Panel

**Service Managers in Children and Families Service are challenged via Bright Spots bi-annual survey, to identify three areas of work to improve via strategic plans.**

The service managers are invited quarterly to present their plans and progress to the Young People's Reverse Scrutiny Panel, who give feedback, advise on ways forward and engage in co-production going forwards.

[Young people's scrutiny panel - Coram Voice](#)

## Experts by experience interview panels

**Young people took part in 'experts by experience' panels throughout the year. They were part of interview processes for social workers, personal advisors and senior managers across the Council.**

The young people have developed a process that means they can give a view on the candidate from their own perspective. The areas they focus on include relationship building, communication skills and knowledge.

The young people's views are given equal weight in the final outcome as other panels within the process. The panel chair notifies the young people's panel of the successful candidate and gives them feedback on how their views influenced the decision.

During the year, young people sat on the following recruitment panels:

- Social Worker recruitment
- Residential Service Manager
- Strategic Director of Children's Services
- Director for Children and Families
- Personal advisors in the Leaving Care Service.

## Voice and Influence Workers

At the start of the year, we began the process of developing five paid roles for care experienced young people within the Children's Involvement Team. The aim was to provide care experienced young people an opportunity to develop skills some of them learnt during their involvement in the groups, including training, interviewing, advocating on behalf of their peers, and adding to this with the acquisition of work-based skills. Five care experienced young people were successfully recruited to the roles in October 2022. The workers are commissioned by services and organisations in Sheffield to promote the voices of care experienced young people.

This initiative was highlighted by Coram Voice as best practice:

[Voice & Influence worker - Coram Voice](#)

### Feedback

“ Since joining I didn't really know the extent on how impactful, joyful, and transformative it would be for me. My passion, my skills are continuing to develop and grow rapidly just because of how meaningful and important this job is. Not only to the lives we change but to me as well. ”



# Section 5

Partner progress  
with joint  
priorities





## Children's Social Care (CSC)

**Sheffield Safeguarding Hub (SSH) continues to act as the first point of contact for children and young people in Sheffield where safeguarding concerns are identified, and children and young people are not achieving their full potential.**

### Achievements in 2022/23

Over the past twelve months, the Early Help Hub and the Safeguarding Hub have continued to develop stronger pathways to ensure children, young people and their families receive the right support at the right time with no inbuilt delay into the pathway. This includes a refresh of the step-up process from early help to children's social care and continuation of the Integrated Front Door pilot which allows for referrals sent to the SSH, which are appropriate for Level 4 support or below, to receive a timely social care screening response within the early help hub.

Following the recommendations from OFSTED, the SSH has strengthened its response to children and young people experiencing harm through domestic abuse through the introduction of perpetrator mapping within screening records and holding a daily Multi-Agency Domestic Abuse (MADA) meeting, which includes representatives from CSC, South Yorkshire Police, Independent Domestic Abuse Services (IDAS) and MAST focusing on immediate safety planning following high-risk domestic abuse incidents prior to Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). Most practitioners within the SSH have also completed the full four-day Safe and Together training.

### Developments for 2023/24

- Rolling out the Integrated Front Door (IFD) which will allow early help and social care specialists to provide a holistic view at the front door of the child/family.
- Children and Families Services will create one pathway to support and publicise one number for all worries relating to children, regardless of risk and complexity. This will simplify the process for the public and professionals and potentially reduce unnecessary social work interventions as we shift the focus to ask if the child's needs can be met by Early Help services. This is in line with the recommendations of the Stable Homes Built on Love agenda from the Department for Education.
- For concerns relating to the safeguarding of children and young people in Sheffield, the IFD will operate a conversation model that allows for richer conversations to identify the lived experience and impact for the child and young person. The introduction of one early help assessment across the Early Help Partnership will be used to refer for support within one centralised children's portal for early help services within the IFD.
- The IFD will also introduce streamlined pathways into other services within Sheffield and the development of the web offer through the Sheffield Directory will put information at the families' fingertips.
- From July 2023, a worker from the Probation Service has been co-located within the SSH to ensure their services' contribution to the MADA process.



## MAST (Multi-Agency Support Team) is no longer a single service

- The range of support services that used to be delivered under the name 'MAST' all still exist and are available as part of the Sheffield Early Help Offer.
- Early Help is a system of support that all agencies who work with children, young people and families are part of.
- The right service for children, young people and families will depend on their strengths and needs.
- The whole-family intervention support service that used to be part of the Multi-Agency Support Teams offer has been re-named as the Family Intervention Service.
- The name "Family Intervention Service" has been formally adopted from July 2023.

## Family Intervention Service (FIS)

The Family Intervention Service (FIS) offers whole family support where there are multiple issues needing a co-ordinated multi-agency action plan. FIS undertakes direct work with children, young people and families using the Signs of Wellbeing framework, to listen to and act on their wishes and feelings.

This helps everyone in the support network to be clear about the strengths and positive progress, the worries and complicating factors and the agreed next steps to make further improvements. A multi-agency plan is created based on addressing the needs of the whole family, with regular Team Around the Family meetings held to discuss progress and agree actions.

More information on the Family Intervention Service can be found on the link below.  
Family Intervention Service | Sheffield ([sheffielddirectory.org.uk](https://sheffielddirectory.org.uk))





## Achievements in 2022/23

*“Gavin is doing great work helping me with M when she was previously being bullied in school, and Gavin is making sure support is in place for I as he too is being bullied in school...Gavin is doing everything excellently.”*

**The Strategic Early Help Review, which is to be published Autumn 2023, has evidenced the positive impact Early Help Services have on reducing the need for, and duration of input of, statutory child protection services.**

**Where FIS has supported families, there is evidencable decreased demand and duration of statutory service involvement.**

These are direct quotes from the family feedback survey that is part of our quality assurance process

*“A referral was made from school due to the kids misbehaving at school, we were needing help with managing with their behaviour and helping getting moved house and schools...Nosheen is supportive. Trying to get all the support she can for us-Pleased with the support she is giving us as a family. 10/10 - Trying her best to support us as a family can't do anymore.”*

*“Rachel has done a lot for us, she has made some cut outs and charts for our shopping trips to help with the tantrums. She has referred me to a parenting group to help me be more confident. Rachel has spoken to both children and shared advice with them. She has done lots really. She is always there, always listens on calls and emails. Everything Rachel is doing is perfect.”*

*“Tina... sends me updated plans after every meeting. 10/10 she has done everything and it's working.”*

## Developments for 2023/24

- **Priority 1:** Providing the right help at the right time for families.
- **Priority 2:** Launch and development of the “Family Intervention Service” name and logo as part of a citywide Early Help system of support.
- **Priority 3:** Skilled and supported workforce.
- **Priority 4:** Families receive high quality support from the Family Intervention Service to meet their needs.



Page 220

Sheffield Futures **Door 43** service for 11 to 18 year olds has continued to embed its offer of counselling to children and young people affected by domestic abuse who are in safe accommodation – this includes those who are living in the family home where safety measures have been provided to reduce the risk of harassment from the perpetrator.

45 children and young people have had counselling during the year, and

Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing (EMDR) is offered – which has enabled counsellors to directly support clients with past trauma.



**Level Up** is a new service that was commissioned during the year by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The Level Up programme aims to engage with young people presenting abusive and challenging behaviours within their homes, with family members or within intimate relationships. The programme offers bespoke, one-to-one sessions and can also provide group sessions, depending on what is deemed more appropriate and effective. Level Up explores what it means to display appropriate behaviour within relationships and highlights how conflict, aggression and anger can deeply impact the lives of others.

**Escape the Trap** training was provided again to thirty practitioners from youth services, social care, and voluntary sector services. This means professionals are better equipped to work with

young people at risk of becoming a victim or causing harm in their intimate relationships.



A new contract to provide safe accommodation for people affected by Domestic Abuse was commissioned during the year and the new provider is **IDAS** in partnership with our long-term refuge provider **Sheffield Women's Aid**. Support is offered in two high quality women's refuges with 37 family units and 27 units of dispersed safe accommodation (Safe Zones) for families and individuals (including male victims). There were 34 children living in the refuges at the end of the year and 19 children living in Safe Zones properties. IDAS also supports families living in dispersed Sheffield City Council safe accommodation and in properties where Sanctuary Scheme measures have been installed – amounting to approximately 550 families per year. Support is offered to children in safe accommodation to help them understand and recover from the impact of domestic abuse: 100% of refuge residents who had children said that they understood more about the impact of abuse on their child/children when they left the service.

The multi-agency Under 16s and Domestic Abuse Task and Finish Group launched the **Young People's Domestic Abuse DASH** Risk Assessment during the year with **training offered by IDAS** on use of the tool and understanding the specific risks facing young people experiencing domestic abuse

in their intimate relationships. The group also developed resources for parents, carers and professionals on Child and Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse (CAPVA), which are now available [here](#). Later in the year, the group became the Children as Victims of Domestic Abuse in order to consider the law change brought in by the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and its implications for services working to safeguard children and young people in Sheffield. This new

understanding has been written into the updated **Threshold of Needs** document for the city.



Page 225

## The SafeLives Systems Review found that

'Children are now recognised in law as victims in their own right. Sheffield need to ensure that the needs of the child are assessed, understood, met and appropriate support and services are in place for the whole family and linked in with other relevant strategies.

We can see that there are some specialist services available for children, and their families, and recognise the work within Sheffield with children and their families.

We know from the professionals survey that children's wellbeing was one of the top areas of identified need when working with victims. Within survivor feedback there was a feeling of a missed opportunity to work with their children. Survivors also identified the need for specialist DA therapeutic support for children. Support for them as parents to be able to discuss DA with their children was also identified by survivors as a need. Also, consideration of mental health support and support for children with additional needs. Professionals at the workshop identified the need for further specialist provision linked into specialist services which is sustainably funded; an integrated worker within Children's Services, provision for children who are not working with Children's Services, and education within schools. Education for young people regarding healthy relationships and the impact of DA was also a theme in professional discussions. Professionals also identified the need for this to be a whole family approach.

Children and Young People interventions should be embedded in the local multi-agency response to safeguard children and young people from the impact of domestic abuse and, therefore, should be managed by a multi-disciplinary team, which works with each member of the family.'

These comments need consideration at a strategic level to ensure that the response to domestic abuse is right in the city, especially given the law change recognising children as victims in their own right.

## Impact

Survivors still tell us that they don't disclose due to the fear of children being removed.

Safe and Together is having an impact on workers and services' ability to build trust with victims/survivors so that we can partner with them to protect their children from the impact of domestic abuse. Mothers in refuges and other safe accommodation are being supported to better understand the impact of domestic abuse on their children.

The majority of children and young people supported by Haven report at case closure that they have improved emotional wellbeing, feel safer, have better relationships with family and friends, and have better school attendance.

## Views of parents

*“Your worker is worth her weight in gold, her compassion and empathy shines through her ability to support children. Her hard work has given my daughter her confidence back.”*

*“They now feel happy and safe.”*

*“Fantastic, my daughters really benefitted and enjoyed the sessions. We really appreciate all the help and support we received.”*

*“Outstanding support provided for both me and my child. RP was quick to build a trustworthy rapport with my child, making her feel safe, secure, and supported. Through the course of the support my child has grown in confidence and happiness, all thanks to her work with your worker. Really good and informative.”*

*“Couldn't wish for a better person I had working with my son. Absolutely fantastic. RJ went above and beyond to help us. She was really helpful.”*

*“The support has built my child's sense of safety and self-confidence. It gave us a lot of coping strategies and helped my child understand it was OK to be angry sometimes.”*

*“My girls have changed so much and developed a strong bond.”*

## Developments for 2023/24

The **Multi-agency Safeguarding and Domestic Abuse** report from the Department for Education (DFE) Child Safeguarding Practice Review team is being shared at an operational and strategic level as it gives a guide to what we need to do next in Sheffield.

- Safe and Together Overview days and training to continue.
- Ashiana has secured funding to develop therapeutic support for children from minoritised backgrounds in the city who have experienced domestic abuse and this service will be promoted once it is up and running.
- Ongoing work will be to consider the implications recognising children as victims in their own right and what this means for Sheffield services.
- Considering the **Domestic Abuse Commissioners New report on Family Court processes** and the impact of these on children affected by domestic abuse.
- Hold a conference for schools on Violence Against Women and Girls and how to respond.
- Training will be provided during the year to the Amber Service in relation to identifying and supporting children and young people impacted by domestic abuse.

A link to the latest DACT newsletter is provided [here](#).



## Aldine House

**Aldine House is a secure children's home in Sheffield that provides a high quality, safe and therapeutic environment to support the individual needs of the vulnerable CYP in its care.**



The overarching aim is to encourage residents to develop a range of personal skills that will enable them to manage safely and responsibly when they leave. The home provides care and accommodation for up to five children placed by the Youth Custody Service and five children accommodated under Section

25 of the Children Act 1989 placed by local authorities.

Admission of any child under Section 25 of the Children Act 1989 who is under 13 years of age requires the approval of the Secretary of State. Education is provided on site in dedicated facilities. The commissioning of health services in this home is the statutory responsibility of NHS England under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Over the past year, the home has supported seven young people through both welfare and youth justice routes. Four young people were supported under Section 25 (CA1989) for their own safety and protection and three young people were admitted due to their involvement in youth justice. During this time, three young people have transitioned on from the home. The support offered to the children and young people during their stay at Aldine is very focused and encourages them to explore a variety of circumstances which relate to safeguarding.

In line with Working Together, safeguarding partners received a comprehensive report on the use of restraint at Aldine House for 2021/22 and at the time of writing are awaiting the report for 2022/23.

## Developments for 2023/24

The home is now starting to embed the Framework for Integrated Care (Secure Stairs) which involves training staff to provide more developmentally attuned, psychologically informed care which is centred on co-produced assessment of the young person's needs. This will enable staff to develop a trauma informed 'lens' to understand each young person's needs and how their experiences are likely to impact on their behaviour and development.

We believe that by working with young people in this way, we can help and support them to learn new strategies to cope with some of the trauma they have experienced.

The home works closely with the Secure Accommodation Network (SAN) to share good practice and utilise the learning within other secure homes. In addition to this, we are undertaking a piece of work to look at the transition process and how to strengthen the experience of our young people who leave the home and transition back into the community.

Although the home set out to complete the extension to the building, this has been delayed and is not due to be finalised until later in the year. We are currently working with neighbouring authorities to consider whether we can utilise some of the new beds as Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) beds, to provide young people with a safe and nurturing place to stay if bail conditions are not an option.

## South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

Health partners continue to deliver high-quality services and strive to ensure that staff are trained to identify and respond to safeguarding concerns in a timely manner to protect children and young people at risk of significant harm through abuse or neglect.



## Sheffield Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (STH)

PROUD TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE  
SHEFFIELD TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST



### Achievements in 2022/23

- The STH safeguarding team has been responsive to staff in providing advice, support, and supervision. This promotes an increase in safeguarding awareness and timely referrals sent to Children's Social Care. The Named Professional for Safeguarding Children has been key in raising awareness regarding the Trust-wide Was Not Brought/ Did Not Attend policy.
- The STH safeguarding team attend the weekly Emergency Department (ED) Breakfast Club to offer support and advice to staff on safeguarding matters, which has also contributed to an increase in children's safeguarding concerns raised by ED.
- The STH safeguarding team have raised awareness about domestic abuse and trauma by working with IDAS and the ED Navigator Service, resulting in more timely reporting to the police for young people who have attended ED with injuries due to knife crime or gun shots.
- Safeguarding supervision is provided to various staff groups e.g. Emergency Department staff, Charles Clifford Dental Hospital,

Children's Nursery staff, Midwifery Vulnerabilities Team, and Sexual Health, enabling staff to enhance their knowledge and confidence about complex safeguarding concerns and to become more professionally curious and to 'Think Family.'

- A series of seven-minute briefings have been published on child safeguarding themes - Professional Curiosity, Trafficking and Modern Slavery, CDOP and Advocacy Services.
- Sharing of information, case studies, training opportunities and compliance data at the quarterly Safeguarding Assurance Group meeting.
- A number of referrals have been made to the LADO where an adult in a position of trust has been identified as being a risk to a child or young person. This includes adults in roles internal and external to the Trust. The STH safeguarding team has been part of the LADO discussions and decision making about the adult's suitability to remain in practice.

### Developments for 2023/24

- Increase in mandatory children's safeguarding training compliance for levels 2 and 3.
- Promote a trauma-informed workforce via training and supervision.
- Promote the revised threshold of needs guidance and uptake of Graded Care Profile 2 training for effective assessment and response to neglect
- Continue to prepare for Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) and embed any resulting recommendations and actions.
- Promote the Young Person's Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honour Based Violence (DASH) /STHFT Domestic abuse survey targeted at The Hand Centre to evaluate knowledge and skills in identifying and responding to Domestic abuse.
- Review and update internal safeguarding policies to reflect local and national safeguarding children policy and practice guidance.
- Recruit to the vacant Named Midwife post and review the roles within the Midwifery Vulnerabilities Team.



Page 238

## Sheffield Childrens Foundation Trust (SCFT)



### Within SCFT we have

- Introduced the young person's DASH to consolidate our response to domestic abuse
- Continued to undertake significant work to strengthen the identification and response to domestic abuse and coercive control.
- Continued to promote trauma informed practice.

### Acute site achievements

- Recruited a crisis worker, Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) manager and named doctors to the team.
- Continued to expand the reach of safeguarding support at the acute site, so that it is integral in all areas that support awareness raising of safeguarding issues.
- Updated information leaflets about safeguarding, Safeguarding Support Unit

(SSU) and SARC have been incorporated into Trust-wide developments that ensure ease of access to literature.

- Strengthened the approach to bruising in non-mobile infants.

### CAMHS achievements

- Increased its support to the service as a result of a business case which enabled recruitment of more specialist nurse support.
- Developing its offer with a focus on Earlier Intervention, Waiting Well, continuing to improve transition processes, reduce waiting times and improve access.
- Developed work in relation to the co-production of care plans for children with mental health problems.
- Introduced Parenting and Infant Relationship Service (PAIRS) which will offer support before the age of three years, which is part of the Integrated City Wide Infant Mental Health Pathway.
- Introduced a service user group in conjunction with **Chilypep** to inform service development and is looking to develop stronger collaborative links with this group.




## Community achievements

- The team have received confirmation that there is now increased resource to develop the health offer in the safeguarding hub.
- Liaison and communication between the 0-19 service and Sheffield GP practices was reviewed, including the organisation of vulnerable families' meetings held in GP Practices which 0-19 colleagues contribute to.
- Introduction of 0-19 Associate Vulnerability Practitioners, working jointly with the Specialist Vulnerability Practitioners to provide safeguarding support and supervision to 0-19 non-registered colleagues.
- The Learning Disability specialist nurse is ensuring CYP with additional needs, as well as vulnerabilities, can access appropriate support and they are now supporting work about FASD.



## Looked After and Adoptive Children's Health Team (LAACH) achievements

- **LAACH is benefiting from successful recruitment** and is moving ahead with service developments alongside those across the city e.g. name change to Children Looked After (CLA) following consultation with children and young people, and local authority colleagues.
- **Successfully appointed a Designated Doctor** for Children Looked After who is due to start in post September 2023.
- **Nursing team is now fully staffed** after successful recruitment to long-term vacancies, with an additional 0.2 FTE increase to the nursing establishment of the CLA team.
- Working alongside colleagues in local authority, **a new consent form for health assessment was implemented** in May 2023 to improve timeliness for assessments
- **Completed work with the 0-19 service and Education, Learning and Organisational Development (ELOD)** to identify the staff roles that require the Health Needs assessment training for children that are looked after. This has been added to staff's electronic staff record competencies, enabling compliance percentage to be captured.
- **Immunisations are now being offered** as part of Initial Health Assessments clinic appointments.
- **Development of Immunisation status report** to be shared monthly with the local authority to ensure more contemporaneous recording.
- **Medical presentations that are perplexing or raise concern** about possible fabrication or inducement of illness are challenging to manage for all staff involved, taking time and expertise to resolve. The Trust follows the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) guidance on initially taking a rehabilitative approach, focusing on steps to improve the health and education of a child or



young person, even when the causes of ill health may be difficult to establish. Safeguarding supervision promotes professional curiosity and supports staff to explore any safeguarding concerns and need for child protection.

- **LAACH (CLA) has established a process for collecting feedback** from health assessments from child/young person, carer, and social care. Feedback has been positive; examples of some comments include:
  - "All amazing, fine, cool"
  - "Everything was good, the little one was examined with care very well"
  - "Talked me through everything she was doing and made sure I understood"

## With external partners we have

- Contributed to the city wide **PREVENT** agenda, in particular supporting Channel meeting, where Children/Young Person under the care of the Trust are being discussed.
- The impact of domestic abuse on children and young people as a feature of those being accepted into CAMHS has been highlighted as part of the Hidden Harm agenda. Work is ongoing in this arena and with DACT to highlight these issues and consider what additional approaches can be developed to improve outcomes for children and young people.
- Demonstrated initiatives that support the Partnership's Learning Practice Improvement Group's workforce strategy in relation to equality, diversion and inclusion developments, health inequalities, and cultural competence within our workforce.

## Developments for 2023/24

- Look to explore how the care navigators working in different health providers can work more collaboratively.

- Recruit to community safeguarding posts to support the additional resource for the SSH health contribution.
- The Acute Safeguarding Team are currently recruiting to the Joint Agency Response (JAR) nurse post which supports a coordinated multi-agency response if a child dies.
- Further work is underway at the acute site to consider how colleagues can be supported by SCFT in the management of perplexing cases.
- CAMHS service will continue to seek to inform the provision of support for children and young people who have been exposed to domestic abuse.
- It is anticipated the offer of psychological support in the SARC unit will be increased following a successful business case.
- Continue to embed safeguarding supervision across all areas of the Trust.
- Maintain the level 3 safeguarding training offer and to promote continued uptake.





## South Yorkshire Police

**Child abuse and child sexual exploitation (CSE) both feature in the Force Control Strategy and remain a priority due to the high levels of mental and physical harm to victims. Children are amongst the most vulnerable victims that the police and partners will engage with.**

PEL 2021/22: Police effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy – An inspection of South Yorkshire Police ([justiceinspectorates.gov.uk](https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk))

It is recognised that continued professional development is crucial to not only train new officers, but also maintain the accreditation and knowledge of others. Recent campaigns in relation to the exploitation of children include a County Lines intensification week, the Look Closer campaign, and the delivery of Child Matters training.

Neglect is a serious criminal offence which can have a detrimental impact on a child’s life and children exposed to neglect can be at risk of

being exposed to other forms of abuse and exploitation. As of March 2023, 88 face-to-face training sessions have been delivered for Child Matters (an online tool licensed by the NSPCC specifically created for South Yorkshire Police, to train officers on different aspects of neglect), with approximately 5,350 attendees from across the police and partner agencies in attendance.

With improvements in the understanding of child abuse through the training offer, the force has seen an increase in child neglect offences and the number of child protection referrals through to Children’s Social Care.

The Child Matters training and the use of the SHARED tool (a risk assessment tool developed with the NSPCC to identify neglect), continues to embed and should assist in continuing to improve the identification of vulnerability and neglect amongst our front line.

The force is also planning to deliver trauma-informed training, including bespoke training for Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) staff. The force now has 46 Specialist Child Abuse Investigators: Development Programme (SCAIDP) trained officers, with 29 officers currently working towards accreditation.

Sheffield district Local Referral Unit (LRU) is positioned within the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub and relevant information sharing agreements are in place. Police actively attend and contribute to Initial Child Protection

Conferences (ICPC), and all Section 47 Strategy Meetings have police representation.

Collectively, partners continue to conduct multi-agency audits and deep dives in addition to multi-agency reviews of serious cases following the statutory guidance. This enables the force to learn lessons from these cases and continue to develop best practice.

The careful scrutiny the force gives to child sexual exploitation and child abuse investigations continues. There is a monthly CSE tactical meeting attended by all four district County Executive (CE) detective inspectors, a force analyst and the CSE lead from Protecting Vulnerable People Governance (PVP). This meeting allows for the assessment of Child Abduction Warning Notices (CAWNS) and missing children with CSE as keywords to identify growing risk or potential avenues for improvement in addition to problem areas and repeat victims.

CAWNS continue to be an effective tool the force can use to disrupt the activity regarding missing children who may have links to CSE, Child Criminal Exploitation, County Lines, and other abuse. They are seen to be a positive tool which seeks to sever the link between the perpetrator and the child. Volumes of CAWNS submitted improved greatly from 2019 onwards and have remained relatively stable with 87 being issued in 2022.



Going missing is treated as an indicator that an individual may be at risk of harm. South Yorkshire Police continue to use the Philomena Protocol. This scheme asks carers to identify children and young people who are at risk of going missing and to record vital information about them that can be used to help find them quickly and safely in the event of a missing episode.

This information drives local safeguarding processes in regard to child exploitation. The protocol is designed so that the carer, or whoever has responsibility for the young person concerned, has all the key information required to ensure that a missing person investigation can be initiated in a swift and efficient way.

In order to further enhance service delivery, vulnerable child (VC) referral forms have been reviewed within PVP governance and the form has been amended in line with partners to ensure adequate and useful information is being shared to allow all parties to make reasonable and rational assessments. The new form will incorporate sections relating to stop search and children who come into custody. Previous reviews found there were, on occasions, multiple referrals for the same child stemming from

the same incident. The new form will prevent this and ensure that partners are getting all the information at once, rather than duplicate forms which then need to be put together to establish the full picture. It also means submissions will only focus on the specific concern at the time, rather than officers having to answer questions and social care needing to review questions which are not relevant.

The victim's voice is considered in every investigation with a victim contract being agreed from the outset. Victims' personal statements are also used in investigations relating to children's safeguarding. This allows the victim to have their voice. The Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) office holds victims, survivors, and families' panels; the findings of which are used to support delivery in Sheffield.

The feedback received often centres on follow-up on investigation. The victims and survivors are satisfied with the response and action taken in investigations and safeguarding activity, but often feel that they are not regularly updated as to the status of the investigation. Work is ongoing to improve this through the QATT; quality assurance process, dip sampling and audit regime.

## Developments for 2023/24

- **Supporting victim confidence in reporting** – we will continue to improve investigation quality and work to increase victim uptake of specialist support.
- **Working with partners to make appropriate joint decisions** – we will continue to work to improve the quality of referrals and outcomes for children. This also links to work to support children who are missing from home/local authority care. The force is keen to develop data sharing and informed analytical capability across the Partnership, to continually improve the response to all forms of child abuse.
- **Continue to use Vulnerable Child referral forms.**

**Page 238** Ensuring the force capacity and capability is in place to effectively deal with child abuse investigations – this work is supported by the force PVP review. However, a workforce plan is in place in Sheffield to increase the capacity of officers trained in serious, complex child abuse investigation. The main objectives of the plan are the identification of officers interested in becoming investigators, supporting them towards the trainee investigator programme and then deploying them to the PVP arena. This will continue through into 2024.

- **The force will continue to deliver awareness campaigns** (such as the Child Exploitation Campaign in March 2023) to increase knowledge and awareness for professionals and the wider public, encouraging all to report concerns, to identify and safeguard children at risk, and to enable the force to pursue offenders.

For further extended partner updates, please [see appendix 1](#).



# Section 6

## The Data

The data period covered is from April 2022 to March 2023.

Page 239

Number	Description
37,000	Contacts & Advice given by children's social care
24,501	Contacts to children's social care (excluding Advice given)
5,256	Referrals to children's social care
5,910	Single Social Care Assessments started
3,295	Strategy meetings held over the year
2,351	S.47 investigations held over the year
741	S.47 which recommended an Initial Child Protection Case Conference
1,790	Children identified as Children in Need
730	Initial Child Protection conference held
695	Child Protection Plans started
772	Child Protection Plans ended
165	Children subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time
198	Children were advocated for at their Initial Child Protection Conference
47	Children were advocated for at Review Child Protection Conferences
998	Children were Looked After by the Local Authority
63	Children Looked After were unaccompanied asylum-seeking children
9,596	Requests for a service from the Multi-Agency Support Teams
5,615	Families received MAST support, from the above requests for service
359	Children with disabilities were open to the Children with Disability team
147	Amber Service Allocations (Exploitation service)
1,042	Children reported to South Yorkshire Police as missing
658	Children who went missing/missing episodes*
135	Children open to Youth Justice Service (YJS)
1,084	Referrals made to Door 43 (44% increase on 2021-22)

\* Some children were missing on more than one occasion. The top five missing young people accounted for 205 missing episodes.



Page 240

# Section 7

Our plan and priorities and what we have done

## Our Priorities for 2022-2023

The SCSP is committed to keeping up to date with both local and national new and emerging trends in safeguarding whilst at the same time maintaining progress in key safeguarding priority areas.

This has led to innovative and creative developments and projects in the city.



## The priorities for 2022-2023 were selected from reviewing and analysing the following:

- Case reviews
- Audits
- Local Authority data
- Feedback from professionals
- Local and National learning
- Emerging needs/themes
- Feedback from training
- Feedback from self-evaluation from partners
- Inspection findings

For the past twelve months, the SCSP has had oversight of the following three safeguarding priority areas:

1

**Priority 1. Neglect:** Improve outcomes for children and young people in Sheffield at risk of neglect through implementation of the Sheffield Neglect Strategy and roll out of NSPCC Graded Care Profile 2.

2

**Priority 2. Contextual Safeguarding:** We will develop robust responses to improve the outcomes for children and young people most at risk of criminal and/or sexual exploitation, being exploited by gangs, becoming involved in County Lines and knife crime and support young people most at risk of disengaging with education.

3

**Priority 3. Mental Health and Emotional Well Being:** We will hold ourselves to account for our multi-agency work to improve the provision of services to support good mental health and emotional wellbeing in young people and children in Sheffield, with a particular focus on young people in transition.

4

In addition to the above three safeguarding priorities, the Partnership has had the following practice priority:

**Priority 4. Maturing our Partnership Governance:** We will mature our partnership and mutual accountability for the effectiveness of our multi-agency safeguarding arrangements to protect and to respond to all forms of child abuse, neglect, and exploitation. We will build closer working arrangements across children and adults safeguarding and with other key partnerships.

## Priority 1 – Neglect

The Sheffield Neglect Strategy 2021-2024 was relaunched in 2022 to coincide with the rollout of multi-agency training of the NSPCC Graded Care Profile 2 assessment and intervention tool.

You can see the launch video here. [Launch of the Neglect Strategy 22](#)

The Neglect Strategy aims to ensure that the early recognition of neglect and improved responses by all agencies reduces the number of children who need statutory intervention and, when this is required, the life chances of children are promptly improved, and the risk of harm reduced.

**The strategy has four objectives to meet the overarching objective of reducing neglect:**

- 1. To improve the awareness and understanding of neglect**, both within and between agencies working in Sheffield. This includes a common understanding of neglect and the thresholds for access to agencies.
- 2. Staff in all partner agencies will be required to undertake relevant training** to ensure that there is common understanding of neglect, thresholds and assessment tools and consistency in approach.
- 3. Improve the recognition, assessment and intervention for children and young people** living in neglectful situations to prevent the need for statutory involvement; to include promotion of the early help assessment process, information sharing and agreed thresholds of intervention.
- 4. To ensure the effectiveness of service provision;** this will include consultation with young people and their families and multi-agency and single agency audits which seek to evidence the views of children and young people, their carers and the workforce about the services being offered and their effectiveness.

In line with the Neglect Strategy, we have implemented the Graded Care Profile 2 from the NSPCC as the principal tool for assessing and intervening to prevent children living with neglect in Sheffield. Based on observations and good quality evidence, GCP2 supports practitioners in measuring specific aspects of care over a short window of time, to give a breakdown and overview of the current level of care.

By reviewing “what it’s like” for the child, not “why it’s happening”, it helps professionals to be clear about what the basic needs of a child are, and to what degree they are being met. This allows practitioners to recognise the carer’s strengths, highlight areas for intervention, and to make reasoned and evidence-based judgements in relation to neglect.





## What we have done

- **The multi-agency Neglect Steering Group has been reestablished** to oversee the implementation of the Neglect Strategy. An action plan has been developed alongside the strategy, which sets out how the strategy will be implemented, how progress is captured, and impact measured. The action plan is regularly reviewed and refreshed by the steering group to ensure it continues to be relevant and progress is being made across the city.
- **The New Threshold of Need Guidance has been developed** in line with the Neglect Strategy to help practitioners develop a shared understanding of neglect and the factors that might impact on the welfare of children and families and help to ensure consistency of response.
- **A new workshop was introduced in relation to recognising and responding to Dental Neglect**, to expand upon the harm associated with poor oral health. The aim is to support attendees in recognising when intervention is required and provide guidance on how to support better oral health in families across Sheffield.

- **In November 2022, partner agencies were asked to self-assess on the theme of neglect** to identify to what extent the Sheffield Neglect Strategy is impacting to prevent children living in neglectful situations. Self-assessments were received from nine agencies. The responses from agencies addressed overall service awareness of neglect, access to and engagement in training, pro-active recognition of neglect and effective assessment and intervention, and the existence of processes and systems that ensure the effectiveness of provision. At the time of self-assessment, the Graded Care Profile 2 was in the early stages of implementation. Many services reported on their plans to ensure that staff attended GCP2 training and that the tool was incorporated into their procedures.

All respondents were active in raising awareness about neglect or had plans about how they would do this. Some agencies raised strengths and concerns about sharing information in relation to neglect. Most agencies were aware of and had plans for some staff to access GCP2 training or briefings.

Some agencies asked for a broader neglect awareness training course. Good practice was reported in terms of agencies adopting a whole-household-approach to home visits.

- **Training for the Graded Care Profile 2 started in Sheffield in May 2022**, when twenty professionals from across a range of agencies in Sheffield were trained as trainers. During this period, 664 practitioners and first-line managers have been trained and gained their licences to use the Graded Care Profile tool. Immediate feedback is taken after the training with 98% of practitioners stating they felt 'fairly confident' or 'very confident' to use the tool in practice.
- **Follow up impact evaluation has been sought from practitioners** in the form of a reflection tool, to demonstrate that the tool has transferred from the training room into practice. Feedback alone is not sufficient to fully measure impact. However, the reflection tool does provide anecdotal evidence of practitioners overcoming some initial difficulties and identifying strengths of using the tool with families.

*“I was able to work with mum to identify the positive and also what was need to be improved and what support was needed.”*

*“I found the scoring confusing as it is backwards compared to the main model we use which is signs of safety. I also find some of the wording very subjective e.g., 'exceptionally clean' - what does this look like? Could be varied.”*

*“I found it difficult grading as mum did make changes however there were still concerns. I did not want this tool to make mum feel worried and have self-doubt.”*

*“At times I had to remind myself I was focussing on the 1 child in the household and not include the sibling in my answers, a separate form would have been done for the brother. This would have differentiated between the 2 siblings as their needs and situation were different in the household.”*

*“We were able to discuss with the parent what their views were on a particular situation and have a constructive discussion around why professional views may differ. It helped discuss strengths with the parent and things they were doing well in addition to concerns.”*

*“It does help define worries and which specific areas of neglect need to be addressed. This could make it clearer in Child Protection plans and when working with families in what needs to change.”*

- **Separate briefing sessions have been developed for partner agencies and strategic managers**, who need to know about GCP2 but won't be using the tool directly.
- **Development of the GCP2 Newsletter is underway**, which is being designed to share hints and tips with practitioners in getting the most out of GCP2 tool and to support best practice in improving the quality of care for children in Sheffield.
- **Children's Social Care has supported the embedding of the GCP2 tool** through checking for the use and completion of the GCP2 tool at the point of referral on any cases being referred in relation to neglect. For any step-up requests from Early Help Services, quality assurance is also taking place to ensure that all step-up requests in respect of Neglect have had a GCP2 tool completed.

Page 28



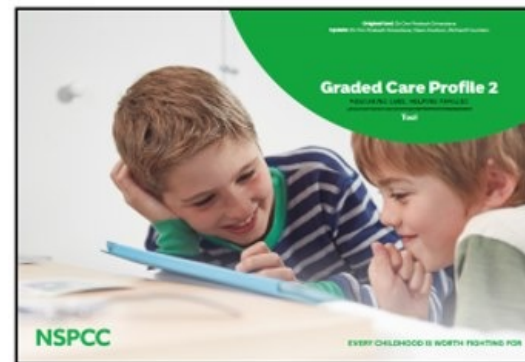
# What's next?

- **The launch of the [New Threshold of Need Guidance](#)** in September 2023 will further promote the recognition and awareness of neglect. This will include developing a guide to recognising and responding to neglect.
- **With the support of partner agencies, the SCSP will continue to deliver courses and workshops** for the NSPCC Graded Care Profile 2. We will also develop a course to support the understanding of neglect for a wider audience.
- **A new performance dashboard will be developed** to track performance indicators in relation to neglect. The current KPI's need to be refined so they correlate more closely to the agreed interventions. Due to the multifaceted and culminative nature of neglect, specific data on neglect is challenging to quantify. Therefore, the strategy requires SMART measures to drive improvement activity.
- **The Neglect Steering Group and Data Subgroup will monitor outcomes and impact** via the following sources:
  - Data suite
  - Performance framework
  - Audit and evaluation programme
  - Training outcomes
- **In addition to gaining practitioner feedback on the use of GCP2 in practice**, we intend to inform practice by gaining feedback from children and families who have had it used with them.
- **Auditing activity is to be completed** to assess the implementation and use of the GCP2 and assess the impact on those children and families who have experienced the GCP2.

- **The Neglect Steering Group will continue to oversee the implementation of the Sheffield Neglect Strategy 2021-24**, and will prepare for a formal review and the development of the succeeding strategy, informed by the most recent analysis of serious case reviews, [Learning for the future: final analysis of serious case reviews, 2017 to 2019, report 2022](#).

## The Tool

- The Tool
- Scorecards
- Handbook
- Guidance and Theory
- Parent leaflet



# 2

## Priority 2 – Contextual Safeguarding

**Contextual Safeguarding is an approach to understanding and responding to young people’s experiences of significant harm beyond their families. It recognises that the different relationships that young people form in their neighbourhoods, schools and online can feature violence and abuse.**

Violence, exploitation, and vulnerability to exploitation are taken seriously in Sheffield and we have developed a robust response to tackling exploitation affecting young people. In line with Sheffield’s **Contextual Safeguarding Strategy**, the SCSP is responsible for bringing key agencies and organisations together to ensure that we are working effectively as a partnership to protect and support young people in Sheffield from contextual safeguarding risks.

Page 232



The Amber Service is Sheffield’s multi-agency response to child exploitation. The service has undergone rapid transformation in the past year with a focus on early intervention and prevention through robust multi-agency planning, disruption, and support packages for this highly vulnerable, complex cohort of young people.

Sheffield is part of ‘Project Innovate’ one of only six research sites. We were selected because, as part of our Contextual Safeguarding Strategy Delivery Plan, we are developing an innovative response to transitional safeguarding to address contextual safeguarding risks. The project commenced in 2019 and will run throughout 2023, when there will be recommendations and resources for policy and practice on conclusion.

This project has already resulted in improved policies and ways of working, including the creation of a ‘Directions Panel’ created with the endorsement from Sheffield’s Joint Children’s and Adults Safeguarding Partnership Executive Group. Its primary focus is supporting adolescents and young adults who are at risk of extra familial harm (including both sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation and/or leaving care) as they transition from Children’s Services to Adult’s Services.

The purpose of the panel is to strengthen and support safeguarding arrangements for transitioning 17–25-year-olds. Cases will be heard from young people aged 17+. The panel is being piloted for six months to assess its effectiveness. Cases will be heard from the Multi Agency Child Exploitation Panel (MACE) and Care Leavers At Risk (CLAR).

## What we have done

- In conjunction with our **Adult Safeguarding Partnership**, we have continued to promote **Contextual Safeguarding** in our multi-agency training offer ([safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org](https://safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org))
- In July 2022, over 300 practitioners improved their understanding of **Contextual Safeguarding** by attending the conference ‘**Recognising and Responding to Criminal Exploitation**’ and the videos and resources from this conference can be viewed [here](#). Those who watch the videos and complete the reflection form will get a certificate and allows the SCSP to evidence learning about Criminal Exploitation for those who missed the conference.
- To improve practitioners’ understanding of the **realities of knife crime**, the SCSP commissioned a workshop featuring Alison Cope, who lost her son to knife crime and now campaigns nationally to help educate young people on the realities and consequences of youth violence. [Alison Cope Anti-Violence Campaigner](#).
- As part of the review of Sheffield’s response to **Harmful Sexual Behaviour that was a recommendation of the Family G Serious Case Review**, we have continued to promote awareness of the Hackett Continuum Model for recognising and responding to Harmful Sexual Behaviour. The SCSP website contains clear guidance for the use of the tool, alongside practitioners being able to access a two-hour workshop on recognising and responding to Harmful Sexual Behaviour. Feedback from the training has shown high practitioner confidence in using the tool in their work.







- **The SCSP Licensing Officers continue to work with business operators and the wider community** in raising awareness in relation to Contextual Safeguarding. The licencing officers have developed and delivered training reaching 538 people within the following organisations:
  - Licensed trades
  - Taxi drivers/passenger assistants
  - Boxing gyms and sports venues
  - Staff working in education and social care setting
  - Officers working in regulatory services
- **To raise awareness of child exploitation in the business community**, the SCSP Licensing Officers have delivered joint training with South Yorkshire Police to twenty Sheffield hoteliers as part of Operation Makesafe (The campaign is designed to help business owners and their employees identify potential victims of child exploitation and, where necessary, alert police officers to intervene prior to any young person coming to harm). **Operation Makesafe: Raising community awareness of child exploitation**
- **The SCSP continues to commission Online Safety**, which covers training, policy and curriculum advice for schools and alternative providers, in addition to Online Safety consultancy for the wider children’s workforce through multi-agency seminars, web-based advice, and individual support for the Safeguarding Education Advisors team.
- **A Contextual Safeguarding workshop was held to review and refresh the Contextual Safeguarding Delivery Plan.** Partners came together to review the governance and operating space of the Vulnerable Young People’s Executive Board and to identify the cohort of children and young people at risk of contextual safeguarding in Sheffield. The workshop offered assurance that we are providing the right response to the right children and young people.
- **Review and update of the Philomena Protocol**, with South Yorkshire Police and the South Yorkshire LAs.

## What's next?

- **Within the contextual safeguarding priority, the Partnership is committed to reviewing the training offer** across the workforce to ensure that the voice of the child/young person and their family is heard, and that contextual safeguarding is understood and supported by the workforce.
- **Conduct a themed audit on contextual safeguarding and exploitation** to assess the effectiveness of the implementation of the contextual Safeguarding Strategy and evaluate the success of the Amber Service in addressing contextual safeguarding in Sheffield.
- **Ensure the contextual safeguarding strategy, services and pathways are publicised** and included in all training. SCSP website to be streamlined to support clear access to information and messages.
- **The Online Safety Consultants and the Education Safeguarding Advisors have strengthened their relationship** over the year and are preparing to co-deliver training for Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) and other school staff over the coming year. This will facilitate a more coherent and streamlined approach to the training. It also makes clear to schools that Online Safeguarding is very much the responsibility of the DSL and is not a separate entity.
- **Sheffield to host a Violence and Exploitation reduction conference** for all South Yorkshire authorities with South Yorkshire Police.
- **Refresh of the Vulnerable Young People's Executive Board** taking a thematic approach.



# 3

## Priority 3 – Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing

**There is national recognition of the impact of the Covid pandemic on the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people with a marked increase in referrals for support and access to services.**

SCSP continues to work with partner agencies to increase understanding of how parental vulnerabilities can impact on the lives of children and young people. The SCSP Learning Practice Improvement Group's implantation plan focuses on all services being trauma informed and aware of the impact that adverse experiences and past trauma may have on the individual, parenting, and family life.

The Hidden Harm Strategy also commits Sheffield's services to improving outcomes for whole households where drug and alcohol misuse, harmful gambling, domestic abuse and/or mental ill health are a feature. Strong partnership working across Sheffield has helped establish some effective multi-agency care pathways with these families.

To support families, all services need to not only share information but also discuss cases to help develop a shared understanding of the needs of the family. At the core of the Hidden Harm Strategy is the aim to move further still and promote joint assessments, joint planning and shared formulation across children and adult services.

The SCSP has worked in partnership with Sheffield Futures, promoting their Door 43 service, which is Sheffield's one-stop shop for emotional wellbeing support for young people and young adults aged 13 - 25. Door 43 aims to promote good mental health and emotional wellbeing by providing early intervention support, including structured and drop-in wellbeing provision, group support, counselling, and social prescribing across one service.

Door 43 levels of support are mapped out to match the Sheffield Safeguarding Partnership's Threshold of Need:

### What we have done

SSCB Threshold of Need Level	Provision at Door 43	Support Available
Level 2 – Universal Plus	<b>Wellbeing Café</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signposting to other services and groups</li> <li>• Open forum to discuss emotional wellbeing</li> <li>• Activities to build resilience for low level mental health issues, peer support</li> </ul>
Level 3 – Partnership Plus	<b>Informal 1:1 Support (Drop in's Wednesdays)</b>  <b>Social Prescribing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1:1 sessions around emotional wellbeing</li> <li>• Bridging and signposting to additional/alternative services</li> <li>• Careers information and guidance</li> <li>• Referral to a Social Prescribing Link worker</li> </ul>
Level 4 – Targeted (occasionally accepted)	<b>Structured Intervention Support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact made following referral within 5 working days</li> <li>• Support into counselling services / CAMHS</li> <li>• Bereavement &amp; loss</li> <li>• Domestic Abuse</li> </ul>
<b>There is no support available for young people experiencing or needing the following:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency crisis support/in need of acute or emergency medical attention</li> <li>• Specialist mental health support (e.g. severe ED, Psychosis)</li> <li>• Medical prescriptions</li> <li>• Clinical assessment/treatment for sexual health (e.g. if young person is symptomatic)</li> </ul>	

- **Through training, briefings, and safeguarding supervision**, workers from both children and adult services in Sheffield have increased their understanding regarding the impact on children where there is Hidden Harm within their households.
- **Established and embedded whole family working model.** In Sheffield, the Whole Family Safeguarding Model has been developed as an outreach model where workers from domestic abuse, substance misuse and mental health services are co-located with Children's Social Care teams. The key principle that underpins the model is collaborative working, which include information sharing, but more importantly, seeking to develop shared thinking and understanding, shared analysis and shared formulation of risk that leads to a more coordinated multi-agency approach.
- **SCSP has highlighted and promoted training** offered by the Community Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) to equip attendees with the right skills and knowledge to respond to the challenges they face in relation to children's mental health. [Link to our signposting page.](#)
- **We have continued to undertake Joint Case Reviews, twice a year**, to ensure good multi-agency working when there are emotional health and wellbeing issues within the household. Following each Joint Case Review, learning briefs are developed and disseminated widely across the city.
- **Parental mental health workshops** take place twice a year for adult and children's services, including CAMHS and Sheffield Health and Social Care, focusing on the learning and common themes from the Joint Case Reviews.
- **We facilitated the first of two Domestic Abuse workshops delivered by Haven** (A registered charity, working with children and young people aged 0-25 years old in Sheffield who are, or have been, affected by domestic abuse). These are ongoing as part of the Domestic and Sexual Abuse Co-ordination Team (DACT) commission.

## What's next?

- **A themed LPIG meeting** in September 2023 will focus on emotional health in children and young people. As well as guest speakers, presentations, and referral and signposting information, partner agencies have been asked to consider the topic of children's emotional health and wellbeing, in relation to the strengths and challenges within their own services and organisations.
- **In Autumn 2023, DACT have commissioned further Domestic Abuse training from Haven.** The aim is to upskill the workforce in supporting children who are survivors of domestic abuse.

## Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)

**In May 2020, the SCSP Executive Board agreed to provide strategic oversight to the Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) agenda. FASD is a lifelong neurological condition caused by prenatal alcohol exposure.**

Evidence suggests that, without the correct diagnosis and support, an individual is more likely to have a range of issues, including poor mental health, substance misuse problems, involvement with criminal justice, homelessness and difficulties with social relationships, education, and employment.

Identification and thorough psychological assessment can identify strengths and areas of difficulty, and with knowledge of that profile, the person can thrive, and services can respond appropriately.

A FASD conference was held in September 2021 attended by 280 representatives of key stakeholders in Sheffield. The workforce's increased understanding of FASD has led to better prevention, identification, and support. FASD training is part of key partners' induction programmes and core training, with 2,500 practitioners trained across the city.

**An all age FASD steering group has been established, with the following strategic priorities:**

- **Prevention** - Reducing alcohol exposed pregnancies through raising public awareness.
- **Increasing professional knowledge and awareness** - To increase practitioner's understanding and confidence in identifying FASD and offering appropriate timely support.
- **Diagnosis and Support** - Diagnosis will help the individual and family get the support that they need.



# 4

## Priority 4 – Maturing our Partnership Governance

Whilst as a group of leaders in our respective agencies and organisations we all have responsibilities in terms of keeping children and young people safe from abuse and harm, the role of SCSP as a partnership is to add value to the local safeguarding landscape by:

- Acting as a strategic leadership group in supporting and engaging others
- Implementing local and national learning, including from serious safeguarding incidents
- Facilitating and driving action beyond usual institutional and agency constraints and boundaries
- Ensuring the effective protection of children is founded on practitioners developing lasting and trusting relationships with children and families.

(Working Together 2018).



SCSP Executive Partnership's governance includes independent scrutiny and challenge with a focus on learning. The independent Chair and Scrutineer produces a report each quarter bringing to SCSP Executive's attention, key reviews and policy developments, both nationally and locally, which are important for the Partnership to consider in seeking assurance that we are doing everything possible to improve outcomes for children and young people in Sheffield.



## What we have done

- **In October 2022, the SCSP Executive Board agreed to be a compassionate city** with fairness, equity, and inclusive practice at the heart of all leadership, practice, and developments, and to monitor actions to achieve this. We have developed a work plan underpinning this and it is an eighth joint priority with the Adults Safeguarding Partnership.
- **In March 2023, SCSP supported the ‘Becoming a Resilient, Compassionate and Trauma Informed City’ event**, which discussed the impact of organisational trauma and how to reduce its impact on staff, and to build an effective resilience framework.
- **In June 2022, SCSP Executive Board agreed that the Partnership would oversee, evaluate outcomes, and disseminate learning from the work of the SAFE Taskforce** (The targeted support, delivered as part of a £30 million government investment, is part of a rollout of ten ‘SAFE’ Taskforces across the UK. Sheffield has been identified as one of these target areas, investing in new schools’ interventions to work with the city’s most vulnerable young people).
- **In September 2022, SCSP Executive Board discussed the importance of engagement in education in our safeguarding meetings, particularly as exclusion from education remains a theme in local and national Safeguarding Child Practice Reviews**, and some of the issues that were discussed at the height of the pandemic in relation to elective home education and the potential safeguarding risks within that. It was agreed that a new Education safeguarding group should be developed.
- **In December 2022, SCSP Executive Board signed off Sheffield’s education offer and expectations document**, which provides education settings with clarity about how local requirements enhance the national ones for education settings as set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2022 and Working Together 2018.

Sheffield Children  
Safeguarding Partnership -  
Sheffield education settings  
([safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org](https://safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org))

- **It was recognised that gambling harm is growing very quickly and lots of children are being involved.** 55,000 under 18s are addicted to gambling nationally. In 2022, the Joint Safeguarding Partnership Executive Group agreed to endorse the development of a Gambling Strategy building upon existing positive work in the city.

- **Throughout 2022/23, the SCSP Executive Board have signed off several strategies that in turn inform our ambition and priorities**, including:

- The Sheffield Neglect Strategy relaunch, and rollout of the NSPCC Graded Care Profile 2 assessment and intervention tool across our partnership.

Page 200  
The Workforce Development Strategy and Plan  
The Hidden Harm Strategy and Plan

- **The SCSP, its partners and officers are committed to keeping up to date with new and emerging trends in safeguarding.** This has led to the development of the new Child Safeguarding Practice Review subgroup, where both local and national learning is discussed and shared across the Partnership.

- **In February 2023, a development workshop was held with partners and key stakeholders** to review the partnership’s ambition, strategy, and priorities for the next three years. The workshop was facilitated by two national facilitators, and it was recognised that the workshop was the first step on a journey to reset, refresh and revitalise the work of the Partnership.







Page 283

## What's Next?

- **Key themes that emerged from the SCSP development workshop:**
  - The need for more detailed focus and better understanding of the basis on which our priorities have been agreed.
  - Recognising that changes in leadership are always inevitable and that we should build a business plan that withstands change and is resilient, clarifying roles and responsibilities across the partnership arrangements, ranging from the work of the business office, executive leaders, priorities, and the work of our subgroups.
  - Continuing to build a system that links children, young people, and adults work together to ensure smooth transition for vulnerable groups.
  - Data analysis and understanding of the capability, capacity and demands of single organisations, recognising that understanding each other will stand us in good stead.
  - Taking time to share with each other the nuance and different statutory frameworks of each other's agencies and current operating context, as well as some of the governance and infra structure.
- **Further development workshops are to be held in Autumn/Winter 2023 focusing on the overarching strategic priorities for 2023 to 2025.**

# Section 8

## The Next Year

### Future Strategic Priorities

As a partnership, we should agree clear priorities, based on what we know about the lives of children and young people in Sheffield, and what works to improve them.

Our priorities should be co-owned, transcend organisational boundaries and we should feel comfortable holding each other to account against them.



# 1

## Priority 1 Neglect

Improve outcomes for children and young people in Sheffield at risk of neglect through implementation of the Partnership's Neglect Strategy and roll out of NSPCC GCP2.

We will do this by:

- **Continuing to oversee the implementation of the Sheffield Neglect Strategy 2021-24** and we will prepare for a formal review and the development of the succeeding strategy.
- **Seeking feedback from children and families** who have experienced the Graded Care Profile 2 tool, to help inform and influence future practice.

# 2

## Priority 2 Contextual Safeguarding

We will develop robust responses to improve the outcomes for children and young people most at risk of criminal and/or sexual exploitation, being exploited by gangs, becoming involved in County Lines and knife crime, and support young people most at risk of disengaging with education.

We will do this by:

- **Continuing to support the development and learning concerning contextual safeguarding** working closer with our education partners to improve inclusion and school attendance.
- **Particularly focusing on raising awareness** in relation to online safety for children and young people and safeguarding risks associated with online abuse and harm.

In 2023-25, the SCSP will no longer be focusing on children and young people's emotional wellbeing, as we believe that this should be cross cutting across all areas and a key consideration running through all city-wide interventions.

Maturing the Partnership governance will no longer be a practice priority, as we continue to be assured that there are the correct governance and scrutiny structures in place to allow us to continue to grow and mature as a partnership.

Support and challenge should be part of how we ensure impacts are clear, understood, co-owned, and contribute to progressively improving children and young people's lives.

Page 289  
From 2023-2025, SCSP will continue to develop and build on the following two key priorities:

# 3

## Priority 3 Children as victims of Domestic Abuse

Reflecting on the priorities outlined in the **new Domestic Abuse Plan** (September 2022), child safeguarding partners should recognise their central role in the local response to domestic abuse.

We will do this by:

- **Connecting closely with partners and key stakeholders** to ensure priorities and work plans align, including commissioning and budget priorities, with clear accountability mechanisms.
- **Delivering training** for those professionals most likely to encounter domestic abuse to better identify it and refer victims and survivors to appropriate support.

# 4

## Priority 4 Capturing the voice of Children and Young People

Children and young people should have a strong voice in informing the work of the SCSP, particularly in scrutiny activity.

We will do this by:

- **Ensuring children, young people and families are consulted** and their views are included in the following elements of our work:
  - When conducting audits
  - When developing new policies and procedures
  - When planning workforce development
  - When conducting scrutiny exercises and peer reviews
  - When setting annual priorities
- **Setting up a children’s voice steering group** to look at how we can best engage all children and young people across the city to help us make informed decisions about our work and help us to understand if we are effective.

In 2023-25, the SCSP will have two new priorities:

Page 206

## Introduction from the new executive partners:

### Sheffield City Council

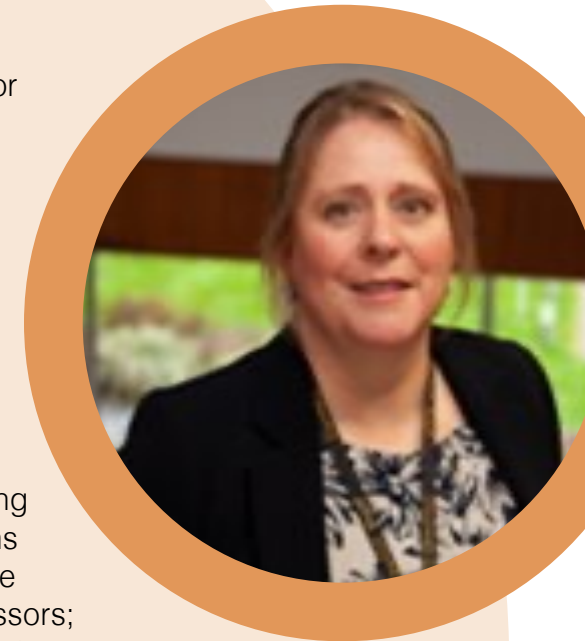
As a statutory partner with delegated responsibility to strategically lead Safeguarding for children in Sheffield, I am pleased to be part of the team shaping our work and celebrating our successes. I am the Strategic Director of Children's Services for Sheffield and keen to raise the profile of children and young people in our city ensuring their voice is heard and that we are mindfully ensuring that they are at the centre of our thinking and decision-making.

I always work in partnership bringing place and system leadership to my work. We can only succeed by working together, sharing our priorities, and acknowledging what we need to do better. A key area is acknowledging the Race Equality Commission and the findings made in 2022 and reflecting on how we bring this into our safeguarding work.

Acknowledging that children from Roma or dual heritage backgrounds are more likely to be excluded from school than their peers and less likely to have an Education, Health and Care Plan. How as a Safeguarding Partnership do we shape our work to address these issues and bring about structural and systemic change to

improve outcomes for all our children and young people in our great city. I know this is achievable together and with all our partners, including our fourth key partner, our education system.

I know we are building on strong foundations and acknowledge the work of my predecessors; John Macilwraith, Carly Speechley and Andrew Jones. I look forward to further success over the coming year and acknowledge our work over the last year celebrated in this annual report.



**Meredith Dixon-Teasdale**

Director of Children's Services (DCS)



## South Yorkshire Police

I am delighted to be joining the Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership as the newly appointed District Commander for the city and I would like to take this opportunity to thank my predecessor, Chief Superintendent Shelley Hemsley, for her tremendous efforts towards safeguarding of children in the city.

I'm looking forward to taking forward the fantastic work already undertaken through the partnership relationships that are already in place.

As statutory partners, it is our responsibility to improve the safety and wellbeing of children in our city and I pledge my absolute commitment to place that responsibility at the heart of everything I do.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'L. Butterfield'.

**Lindsey Butterfield**

Chief Superintendent

Sheffield District Commander



# Section 9

## Overview from the Independent Scrutineer

Thank you for taking the time to read this report, which outlines continuing progress in the multi-agency work to protect and safeguard children and young people at risk in Sheffield.

Page 209



**This report covers the period from April 2022 through to March 2023, a period that continued to present unprecedented challenges for partners against a backdrop of increasing referrals to services in both volume and complexity, workforce shortages, ever increasing pressures on public sector funding and a worsening cost of living crisis in local communities, which is impacting most on our most vulnerable children and families.**

Current arrangements for safeguarding continued to evolve during 2022/23 and the Partnership is the responsibility of the three statutory partners - the local authority, the NHS, and the police, and as a result, this is their report rather than mine.

However, there are many agencies in Sheffield supporting children and young people. Their commitment to work together to keep children safe and to continuously improve is at the heart of our Safeguarding Partnership arrangements.

The SCSP Executive Partnership Group has wide strategic membership of key stakeholders and relevant agencies, including education, probation services, the Lead Member for the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee, and the voluntary sector, all committed to continuous learning and improvement, leading to enhanced practice, improved outcomes, and experiences.

Our governance includes independent scrutiny and challenge, with a focus on learning.

Whilst as a group of leaders in our respective agencies and organisations we all have responsibilities in terms of keeping children and young people safe from abuse and harm, the role of SCSP as a partnership is to add value to the local safeguarding landscape by:

- **acting as a strategic leadership group** in supporting and engaging others,
- **implementing local and national learning** including from serious safeguarding incidents,
- **facilitating and driving action** beyond usual institutional and agency constraints and boundaries and
- **ensuring the effective protection of children** is founded on practitioners developing lasting and trusting relationships with children and families.

I joined the Partnership in April 2022 as Independent Chair and Scrutineer. The role of scrutineer is to support partners by providing an independent perspective on their work to safeguard children and to highlight challenges where appropriate.

One of my duties is to be satisfied that the agencies who make up the Safeguarding Partnership are working effectively together to ensure that they are doing what they can to keep children in Sheffield safe, with the resources that they have available.



## Developing Our Approach to Scrutiny

### Six months into the role, I shared my initial observations and reflections on the Partnership through a scrutineer's six-month review.

As part of the review, I scrutinised SCSP's priorities, through a review of business and work plans for SCSP and its subgroups, responses to the ongoing work of regulators and national bodies, in-year assurance and monitoring reports brought to the Partnership Executive, national policy and local learning, development papers and proposals considered and agreed at the Partnership, self-assessment audits and annual assurance meetings with partners.

In response, the Partnership agreed priorities for 2022/23, based on what it knew about the lives of children and young people in Sheffield, and what works to improve them. The priorities which are set out in section seven of this report, are co-owned and transcend organisational boundaries.

The 2022/23 priorities are the basis for how SCSP developed its in year approach to scrutiny and mutual accountability, asking ourselves the key scrutiny questions about how well we understand the lived experiences of children and families and what impact we are having to improve these. I also took the opportunity to introduce a quarterly scrutineer's report to SCSP which takes account of the findings from all local and national reviews, considering how identified improvements should

be implemented locally.

To do this I draw upon the ongoing work of regulators such as Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission (CQC), His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services, as well as reports from the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel, the Children's Commissioner for England and reviews undertaken by NHS England and Improvement.

In November 2022, a review was completed on the reporting of the subgroups and workstreams to the Executive Partnership Group, to ensure better connectivity and reporting mechanisms and to strengthen our approach to scrutiny. Changes to the business process and templates have ensured that the executive is better sighted on the delivery arm of the Partnership, allowing for robust reporting, and addressing emerging themes and risks. This has led to the formation of a new Child Safeguarding Practice Review Subgroup and an Education Reference Group.

As Chair, my role is also to set the conditions in SCSP that enable constructive challenge and mutual accountability to thrive. This approach has enabled the Partnership to embed scrutiny within the annual report. This year's report not only provides updates on activity but also seeks to address the impact and outcomes for children and young people in Sheffield.





Page 268

## Sources of External Assurance

SCSP received assurance from several external sources.

**Ofsted undertook a focused visit to Sheffield children's services in September 2022. His Majesty's Inspectors looked at the local authority's arrangements for planning and achieving permanence. Inspectors were primarily on site and met with practitioners, managers, and leaders. They reviewed a range of evidence, including child records, performance data and quality assurance information, life-story work, and later life letters.**

Headline findings were that plans for permanence are identified at the earliest opportunity for most children. There are effective arrangements in place for quality assuring and tracking plans to minimise drift and delay. Where drift is identified, there is evidence of effective challenge from independent reviewing officers (IROs) and senior managers.

A range of permanence options are considered for children in Sheffield. Sensitive work is completed with children to gain their views and help them to understand and prepare for their permanent home.

Some children with a disability who will require support into adulthood do not always receive a smooth transition into adult services. This results in delay in progressing plans for them, particularly in relation to accommodation. When this does occur, there is evidence of challenge from the IRO and advocacy service to address this and represent children's views.

Ofsted also highlighted that there is a strong corporate and political support for children's services and a commitment to 'doing the right thing' for children in the city. The senior leadership team and lead member provide a clear vision, and good social work can flourish. Social workers feel well supported by managers. They value the learning and career development opportunities available to them in Sheffield, which very importantly, enhances the support they can provide to children.



HM Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services, conduct police effectiveness, efficiency, and legitimacy (PEEL) inspections, which assess the performance of all police forces in England and Wales. HM Inspectors inspection of South Yorkshire Police found the force's focus on vulnerable people to be strong in every area inspected and its work to safeguard children highly effective. Further detail is included in the main body of the report.

HM Inspectorate of Probation is the independent inspector of youth offending and probation services in England and Wales and reports on the effectiveness of probation and youth offending service work with adults and children. The inspectorate reported on their inspection of Sheffield Probation Delivery Unit (PDU) in March

2023. The inspectors noted that Sheffield had high vacancy rates across probation practitioner and administrative grades.

The impact of that was being shouldered by frontline staff, almost all of whom were dealing with unmanageable caseloads. To make matters worse, sickness levels were well above the Civil Service average and there had been a steady flow of staff leaving the PDU for careers elsewhere.

Those problems underpinned its findings in relation to casework. Work to keep the public safe was the weakest area of practice across all standards. There were a worrying number of cases where essential information had not been gathered from the police or social

services, which weakened attempts to keep people (women and children in particular) safe from abusive behaviour. In response, the PDU now has a quality improvement plan in place and there is on-going recruitment of staff at all grades.

The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel's national review into safeguarding children with disabilities and complex health needs was published on 26 October 2022 and revealed serious failures at three residential special schools registered as children's homes. The independent review looked at the experiences of 108 children and young adults living at Fullerton House, Wilsic Hall and Wheatley House, all located in Doncaster, South Yorkshire and operated by the Hesley Group.



The report showed a culture of abuse and harm, including evidence of physical abuse and violence, neglect, emotional abuse, and sexual harm. Given the severity of the allegations and evidence uncovered, the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel issued an urgent action to all local authorities to ensure all children with complex needs and disabilities currently living in similar children's homes are safe and well.

In Sheffield we identified eight young people that met the criteria of the review and related to seven establishments. The full response from Sheffield was shared with SCSP partners on 29th November 2022. Proposals are also being developed for a new quality assurance model covering all children in care and SCSP will seek further assurance in relation to this work.

The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel also published its review of the most common themes that emerged in relation to multi-agency safeguarding for children who are victims of domestic abuse and included examples of practice and recommendations. The report was received by the Partnership in December 2022. For 2023-2024, the Learning Practice and Improvement Group will focus on domestic abuse, considering the learning from rapid reviews and from the recent report and changes to the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. Domestic Abuse is also being considered as a key priority for the Safeguarding Partnership for 2023 -2025.

Safeguarding children under one from non-accidental injury caused by male carers was also a theme that the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel reported on and in Sheffield partners undertook self-assessment work and agencies developed their own action plans.

The Care Quality Commission's 'State of Care' report for 2021-2022 was published on 21st October 2022. CQC highlighted its concerns about specific service areas, in particular maternity services and those that care for people with a learning disability and autism – areas where inspections continue to find issues with culture, leadership, and a lack of genuine engagement with people who use services. The report also highlighted concerns about increasing demand for children's mental health services.

CQC's [progress report](#) on the 'Out of sight' recommendations, published in March 2022, highlighted some positive developments. This includes nearly £1 billion of additional funding for children and young people's community, crisis, and school services. In addition, the Children's Commissioner has stated that children's mental health is one of her top priorities. In July 2022, she published '[A Head Start: Early support for children's mental health](#)', which sets out six ambitions for early mental health support for children.

CQC carried out an inspection of child and adolescent mental health wards (CAMHS) and specialist community mental health services for children and young people at Sheffield Children's NHS Trust in July

2022. This was partly due to receiving concerns about the quality of care being provided in the CAMHS inpatient wards.

Following this inspection, the ratings for the CAMHS inpatient wards remain the same. Good overall and for being effective, caring, responsive to people's needs and well-led. Safe remains rated as requires improvement.

The specialist community mental health services for children and young people remain rated as requires improvement overall, and for being safe and responsive. The ratings for being effective, caring, and well-led improved from requires improvement to good. In the specialist community mental health services for children and young people, waiting times and caseloads for practitioners remained high. Also, appointments that were cancelled by the service weren't always re-arranged in a timely way which could put people at risk. I am pleased to report that CQC noted that the trust has started to take action to make the necessary improvements and it will return to check on progress.

SCSP partners agreed to seek future assurance regarding safe care and plans to minimise the risk for children and young people waiting for care.

In September 2022, SCSP received an update on the progress being made on the 16–17-year-old CAMHS pathway following the CQC section 64 request in December 2021 and the Mental Health Act system review.

Sheffield has established new integrated partnerships arrangements across health and social care for transformation of services and quality oversight. These will provide an important source of assurance for the Partnership that Sheffield is able to harness and scale up the potential for innovation and investment to improve outcomes for our most vulnerable children and young people and improve their life chances.



# Understanding Performance and Trends

The Partnership continued to monitor performance and emerging trends on a regular basis during 2022/23. The SCSP collects an extensive multi-agency suite of data, categorised into the following datasets:

- Contextual Safeguarding
- Education, Inclusion and SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities)
- Hidden Harm
- Neglect data
- Referrals, Thresholds, and Involvements
- Transitions data

Page 256

These data sets are used by the Partnership's subgroups including the Learning Practice Improvement Group, the Hidden Harm Implementation Group and the Neglect Task and Finish Group. It is recognised that there is still much work to do to understand the data and further refine the data suite and this is still work in progress.

However, there are many examples of how intelligence is being used to shape a multi-agency approach and intervention.

This is covered further within this annual report which provides examples where partners are working at the leading edge of innovation to keep children and young people in Sheffield safe from abuse and harm.



## Working Together to Safeguard Children

In the last year, three reviews have been published which together call for fundamental reform to children's social care. The Independent Review of Children's Social care set out how we can put love and the overriding importance of relationships back at the centre of what children's social care does.

The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel's review into the tragic deaths of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star Hobson reminded us of the absolute priority we must all give to protecting children and keeping them safe and the Competition and Markets Authority review highlighted that we are not doing a good enough job of ensuring the right homes are in the right places for children who come into care.

On the back of these three important reviews, the DfE have identified a once in a generation opportunity to reset children's social care as set out in its vision for reform of children's social care; Stable Homes, Built on Love. In addition, its ambition to strengthen effective multi-agency help, support, safeguarding and child protection across the system is reflected in its on-going consultation on changes to statutory guidance: Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023.

There are clearly important changes afoot which will shape our multi-agency approach to safeguarding children and child protection in Sheffield and responding to these will be at the forefront of the Partnership's work over the next year.

## In Conclusion

**The annual report demonstrates that partners have faced significant challenges during the year and there is still much to address. However, there has also been significant innovation, and safeguarding has been maintained as a priority. Notwithstanding all the current challenges, what I have seen since my arrival is real commitment to working together, and the willingness to address the need for change.**



I have seen some great examples of innovation, with Sheffield at the leading edge locally and contributing nationally to emerging policy on interventions that support families and prevent escalation of need. Whilst I have not listed these in detail, many examples are included in the annual report, together with the impact they have made.

I would offer my thanks to all members of the safeguarding teams for their work and persistence in sustaining effective safeguarding in Sheffield. There are many examples of practitioners going above and beyond expectations to protect some of our most vulnerable children and families and to them I send my thanks.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley J Smith". A long horizontal line is drawn underneath the signature.

**Lesley Smith**

Independent Chair and Scrutineer

# Section 10

## Relevant Agencies

### Executive Partnership Group Members

For an up-to-date list of Board representatives and agencies, please see SCSP Executive Group Induction Pack

Representative	Organisation
Independent Chair and Scrutineer	SCSP
Assistant Director / Professional Advisor to the SCSP	Sheffield City Council
Safeguarding Partnership Manager	SCSP
Director of Nursing & Professions	Sheffield Health and Social Care
Chief Nurse	NHS Foundation Trust
Chief Nurse	South Yorkshire ICB, Sheffield Place
Detective Superintendent	South Yorkshire Police
Designated Doctor	South Yorkshire ICB, Sheffield Place
Director of Children, Young People and Families	Sheffield City Council
Chief Nurse	Sheffield Teaching Hospitals
Chair - Education, Children and Families Committee	Sheffield City Council
Director of Public Health	Sheffield City Council
Executive Director: Children's Services	Sheffield City Council
Lead for Community Safety Partnership	Sheffield City Council
Head of Barnsley & Sheffield LDU	National Probation Service
Head of Service - Housing	Sheffield City Council
Head of Communities	Sheffield City Council
Director of Nursing and Clinical Operations	Sheffield Children's Hospital
Group Manager for Community Safety	South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
Director of Education and Skills	Sheffield City Council
Chief Executive	Learn Sheffield
Chief Executive	Sheffield Young Carers
Deputy Chief Executive	Sheffield College
Service Manager - Legal Services	Sheffield City Council
Designated Nurse	South Yorkshire ICB, Sheffield Place
Strategic Commissioning Manager	Sheffield DACT
Lay Member	



# Section 11

## Glossary

Abbreviation	Meaning
Amber	Sheffield Child Exploitation Service
BAME	Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic
CA1989	Children's Act 1989
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
CAPVA	Child and Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse
CAWNS	Child Abduction Warning Notices
CCE	Child Criminal Exploitation
CCG	Clinical Commissioning Group
CDOP	Child Death Overview Panel
CE	County Executive
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CEATG	Child Exploitation Tactical Group
Channel	Channel is a multi-agency programme which identifies and supports at risk individuals, and which delivers this strategic aim of Prevent. Having identified an individual at risk, the Channel panel will assess the nature and extent of the risk, and subsequently develop the most appropriate support plan for the individual concerned.
CiCC	Children in Care Council
CIN	Children In Need
CIT	Children's Involvement Team
CLA	Children Looked After
CLAR	Care Leavers At Risk
CME	Children Missing from Education
CP	Child Protection
CQC	Care Quality Commission



Abbreviation	Meaning
<b>CSC</b>	Children's Social Care
<b>CSE</b>	Child Sexual Exploitation
<b>CSPR</b>	Child's Safeguarding Practice Review (Formerly Serious case reviews)
<b>CYP</b>	Children and Young People
<b>CYT</b>	Community Youth Teams
<b>DA</b>	Domestic Abuse
<b>DACT</b>	Domestic Abuse Coordination Team
<b>DASH</b>	Domestic Abuse Stalking and Honour based violence
<b>DCS</b>	Director of Children's Services
<b>DFE</b>	Department for Education
<b>DSL</b>	Designated Safeguarding Leads
<b>ED</b>	Emergency Department
<b>EET</b>	Education, Employment or Training
<b>EHCP</b>	Education Health and Care Plan
<b>EHE</b>	Elective Home Education
<b>ELOD</b>	Education, Learning and Organisational Development
<b>EMDR</b>	Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing
<b>ERG</b>	Education Reference Group
<b>FASD</b>	Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
<b>FIS</b>	Family Intervention Service
<b>GCP2</b>	Graded Care Profile 2
<b>GP</b>	General practitioner
<b>HMICFRS</b>	His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Service
<b>HSB</b>	Harmful Sexual Behaviour

Abbreviation	Meaning
ICB	Integrated Care Board
ICON	Infant crying is normal • Comforting methods can help It's OK to walk away • Never ever shake a baby
ICPC	Initial Child Protection Conference
IDAS	Independent Domestic Abuse Service
IDVAS	Independent Domestic Violence Advisors
IFD	Integrated Front Door
IRO	Independent Reviewing Officer
IV	Independent Visitor
JAR	Joint Agency Response
JCR	Joint Case Reviews
JTAI	Joint Targeted Area Inspection
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LA	Local Authority
LAACH	Looked After and Adoptive Children's Health team
LAC	Local Area Committees
LADO	Local Authority Designated Officer
LGC	Local Government Chronicle
LGBTQ+	Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans, Queer/questioning and more
Little CiCC	Little Children in Care Council
LPIG	Learning and Practice Improvement Group
LRU	Local Referral Unit
MAAG	Multi Agency Audit Group
MACE	Multi Agency Criminal Exploitation
MACF	Multi Agency Child and Family

Page 265





Abbreviation	Meaning
<b>MADA</b>	Multi Agency Domestic Abuse
<b>MAPPA</b>	Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements
<b>MARAC</b>	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
<b>MAST</b>	Multi Agency Support Team
<b>MHST</b>	Mental Health Support Teams
<b>MOJ</b>	Ministry Of Justice
<b>NCMD</b>	National Child Mortality Database
<b>NFCC</b>	National Fire Chiefs Council
<b>NHS</b>	National Health Service
<b>NICE</b>	National Institute for Health and Care Excellence
<b>NSPCC</b>	National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
<b>OFSTED</b>	Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills
<b>PA</b>	Personal Advisor
<b>PACE</b>	Police And Criminal Evidence
<b>PAIRS</b>	Parenting And Infant Relationship Service
<b>PCC</b>	Police and Crime Commissioner
<b>PDU</b>	Probation Delivery Unit
<b>PEEL</b>	Police Effectiveness Efficiency and Legitimacy
<b>PPF</b>	Prioritising Probation Framework
<b>PSHE</b>	Personal Social Health and Economic Education
<b>PVP</b>	Protecting Vulnerable People
<b>QAIS</b>	Quality Assurance and Involvement Service
<b>RCPC</b>	Review Child Protection Conference
<b>RCPCH</b>	Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health
<b>SAFE</b>	Support Attend Fulfil Exceed

Abbreviation	Meaning
<b>SAN</b>	Secure Accommodation Network
<b>SASP</b>	Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership
<b>SARC</b>	Sexual Assault Referral Centre
<b>SCAIDP</b>	Specialist Child Abuse Investigators: Development Programme
<b>SCC</b>	Sheffield City Council
<b>SCFT</b>	Sheffield Children's Foundation Trust
<b>SCLU</b>	Sheffield Care Leavers Union
<b>SCR</b>	Serious Case Review (Now known as Child's Safeguarding Practice Review)
<b>SCSP</b>	Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership
<b>SEN</b>	Special Educational Needs
<b>SEND</b>	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
<b>HSC</b>	Sheffield Health and Social Care
<b>SH</b>	Sheffield Safeguarding Hub
<b>SSU</b>	Safeguarding Support Unit
<b>STH</b>	Sheffield Teaching Hospital
<b>STHFT</b>	Sheffield Teaching Hospital Foundation Trust
<b>SYFR</b>	South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue
<b>SYP</b>	South Yorkshire Police
<b>TOM</b>	Target Operating Model
<b>VAWG</b>	Violence Against Women and Girls
<b>VC</b>	Vulnerable Child
<b>VCF</b>	Voluntary, Community and Faith sector
<b>VRU</b>	Violence Reduction Unit
<b>VYPEB</b>	Vulnerable Young People's Executive Board
<b>YHMAST</b>	Yorkshire and Humberside Multi Agency Safeguarding Trainers
<b>YJS</b>	Youth Justice Service

Page 263



# Section 12



Page 208

Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership would like to thank the children, young people and families in Sheffield, our partners and frontline practitioners, who have engaged with our training, events, consultations and in the preparation of our annual report for 2022-2023.

*Thank you*

# Section 13

Contact us

If you want to be in touch with us:



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Website – <https://www.safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org>

Page 269



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# Appendix 1

## Extended Partner Priorities

Page 287



# Child Protection Service

**Between April 2022 and March 2023, the Child Protection Service convened and chaired 388 Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) relating to 730 children, and 886 Review Child Protection Conferences (RCPCs) relating to 730 children.**

## Achievements in 2022/23

A duty consultation system is now embedded which provides consultation and advice to children's social care. This process has reduced the number of conferences due to identifying work that should be undertaken prior to the conference, resulting in safety planning for children outside of the child protection arena. Feedback from children's social care remains positive. The duty consultation system is also available to partner agencies who can contact a child protection coordinator for any advice regarding the child protection conferencing process.

In response to the Covid 19 Pandemic, Child Protection Conferences moved to virtual. Since March 2023, all ICPCs are now held face to face. This has been welcomed and praised by both professionals and parents, who feel face-to-face meetings provide a more improved conference experience. For parents who do not prefer meetings in person, virtual and hybrid links are provided.

Child protection coordinator challenge process guidance has been developed and implemented. This includes finalisation by the worker raising the challenge, following receiving a response. This ensures the response is satisfactory, in line with the child's safety and best interests and what the agreed next steps are.





All child protection coordinators have assigned lead areas to develop links and strengthen professional contributions at ICPCs and RCPCs. Lead areas include Probation, Housing, 0-19 Health, Youth Justice Service and Children's Social Care teams. These collaborations provide clarity to partner agencies about what is expected from them throughout the conference process and the important role they play in the decision making and overall safeguarding of children and young people. This development has been met with praise and compliments from external agencies.

Bimonthly child protection network meetings are held involving all partner agencies to discuss themes and trends of the conferencing process. Areas of good practice are also highlighted and discussed.

The dual planning process is firmly embedded and has reduced the number of children and young people subject to both the Child Protection and Looked After planning process. This process ensures children are only subject to one process and/or meeting with close consultation between the child protection coordinators and independent reviewing officers.

The Children's Involvement Team (CIT) continues to provide a crucial role in supporting children and young people to share their wishes and views at Conference. Between April 2022 and March 2023, the CIT advocated for children and young people at 198 ICPCs and 47 RCPCs.

Further work is being done with CIT to increase children and young people's participation using the hybrid equipment and encourage attendance via virtual link. The feedback form provided by the advocate will be adapted to include the child and young person's voice regarding the child protection process and whether there is a way of capturing their voices to make the process more accessible for children, particularly those who have attended conferences.

Child protection coordinators continue to offer consultations to all parents pre-conference to enable parents to talk through any worries or concerns and to ensure all parents' views and contributions are heard.

## Developments for 2023/24

- **To continue to increase oversight of all children** subject to Child Protection Plans with the aim of reducing the number of lengthy plans, reducing the potential for drift and delay, and ensuring effective timely planning and case escalation if required.
- **To further develop the midway review process** with the child protection coordinators and allocated social workers having a verbal case discussion regarding progress to the plan. This will strengthen progress tracking in between conferences and address any areas of potential drift and delay at earlier opportunities.
- **To incorporate the hybrid equipment** to enable increased participation of young people within the conference process and gather first hand their wishes, feelings and views of the process and plans.
- **The development of a notification form** which will enable child protection coordinators to inform partner agencies of any challenges or compliments relating to the conference process that have impacted on the planning process for Children and Young People. This was initially agreed by several partner agencies, with the aim of improving the contribution and attendance of partner agencies at conferences.
- **A working group incorporating child protection coordinators and Amber Service** has been developed to look at changing the format of Harm outside the Home conference structure whilst agreements are sought regarding a more formalised process. We will change the current structure and terminology used within the conference process, so it is more inclusive of parents.



## Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

**Safeguarding partnerships have responsibility for ensuring that there are effective procedures in place for investigating allegations against people who work with children using the principles outlined in Working Together to Safeguard Children.**

Managing allegations against staff and volunteers who work with children in Sheffield is a shared, multi-agency responsibility.

The LADO role provides advice and guidance to organisations who employ or oversee the children's workforce in Sheffield; liaises with the police and children's social care and other relevant agencies. The LADO will decide if the LADO threshold is met and chairs meetings to monitor and progress investigations to ensure they are handled using a timely, consistent, thorough, and fair process.

## Achievements in 2022/23

A case management model for recording LADO's contacts and outcomes has been developed, and we are now able to produce live data on volume of work throughput and type of work. We are developing this data to inform practice and quality of service.

A closure process has been embedded, so each LADO contact has a written outcome response. Subsequently, organisations are clear about LADO advice and outcomes. This includes lessons learnt for the organisation and actions for the organisation to be responsible for promoting safeguarding in their organisations.

LADO has been proactive in reaching into the community, providing training to faith groups, new Designated Safeguarding Leads, headteachers, fostering service, and residential settings. This included a LADO presentation teaching tool for education staff to access on the SCSP website. We are working with Sport England to promote safeguarding within sports clubs in Sheffield.

LADOs have participated in National LADO network meetings and subgroups, including contributing to the New LADO National Handbook which is currently with the Department of Education for consideration.

**Below are a couple of comments from professionals:**

*“I can see for myself the palpable changes and improvements in the service and therefore can see how hard you have worked as a team to achieve such a transformation.”*

Andrew Jones, Interim Director of Children's Services.

*“I just wanted to say a big thank you for the support with this, it has been crucial for me and helped me not get drawn into allowing other things to override this. So just wanted to say thank you for your time and expertise.”*

Residential Manager.

## Developments for 2023/24:

- **Create a leaflet for employers** and people subject to allegations.
- **Build on the community reach and training.**
- **Further develop the data reporting** to be proactive in identifying referral patterns.
- **Improve their own quality assurance** through audit work.



Page 288



## Sheffield Domestic Abuse Coordination Team (DACT):

Sheffield’s response to domestic abuse was reviewed by the national charity SafeLives in a report published in early 2023, **Public Health Systems Review of the Domestic Abuse Response in Sheffield** ([sheffielddact.org.uk](http://sheffielddact.org.uk)). This report estimates that in the year up to June 2022, there were **13,334 children living in a household with partner abuse and 7,990 young victims aged 16-24.**

Our own needs assessment found that when situations of adult family violence are included, there would have been around 26,019 children affected by domestic abuse in Sheffield in the last year.

SafeLives also estimates that there are 86,670 adult victims in Sheffield who have experienced domestic abuse at some point in their lives since the age of sixteen.

### The overall finding was that...

‘Sheffield has some real strengths in the area. The culture within services is positive, multi-agency working is effective. The service offer a forward thinking training and strategic response, coupled with a strong survivor network and evidence of experts by experience being consulted throughout work, gives victims in Sheffield a real opportunity to be safe and move on from domestic abuse.

There are further opportunities to increase awareness within the wider system, including but not limited to the specialist service resource, the Police and Housing response and inclusivity of marginalised groups. There is some excellent working practice, joined up work is responsive, and practitioners are working well with newer Perpetrator services, and newer Social Work responses.

Overall, Sheffield should be proud of how it responds to domestic abuse. The strategic leaders give great insight and work with operational leads, and this filters into a culture of support and challenge within local services.’

## Achievements in 2022/23

Continued to embed the **Safe and Together** Model and its core principles across Children's Social Care to partners via regular briefings but also the first overview days on the model.

The impact of the model is being felt across case work, in Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference Meetings (the process for safeguarding high risk domestic abuse victims/ survivors and their children), and in case reviews. There is still more to be done in terms of holding parents and carers who are perpetrators of domestic abuse to account for their behaviour and being clear that such behaviour is a parenting choice, but good progress is being made.

The Strengthening Families Domestic Abuse Team in the Children and Families Service continues to support the roll out of Safe and Together and to offer consultation to frontline staff on domestic abuse cases to ensure the response is 'domestic abuse informed.'

The team works closely with local charity **Haven**, who provide commissioned therapeutic support to children and young people who have lived with domestic abuse in their families, in order to triage social care cases where children have been impacted by domestic abuse and refer the most appropriate to the service.

Haven offered intensive support to 164 children to help them to recover from the trauma of domestic abuse during the year. Professionals described the service as supporting children well, that Haven staff were efficient, supportive, informative, very helpful, very professional, and friendly, and that they would absolutely and definitely recommend Haven's services.

Page 283

## Safe & Together™ Principles



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“The worker was very professional and friendly. Arrived promptly. The children loved their time working with them.”

Ann's Grove Primary.

“Great communication and a supportive member of the team.”

Safeguarding Manager Newfield School.

## Violence Reduction Unit (VRU)

**The South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit's aim is to work in partnership with organisations and communities across the county to prevent and reduce violence, taking a Public Health Approach.**



**The Unit contributed to Violence Reduction Action Plans in the four**

**Community Safety Partnerships. These help ensure a multi-agency commitment to reducing violence.**

The Serious Violence Duty is a statutory duty which was introduced by the Government at the end of January 2023.

It requires “specified authorities to work together and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence, including identifying the kinds of serious violence that occur in the area and to prepare and implement a strategy for preventing and reducing serious violence in the area.”

The VRU has been instrumental in developing arrangements to meet the Serious Violence Duty in South Yorkshire, working with key partners across the county to prepare for the implementation of the Duty, and to assess how it fits in with our existing work. Find out more [here](#).

## Achievements in 2022/23

The delivery of Trauma-Informed training – The aim is for staff who work with young people to be ‘trauma informed’, and to recognise childhood trauma when making assessments and engaging with young people. The VRU worked with Sheffield Hallam University to develop a trauma hotspot heatmap.

In 2022/23, the VRU's two grant rounds focused on supporting young people and tackling Violence Against Women and Girls. More than £688,000 was awarded through 43 grants. More than three thousand people were engaged through the grant rounds.

Violence Against Women and Girls has a terrible impact directly on victims, and indirectly on other women and girls who too often do not feel safe in our communities.

Tackling this issue remains a priority for the VRU and, during 2022, we supported four engagement events on this issue, most recently a knowledge sharing event at the end of November, and further supported the development of a South Yorkshire

Violence Against Women and Girls Partnership Statement of Intent. This asks organisations to sign up to a shared set of principles to tackle this issue in the county. 28 organisations have signed up to the Statement, which can be viewed [here](#).

## Developments for 2023/24

In 2023/24, the VRU is running a grant round to support children and young people aged 4-25, with the aim of providing diversionary activities, positive role models, and mental health support. This aims to support young people and prevent them from becoming involved in violence.

Alongside this work, the VRU will continue to engage with organisations and communities, including education providers, childcare providers, charities, and community groups, as part of its work with children and families.

This includes organisations which have received funding from the VRU and those which haven't.



# Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme

As part of the Government's new Family Hub and Start for Life programme, Sheffield's current Family Centres are now known as Family Hubs, building upon the existing services that are in place to support families from pregnancy through a child's early years until they reach adulthood. Find out more [here](#).



- **Continue with transformational changes** to establish the Family Hub network across the city including the development of a Parent Carer Panel and publish the new offer.
- **Establish working arrangements with Voluntary, Community and Faith (VCF) sector** to map universal baby and toddler services for families to access and support the availability of high-quality preventative practice provided by the VCF and integrate these into the Family Hub Network..
- **We will establish working opportunities with partners** to progress the Green agenda and equity and equality across the Family Hub and Start for Life programme agenda, by progressing the work on Breastfeeding and Climate Change and Breastfeeding and Cultural Competence awareness groups to support the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) population.

## Achievements in 2022/23

Formed a new parent and carer panel citywide to ensure parents and families voices are heard. We will link with our young 'Sheffielders' to ensure young people's voices are heard. Recent feedback from parents have been included in the film here: [Sheffield Family Hubs](#)

## Developments for 2023/24

- **Continue to offer existing statutory duty Children's Centre Services** (this is now referred to as the Start for Life offer).
- **Continue to develop our workforce** to enable the enhanced Start for Life offer in communities linked to the Family Hub and Start for Life Programme funding and Early Help Review.



# Universal Community Youth Services

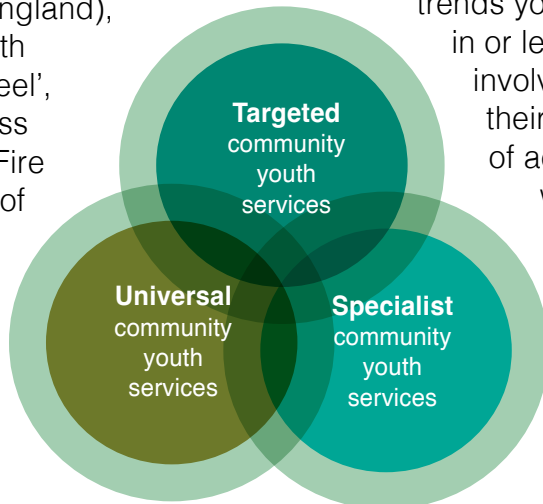
**The aim of Universal Community Youth Services is to deliver engaging, innovative, educational, disability safe and fun youth work sessions that are needs led and engage, challenge, and develop young people’s understanding and knowledge. We currently deliver 42 sessions per week in key neighbourhoods and communities.**

The delivery has been open access youth clubs and detached youth work; engaging young residents through informal education, sport, art, and personal development.

## Achievements in 2022/23

Using quarterly curriculum plans as a planning tool, young people and youth workers develop varied harm reduction sessions for young residents – ‘Your Stance’ (NHS England), Sheffield Sexual Health Services, ‘Coppa a Feel’, Knife Crime Awareness and South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue in terms of firework safety and water safety.

An integral part of Universal Community Youth Services



is delivering innovative holiday activities; using existing and developing new partnerships to enhance young people’s experiences, to increase young people’s social and emotional skills, in particular, self-confidence, self-efficacy, and emotional intelligence to create new friendships and expand their community.

A key element to all our delivery is the ability to have authentic conversations with young people; we are continuously evaluating our practice and interactions. We use a variety of methods to ensure young people can contribute meaningfully to evaluating services that are delivered to, and for, them. In terms of examples, we use creative consultations, web based, oral, digital, and written word.

Through quarterly action plans, we determine the activities and issues and trends young people want to participate in or learn about. Youth Workers involve young people in managing their youth club budget in terms of activities and resources which are our building blocks to develop youth club forums across the city with support from the Voice and Influence Service.

“Like talking to youth worker- they listened to me.”

“Really enjoyed going on a residential- gave me time away, to meet new friends.”

“Gives me somewhere to go with my mates.”

## Developments for 2023/24

- **To develop our digital offer**, recruit volunteers from local communities to form a trusted adult network.
- **Our annual training plan highlighted key training for staff** – Neurodiversity awareness, Mental Health First Aid, CCE awareness and Reflective Practice.
- **Increase membership to all youth provision** including SEND specific sessions and create sensory spaces in all youth clubs. The aim of our sensory space will be to provide safe, low-level stimulation and a recalibration zone for neuro-divergent young residents.



## Youth Justice Service (YJS)

**Building on the Child First approach, Sheffield Youth Justice Service (YJS) has made several changes which help to further embrace the guiding principles. Here is a link to Child First Principles - A Guide to Child First – Youth Justice Board for England and Wales (October 2022) - Youth Justice Resource Hub ([yjresourcehub.uk](http://yjresourcehub.uk))**

To prioritise the best interests of children, specialist teams within the YJS have been dissolved. In addition, all assessment and intervention work for Out of Court Disposals now sits within the YJS to allow us to work with children in a seamless way and avoid a change in service delivery should a child progress through the criminal justice system.

Removing structural barriers around dedicated teams allows Sheffield Youth Justice Officers and Workers to work with a child collaboratively and continuously through their contact with the YJS. The case manager can draw upon the plethora of specialist support to respond to a child's needs without limitation.

Case managers build relationships with young people and families identifying their wishes, needs, interests and barriers to engagement. These are then taken into account during planning and delivery of interventions. This may include what is offered, where and how. Case work plans are reviewed at three monthly intervals to ensure interventions are still relevant and effective, and amended if necessary.

## Developments for 2023/24

Sheffield Youth Justice Service is part of the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) Turnaround Programme initiative which will operate until April 2025; being provided with funding to intervene earlier and improve outcomes for children on the cusp of entering the youth justice system. The key aims of the programme are as follows:

- **Achieve positive outcomes for children** with the ultimate aim of preventing them going on to offend.
- **Build on work already done** to ensure all children on the cusp of the youth justice system are consistently offered a needs assessment and the opportunity for support.
- **Improve the socio-emotional, mental health and wellbeing** of children.
- **Improve the integration and partnership working** between Youth Offending Teams and other statutory services to support children.
- **Whilst our offer is still in development owing to LA commissioning procedures**, delivery has commenced, and the programme will be evaluated both locally and nationally by the Ministry Of Justice and staff from the Youth Endowment Fund.



# Youth Voice and Influence Service

The Youth Voice and Influence Service authentically listens to, and clearly communicates with, Young Residents, Partners, and Local Area Committees to identify the challenges and strengths of communities to improve services for young residents.

## Achievements in 2022/23

- **Several safety conferences/workshops** for young residents in relation to street safety and online safety.
- **Production of *Be That Mate*** film focusing on sexual harassment of girls and young women.
- **Test purchasing of knives, alcohol, and fireworks** in partnership with SYP.
- **SEND educational development** – consulting with young people in Alternative Provision and Integrated Resource settings.
- **GBTQ+ tender** – young residents' consultation, sitting on tender panel.
- **SENDing voices group have advised and youth proofed** the Sheffield transition pathway document that has been adopted by partners.

All delivery is young person centred. The service 'youth proofs' consultation material so that young residents can effectively engage in all areas of their lives. All feedback is analysed and reviewed to improve our service offer to young people by bringing key decision makers on board who help influence positive change.

Excellent feedback was received re the *Be That Mate* film from young residents, parents and carers and professionals (film has been adopted by nine police forces within the country).

Youth councillor young person

“Before getting involved in youth cabinet I didn't have any friends and my mental health wasn't great, but now I have friends and life is much brighter.”

Youth councillor young person

“Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to go and see the women euro matches! I absolutely loved it, and they were my first ever football matches! Thank you, I had a blast!”

Youth councillor young person

“Huge confidence growth due to me being involved in youth voice work.”

SEND young person

“I am looking forward to the year as a group. I think this is the best thing that has happened to me in a long time.”

SEND parent

“It was so lovely to meet you and everyone else yesterday. We are all quite overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity shown to us. My daughter was very nervous yesterday beforehand but is now looking forward to meeting again. I must admit I had to Google what a youth worker is; I assumed it was like a social worker but wow, what a fantastic job.”

SEND young person

“I like being with an amazing group of people, a very good bunch. I get to have a voice and people listen to me.”

## Developments for 2023/24

- **Housing Strategy consultation** with young residents (September).
- **City Goals consultation** – Building a better Sheffield.
- **LAC area school youth conference** – Based on South LAC pilot, the North-East one will take place in October 2023, six schools and one college will attend a full day workshop to discuss and develop plans based on three subjects 1) Cost of living then a further two chosen from the North East Local Area Committee (LAC) priorities (e.g. Community Safety, Health, and Wellbeing).
- **Celebrating young residents' Voices** – Showcase conference and award ceremony.
- **Coproduction of a new educational hate crime film** aimed at young people (working with same film maker as Be That Mate).
- **Supporting Public Health** to gather the views of younger parents on the perinatal services they received in relation to their mental health to influence service improvements.



# Prevent

**The Sheffield City Council Prevent Team supports a partnership approach to safeguarding young people and adults from the risk of radicalisation.**

## Achievements in 2022/23

Throughout the year, we have worked directly with young people, learners, parents and carers, schools, training providers, out of school settings and VCF organisations.

Supporting young people to build resilience to extremist narratives by raising awareness of local risks, developing skills to challenge misinformation, and promoting positive local narratives to tackle hate.

Providing tailored multi-agency support at the earliest stage to young people who are vulnerable to radicalisation.

Engaging with communities is a key strand of Prevent delivery – in helping to build resilience to radicalisers, but also in terms of promoting transparency regarding Prevent activity, listening to and responding to concerns, and developing trust in local referral pathways.

Throughout the year we have:

- **Met with the Youth Parliament and parents groups** to discuss how Prevent works locally.
- **Received feedback and evaluations** from Prevent projects and training delivered to young people, parents, and carers.
- **Spoken to all young people and their families** who have been adopted on to the **Channel** – explaining the safeguarding process and seeking and respecting their consent for support.
- **Supported safeguarding interventions**, such as Child in Need meetings, where the voice of the child and the wider family is included and acted upon.

Feedback from Prevent delivery to young people during the year showed that it had helped to:

- **Improve their understanding** of the risk of radicalisation.
- **Strengthen their awareness** of how to access support for themselves and others.
- **Empower them to challenge** divisive and hateful narratives and behaviour.

## Developments for 2023/24

Continue to work with young people, parents and carers, settings, and services.

To support children and young people to be resilient to extremism and to provide safeguarding support at the earliest stage to those who are vulnerable to radicalisation.





Page 205

## Learn Sheffield – Online Harm

### Learn Sheffield continues to deliver a commission on Online Safety from SCSP.

This commission covers training, policy and curriculum advice for schools and alternative providers, in addition to Online Safety consultancy for the wider children’s workforce through multi-agency seminars, web-based advice, and individual support for the Safeguarding Education Advisors team.



### Achievements in 2022/23

January 2023 saw the publication of the Children’s Commissioner’s report on Pornography: “**A Lot of it is Actually Just Abuse**”. This research gives the average age for accessing pornography online as thirteen. There is no discernible difference between males and females in this average figure.

A sizeable minority of primary age children also access pornography (27% by the age of eleven and 10% by the age of nine). These statistics have been anecdotally confirmed by discussions with students in Sheffield secondary schools. The report also reports the expectation for violent sex amongst teenagers.

This has been borne out in discussions with young people as part of a Sexual Harassment project in schools in South Yorkshire. Twitter is mentioned as one platform where links to pornography are regularly spread in addition to porn sites e.g. PornHub.

More in-depth discussion has revealed that links are often moved from sites who are becoming more adept at regulation, for example TikTok, with the video short being a taster and a link to an external site being shared, hence Twitter and other chat sites being used.

These findings reiterate the need for high quality Relationships and Sex Education in schools as well as increased industry regulation for individual sites. Young people consistently report their education in this area as being too little and too late. This situation will be further complicated by pressure that is being placed on Government to make its education guidelines more conservative and lobbying by certain parent groups to do the same.

Some settings have mentioned some use of Only Fans to monetise sexual activity with poverty primarily being an underlying factor in the motivation of the young person.

Over the course of this year, an increasing number of primary and secondary students have reported experiencing hate speech in their online

lives. This manifests itself as children from minority ethnic groups making their avatars white, girls pretending to be boys in gaming situations and young people with SEND routinely accepting ableist abuse online.

We have been advising schools how to deal with misogynistic influencers online but the most publicised are only a small part of what is becoming known as the Manosphere. Worryingly, young men in Sheffield report an increased use of Discord, Reddit, 4Chan and other message board sites where such content can be found, and young men “groomed” and influenced.

We believe that excellent equality education from a young age is the best way to counteract such beliefs. This needs to be approached carefully as there can be some confusion with promoting sex equality with young children and highlighting the transgender narrative. This is particularly pertinent due to the polarised opinions that transgenderism can elicit. Equally, the wellbeing of our LGBTQ+ students remains a concern in the online space.

## Developments for 2023/24

The Online Safety Consultants and the Education Safeguarding Advisors have strengthened their relationship over the year and are preparing to co-deliver training for Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) and other school staff over the coming year.

This will facilitate a more coherent and streamlined approach to the training. It also makes clear to schools that Online Safeguarding is very much the responsibility of the DSL and is not a separate entity.

**Keeping Children Safe In Education 2023** further strengthens the responsibility of the DSL in this space, particularly with regard to reviewing Online Safety policy and practice, as well as leading the internet filtering and monitoring strategy in schools.

Plans are already in hand for Learn Sheffield, SCSP and Sheffield City Council staff to brief schools about these changes.

We will also involve the commercial provider Smoothwall who are the majority provider to Sheffield schools.





## Public Health

**The Public Health team has moved back into ‘business as usual’ work having spent over two years providing mutual aid to support health protection and COVID response. Providing outbreak response identified where services and settings required additional support to safeguard children and young people, most notably, the ability for settings to manage infection prevention control and reduce risks. Education and nursery settings have been supported with guidance. Regular communication has been established through the Education and Skills newsletter to inform settings of health protection issues and action that should be taken.**

An example of this was when cases of Strep A increased over the autumn period as we came out of the pandemic. There has also been a focus on immunisation ‘catch up’ post pandemic in order to protect those children and young people who may have missed vaccinations during lock down periods and for those that are under immunised.

### Achievements in 2022/23

The pandemic greatly impacted on the lives and wellbeing of children and young people in many ways. **The Director of Public Health**

**Annual report (2023)** takes us through the journey of the pandemic and, specifically, the impact of COVID-19 on inequalities.

Whilst the priority throughout was to safeguard the health of children, young people and families, there is no doubt there has been a long-term impact on children and young people’s education and emotional wellbeing and mental health.

The Public Health Service has continued to work closely with organisations to further develop early intervention and support for mental health. This has taken the form of working across South Yorkshire Public Health teams/Local Authorities and Chilypep on the development of the **‘Walk with us Toolkit’**, providing support to children and young people bereaved by suicide (This has won a national Local Government Chronicle LGC Award).

As well as all early years and school settings receiving copies of this toolkit, fifty training places were offered to school staff for the **‘Talking with Children and Young People when there has been a suicide’** training. There has also been the continued expansion of the national Mental Health Support Teams (MHSTs) in school settings led by Sheffield Children’s NHS Foundation Trust Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAHMS) team.

A recent priority has been to continue to work with partners to deliver a comprehensive programme of tobacco control interventions to reduce smoking amongst adults and children. Following a focus on increases in young people vaping, Smokefree Sheffield with ASH UK has produced [advice on how to stop children vaping](#), in response to demand from parents and teachers. This information has been disseminated across children and young people's settings.

During the month of May 2023, Sheffield Trading Standards removed over 16,500 illegal vapes and 7,680 items of illicit tobacco from shops in the city. In the Autumn, Greg Feild Director of Public Health, and Sarah Heworth, the Health Improvement Principal lead for tobacco, will be meeting with headteachers to review what further ongoing support is needed.

Training on CYP and vaping resources will also be offered to safeguarding leads, school nurses, teachers and PSHE co-ordinators to further support settings to deal with this issue. Settings are being urged to report illegal sales via Trading Standards so we act on this intelligence.

A safeguarding and behaviour policy is being developed in collaboration with partners and we would like to bring this to the safeguarding

board for input into this development. The Sheffield tobacco control programme was recently awarded the LGC award in the Public Health category and the work on vaping and CYP was a key aspect of success in achieving the award for the outstanding resources developed – which are now also being utilised by sixty local authorities across England.

In response of our partnership and mutual accountability role, the Public Health Service is aligned to working with the Safeguarding Partnership to protect and respond to all forms of child abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

Through building partnerships with the Sheffield Health and Wellbeing Board, there has been a priority in establishing themed workshop sessions for health and wellbeing board members focusing on emotional wellbeing and mental health and children and young people.

This has provided input to the development of the city's strategy for health [The Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#) which is due to be refreshed for 2024.

Through feedback from City Goals engagement work and the 2019 Healthwatch project, some draft key themes for the refreshed strategy have developed and include:

- A strong need for connection, belonging, support, understanding.
- Better ways of getting round the city, feeling safer, green spaces.
- Support to live more healthily.
- More preventive healthcare and access.
- Mental wellbeing. Through the DfE Start for Life Programme, Public Health is leading the development of a new perinatal mental health pathway to support and protect those most vulnerable. This is a key element of service delivery to safeguard children and families. The design of the pathway is currently underway with services to be mobilised soon.

[The Public Health Outcomes](#) Framework continues to provide a robust opportunity to monitor and analyse outcome indicators across a range of themes. There is rigorous and regular monitoring of commissioned services and performance monitoring of all contracts funded via the Public Health grant.

For health protection, there continues to be a requirement to monitor and review serious incidents related to outbreaks of infectious diseases in children and young people's settings to review how transmission and risk is managed.

# Voice of the Child, Young Person, and Family

The Public Health Service regularly consults with services that directly support children, young people, and families particularly Early Years, schools, and post 16 settings.

Additionally, those services commissioned using the Public Health grant have a requirement to engage and consult. An example of this is the 0-19 Healthy Child Programme Service provided by Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust. Through engagement with families, the Trust has established a programme of Super Saturdays where clinical teams/services are providing outreach into community locations over a weekend to increase engagement and flexibility.

Sensory vaccination and immunisation sessions have been arranged to enable children with special educational needs to access vaccinations through a most appropriate and suitable environment.

“The support for early years staff, families and school leaders from the Public Health team was extraordinary and essential in enabling colleagues to support their school communities. Always solution focussed and never judgmental, they supported and challenged their education colleagues in an exemplary way. The legacy of those working relationships will long outlast the pandemic itself.”

“The response to individual family issues, emergencies and queries was incredible. The response was always rapid (regardless of whether it was an evening or a weekend) and questions were always answered in the most empathetic and supportive way.”

“How things were handled has left me with a feeling of deep respect and a shared experience of something that was profoundly challenging at times.”

“The way the Public Health team supported schools will remain with me as a school leader as a brilliant example of how a service went over and above to provide support to schools and families throughout the whole period.”

## Developments for 2023/24

As we move on from the pandemic and develop a refreshed city Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the Public Health Service will:

- **Review how the Public Health grant is allocated** across the city to ensure that where and how it is spent provides the best outcomes for children and families.
- **Continue to support organisations across the city** to best meet the needs of families through

the identification of evidence-based practice and advising and designing services to safeguard children and families. Examples of this in 2023/24 will be a continued focus on emotional wellbeing and mental health, and health protection/communicable disease.

- **Using the model of compassionate leadership** to work with anchor organisations to support staff to deliver services that meet need.

# South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue (SYFR)

## Achievements in 2022/23

### Compliance with national requirements.

**The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) has produced a suite of Professional Standards and South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue (SYFR) Safeguarding Officers have been active, both nationally and regionally, in the NFCC Safeguarding work stream. We have undertaken Safeguarding self-assessment implementation tool, gap analysis together with an action plan.**

SYFR have two Safeguarding Officers who are designated safeguarding leads. They continue to make staff aware of their roles and responsibilities along with providing quarterly development sessions for operational group managers who deputise out of hours for safeguarding. SYFR have recently completed self-assessments and attended Challenge/Assurance Meetings in both Sheffield and Rotherham.

We provide quarterly reports to the Fire Authority and have identified increasing numbers of complex cases in relation to children and young people with fire setting behaviours. These

cases often meet the threshold for a referral to Children's Services and Early Help. SYFR triage all safeguarding referrals to ensure they are appropriate and go to the most appropriate service.

SYFR Safeguarding Case Records provide us with information on the outcomes for children and their families. We also receive referrals from Independent Domestic Violence advisors (IDVAs) and South Yorkshire Police for home safety checks where there is a threat of arson often related to domestic abuse and households where children are living. SYFR Safeguarding Officers triage internal safeguarding referrals to ensure that thresholds are met for services ensuring our referral to services are appropriate.

SYFR continue to offer a range of activities for young people e.g. Fire Cadets. Attendance, completion of course work and feedback all indicate a positive impact. The outcomes are based on the experience of team building and pro-social modelling from a uniformed public sector service. In addition to this, targeted youth work, for example, Princes Trust, offers a more structured and intensive course for those not in education or employment and at risk of being marginalised and becoming involved in anti-social behaviour. Participation and end of course testimony from the students together with positive outcomes in terms of future employment are indicators of success.

As per the gap analysis on the last section 11 SYFR completed, we have now employed a Youth Engagement and

Interventions Manager to support with the youth provision within our service. We have tasked the manager with a suite of work to ensure we are able to capture the voice of the child more appropriately and provide further training for staff.

A new quality assurance framework is being introduced to SYFR so we can ensure compliance with national guidance from the National Fire Chiefs Council, which includes a person centred framework for home safety fire visits. SYFR will continue to do this with case work for children, young people, and adults to ensure staff can recognise and respond appropriately to safeguarding.



**South Yorkshire  
FIRE & RESCUE**





## Voice of the Child, Young Person, and Family

**The testimonies of young people attending SYFR youth courses, such as Prince’s Trust and receiving awards, offers a genuine insight into what the young people and their families think about the service offered and the difference it has made to them. In addition to this, SYFR receive regular feedback from visits to LIFEWISE, Schools Education and visits to the station which is often captured in “Compliments” in our Weekly Bulletin.**

The Education Officer and New Youth Engagement and Intervention Manager have been tasked with accessing the views of children and young people SYFR work with. This can be part of SYFR work in schools, Lifewise centre or through Cadets or Prince’s Trust.

A new child friendly complaints procedure is being development through our corporate governance department and Youth Engagement and Interventions manager.

It can be difficult to reference or quantify what children, young people and families say about our service as our engagement can often be brief such as the home safety check or during an incident. Think Family Education is producing harm reduction and some positive outcomes for children and young people who play with fire.

### Developments for 2023/24

Refresher training for operational fire fighters covering professional curiosity, adverse childhood experiences and contextual safeguarding.

Training for People’s Services staff in relation to safer recruitment. Training to empower and ensure that staff know what their responsibilities are in relation to safeguarding children and young people.

A new Learnpro for all staff will be introduced to support everyone to have an awareness of Safeguarding, including internal safeguarding procedures ensuring all SYFR know how to respond to a safeguarding concern.

Page 207

# Probation

**The Probation Service works with offenders who are serving their sentence but are not in prison. This could be because they are serving a community sentence or have been released from prison on licence or parole.**

People on probation have regular meetings with a probation practitioner and may have to do unpaid work, complete an education or training course, and/or get treatment for addictions, like drugs or alcohol.



Page 288

## Achievements in 2022/23

- **Improved staffing and resources to manage caseloads.** Impact achieved on improved child safeguarding checks for cases going through Court and Sentence Management to ensure all child safeguarding measures form part of our assessment at Court for sentence proposals, and the way we manage community sentence plans.
- **Delivery of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)** has continued to ensure public protection and safeguarding has been a deliverable priority, particularly regarding individuals assessed as posing the highest risk of serious harm to the public, including children. Similarly, probation practitioner presence at Child Protection Conferences has also remained an operational priority to contribute to children's safety.
- **In building back after the pandemic recovery,** we have re-introduced home visits in appropriate cases, and this will impact cases with child safeguarding concerns.
- **In operating under the Probation Prioritisation Framework** - Amber – we have progressed to improved arrangements for face-to-face supervision for higher risk cases.
- **Robust monitoring of probation appointments** and child safeguarding checks has been implemented.

The Sheffield Probation Delivery Unit (PDU) has practitioners on one site in the city centre and has realigned teams with attendance at multi-agency meetings, particularly child protection conferences, a priority. Senior and middle managers are visible and engaging with local strategic meetings and are driving quality and performance internally, particularly with a commitment to safeguarding training and development.

We make full use of all options on community orders post-sentence, including with appropriate licence conditions and enforcement to keep child safeguarding as one of our operational priorities.

## Voice of the Child, Young Person, and Family

The Probation Service does not work directly with children, however our focus on child welfare remains a high priority, and the assessment of the risks posed by adults towards children is continuously assessed and referrals made when appropriate.

As part of our assessments and referrals, the voice of the child is considered, particularly when contributing to more formal scenarios such as child protection conferences. The increased use of home visits and subsequent visibility and contact with partners and children in the households of our people on probation has meant that probation practitioners have been better able to assess child welfare.

Similarly, the robust management of people on probation assessed as posing a risk to children means that we have the ability to remove direct threats to children's safety from home environments, reducing the risk of harm to those children.

We subsequently continue to work with those individuals, and associated partnership agencies, to assist them to understand the type and level of harm that their behaviour can cause to a child with a view to assist them to improve their behaviour to the point where they can positively contribute to a child's life and development, where possible and appropriate.

## Developments for 2023/24

Whilst continuing to work to the Prioritising Probation Framework (PPF) and develop our contact with people on probation, we will, through ongoing recruitment and retention, continue to progress on implementing the Probation Service Target Operating Model (TOM).

We have recruited a Probation Service Officer to work in the Child Safeguarding Hub with Sheffield City Council (SCC). Safeguarding children shall remain a priority area of work throughout, particularly in regard to risk assessments and intervention delivery. This will help all our probation staff to complete checks on our cases with child safeguarding concerns more quickly and efficiently. We will also contribute to daily multi-agency case conferences with partner agencies in the

Child Safeguarding Hub. We have agreed with training leads in SCC that, in order to increase opportunities for probation staff to attend relevant training, bespoke sessions will be facilitated in our probation office in Sheffield. Furthermore, operational staff will engage with continued professional development and learning that is inclusive of safeguarding children and promoting child welfare and development.

We will have direct access to domestic abuse intelligence from South Yorkshire Police to enable us to directly access information and keep individuals and children safe.



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## Report to Policy Committee

C

**Author/Lead Officer of Report:**

Dawn Bassinder, Chief Social Work Officer

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**Report of:** Strategic Director Adult Wellbeing and Care

**Report to:** Strategy and Resources Policy Committee

**Date of Decision:** 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**Subject:** Adult Safeguarding Annual Report

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? 2313				
Has appropriate consultation taken place?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-				
<i>"The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)."</i>				

### Purpose of Report:

This report provides the Sheffield Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report for endorsement by Committee.

The Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership (SASP) is a strategic, multi-agency partnership that brings together statutory and non-statutory organisations to actively promote effective working relationships between different agencies and professionals to address the issue of abuse and harm. The Safeguarding Adults Executive leads and holds individual agencies to account, to ensure adults in Sheffield are supported and protected from abuse and neglect.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee:

1. Notes the Sheffield Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report.

**Background Papers:**

- Appendix 1 – Sheffield Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report
- Appendix 2 – Equalities Impact Assessment

Lead Officer to complete: -		
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.	Finance: Laura Foster
		Legal: Patrick Chisholm
		Equalities & Consultation: Ed Sexton
		Climate: Dawn Bassinder
	<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>	
2	<b>SLB member who approved submission:</b>	<i>Alexis Chappell</i>
3	<b>Committee Chair consulted:</b>	<i>Councillor Angela Argenzio</i>
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the SLB member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.	
	<b>Lead Officer Name:</b> Dawn Bassinder	<b>Job Title:</b> Chief Social Work Officer
	<b>Date: 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b>	

## **1. PROPOSAL**

- 1.1 Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.
- 1.2 Safeguarding means protecting people's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. Statutory safeguarding applies to adults with care and support needs who may not be able to protect themselves. It can also include neglect, domestic violence, modern slavery, organisational or discriminatory abuse.
- 1.3 The Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership (SASP) is a strategic, multi-agency partnership that brings together statutory and non-statutory organisations to actively promote effective working relationships between different agencies and professionals to address the issue of abuse and harm. The Safeguarding Adults Executive leads and holds individual agencies to account, to ensure adults in Sheffield are supported and protected from abuse and neglect.
- 1.4 The SASP's overall purpose is to make sure that people in Sheffield, particularly those with care and support needs are protected from harm, abuse, and neglect. This is a challenging task, but we are clear that by working in partnership with the community, carers, and those who receive services, we can make a difference to the well-being and safety of people across Sheffield.
- 1.5 SASP is required under the Care Act 2014 to produce a Safeguarding Adults Annual Report each year. The report should say what we have done during the last year to protect adults at risk of abuse and neglect in Sheffield and how the year's objectives have been achieved.
- 1.6 The report includes an overview of the structure and membership of the partnership, data relating to safeguarding over the last financial year and examples of how partners have worked to achieve the partnerships 5 strategic priorities.
- 1.7 This annual report covers the 12 months from April 2022 to March 2023 and provides an update and information on significant activity and developments for Adult Safeguarding in Sheffield.
- 1.8 The annual report demonstrates that partners have faced significant challenges during the year and there is still much to address. However, there has also been significant innovation, and safeguarding has been maintained as a priority.
- 1.9 Notwithstanding all the current challenges, the Independent Scrutineer notes that they have seen a real commitment to partners working together, and the willingness to address the need for change. They have seen some great examples of innovation, with Sheffield at the leading edge locally and contributing nationally to emerging policy on interventions that support vulnerable adults and families.

- 1.10 The independent Scrutineer noted their appreciation to all for the work and persistence in sustaining effective safeguarding in Sheffield.
- 1.11 As a partner of the Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership, the Council is committed to delivering a robust Safeguarding response which both prevents abuse and protects people from harm, abuse, and neglect. A key part of this has been the development of an Adult Multi-Agency Screening Hub as a way of joining up local services to enable swift and responsive decision making in response to concerns about Adult's Safety. This is featured in the report.
- 1.12 In addition, the Adult Health and Care Policy Committee has oversight of the Adult Safeguarding Delivery Plan of which a six-monthly update is provided to the Committee and the Partnership for assurance. As part of this, a Council wide review of safeguarding is being undertaken to inform our learning and provide recommendations which enable the Council to have safeguarding as everyone's responsibility and ensure the supports are in place to achieve this.

## **2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?**

- 2.1 The Safeguarding Annual Report contributes to delivery upon the Safe and Well and Effective and Efficient Adult Social Care outcomes as set out in the Adult Social Care Strategy Living the Life You Want to Live.
- 2.2 The report also supports a broad range of strategic objectives for the Council and City, and is aligned with existing policies and commitments, including: -
- *The Council Delivery Plan and Our Sheffield: [One Year Plan](#) .*
  - *Adult Care Strategy – Living the Life You Want to Live.*
  - ADASS [Making Safeguarding Personal](#) and using Strengths-based approaches to social care.
  - Adult Care and Wellbeing Safeguarding Delivery Plan and Strategic Direction.
  - *Unison Ethical Care Charter<sup>13</sup>: signed up to by SCC in 2017<sup>14</sup>, the Charter 'establishes a minimum baseline for the safety, quality and dignity of care'.*

## **3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?**

- 3.1 A crucial element in the successful prevention of abuse is the increased involvement in people receiving, and staff directly delivering care, in the development of all key parts of the plan. Throughout the sector, we know that involving and coproducing these makes them more likely to be successful.
- 3.2 To deliver upon that ambition, there is a dedicated customer forum through the Safeguarding Board in place and a focus on Making Safeguarding Personal throughout the Annual Report.

## 4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

### 4.1 Equality Implications

4.1.1 As a Public Authority, we have legal requirements under the Equality Act 2010, collectively referred to as the 'general duties to promote equality'. Section 149(1) contains the Public Sector Equality Duty, under which public authorities must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:

1. eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is connected to protected characteristics and prohibited by or under this Act;
2. advance equality of opportunity between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not;
3. foster good relations between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not.

4.1.2 The proposal described in this report is consistent with those requirements. It aims to develop a more efficient and person-centred approach and, as referenced in the Consultation section above, to ensure citizens' voices and experiences help to inform and develop the processes.

4.1.3 The nature and purpose of Adult Care means that people sharing the protected characteristics of Age and/or Disability will be directly impacted by the proposals. However, the safeguarding remit means that people sharing certain other protected characteristics (e.g., Sex, Race, Sexual Orientation) may also be particularly affected.

4.1.4 The updated Equalities Impact Assessment is at Appendix 2.

### 4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

4.2.1 The Annual Report sets out the budget available to the Sheffield Adults Safeguarding Partnership. There are no financial implications.

### 4.3 Legal Implications

4.3.1 The core purpose of adult health and social care support is to help people to achieve the outcomes that matter to them in their life. The Care Act 2014 sets the Council's statutory power to direct the provision that:

- promotes wellbeing
- prevents the need for care and support
- protects adults from abuse and neglect (safeguarding)
- promotes health and care integration
- provides information and advice
- promotes diversity and quality.

4.3.2

Beyond the Act itself the obligations on Local Authorities are further set out in the Care Act statutory guidance issued by the government. By virtue of section 78 of the Act, Local Authorities must act within that guidance.

#### 4.3.3

The Care Act Statutory Guidance at paragraph 4.52 requires Local Authorities to:

“... have in place published strategies that include plans that show how their legislative duties, corporate plans, analysis of local needs and requirements (integrated with the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy), thorough engagement with people, carers and families, market and supply analysis, market structuring and interventions, resource allocations and procurement and contract management activities translate (now and in future) into appropriate high quality services that deliver identified outcomes for the people in their area and address any identified gaps”.

#### 4.3.4

The Annual report supports the Authority in meeting its statutory obligations in relation to Safeguarding.

#### 4.4 Climate Implications

4.4.1 There are no direct climate implications associated with approving this report. However, Sheffield City Council – and its [10 Point Plan for Climate Action](#) – is a partner in the Safeguarding Board.

4.4.2 We are committed to working with partners aligned with our Net Zero 2030 ambition and where specific procurement/commissioning exercises take place related to safeguarding provision we will aim to consider providers approach and performance in terms of managing the climate impacts of the services they provide. This would be done via more detailed CIAs for specific procurements.

4.4.3 To support a multi-agency approach to Climate Action in relation to Safeguarding, the Safeguarding Partnership Board has been asked to consider a collective response and in particular role of the Board and partner organisations in delivering upon the 10 Point Plan.

#### 4.4 Other Implications

4.4.1 There are no specific other implications for this report. Any recommendations or activity from the detailed workplans of the strategy will consider potential implications as part of the usual organisational processes as required.

### 5. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 This is an update on previously endorsed delivery plan in line with recommendations approved at Committee. No alternatives options are available due to this.

### 6. **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 An endorsed Annual Report gives the public assurance that the Partnership is delivering upon its commitment to protect people from abuse and harm. It will also provide greater accountability and transparency of how will do this.
- 6.2 Asking for the Annual report to be considered at Strategy and Resources Committee will keep the Committee, wider stakeholders, and the public the ability to support increased awareness and understanding of Safeguarding.

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**Safe in Sheffield**

# Annual Report 2022/23

## Document Information

**Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership  
(SASP) Annual Report 2022/23**

**Date of Publication: October 2023**

**Approval Process: SASP Executive  
Partnership Board September 2023**



**Sheffield  
Adult  
Safeguarding  
Partnership**



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### How to Report a Safeguarding Concern

If you have any concerns that an adult is being abused or neglected, then you can share those concerns with the Local Authority. Your actions could save their lives and potentially the lives of others.

For members of the public, concerns can be raised by contacting the First Contact Team on 01142734908.

Professionals are encouraged to use the referral form which can be found on our website, [here](#).



# Contents

1. Message from the Independent Chair.....	Page 4
2. Key Safeguarding Facts.....	Page 5
3. About Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership.....	Page 6
3.1. SASP Membership List.....	Page 7
3.2 SASP Structure Chart.....	Page 8
3.3 Funding and Spend for 2022/23.....	Page 9
4. Relevant Safeguarding Issues for Care Homes.....	Page 10
5. Safeguarding Adults Reviews.....	Page 11
5.1 Safeguarding Adult Reviews 2022/23.....	Page 12
5.2 Safeguarding Adult Reviews – Actions and Recommendations.....	Page 13
6. SASP Multi-Agency Training.....	Page 15
7. Strategic Priorities 2020-2023.....	Page 16
7.1 Making Safeguarding Personal.....	Page 17
7.2 Working in Partnership.....	Page 19
7.3 Prevention and Early Intervention.....	Page 21
7.4 Engage and Empower.....	Page 23
7.5 Quality Assurance.....	Page 25
8. SASP Initiatives Sheffield Safe Places and Not Born Yesterday.....	Page 27
8.1 Safe Places – Heeley City Farm.....	Page 28
8.2 Trading Standards - Not Born Yesterday.....	Page 29
9. Sheffield Adults Safeguarding Customer Forum.....	Page 30
10. Case Study 1 - Housing and Neighbourhood Service.....	Page 31
10.1 Case Study 2 – Hospital First Contact Team.....	Page 32
10.2 Case Study 3 – IDAS.....	Page 33
11. What Do the Numbers Tell Us?.....	Page 34
12. Overview from the Independent Scrutineer.....	Page 38
13. Acronyms.....	Page 43

# 1. Message from the Independent Chair

Welcome to the annual report of the Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership. I am pleased that you are taking the time to read this report, which outlines continuing progress in the multi-agency work to protect and safeguard adults at risk in Sheffield. The report covers the period from April 2022 through to March 2023, a period that continued to present unprecedented challenges for partners.

I joined the partnership in April 2022 as Independent Chair and Scrutineer, a role intended to support partners by providing an independent perspective on their work to safeguard adults and to highlight challenges where appropriate. One of my duties is to be satisfied that the agencies who make up the safeguarding partnership are working effectively together to ensure that they are doing what they can to keep adults at risk in Sheffield safe, with the resources that they have available. **You will find my scrutineer's overview at the end of this report.**

Safeguarding is very much everyone's business, and I would offer my thanks to you all for your work and persistence in sustaining effective safeguarding in Sheffield. There are many examples of practitioners going above and beyond expectations to protect some of our most vulnerable adults and families and to them I send my thanks.



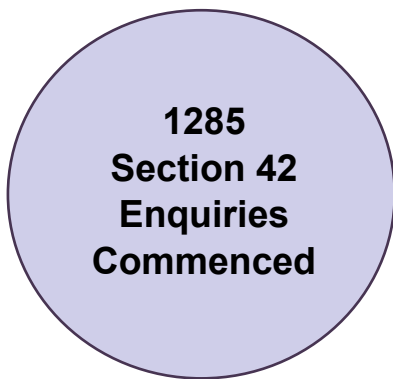
*Lesley J Smith*

**Lesley Smith**

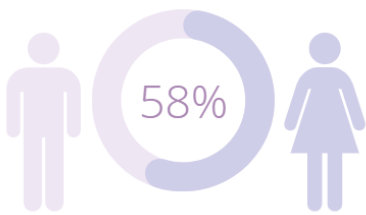
**Independent Chair and Scrutineer**

**Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership**

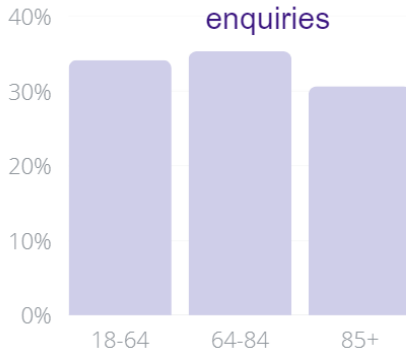
# 2. Key Safeguarding Facts



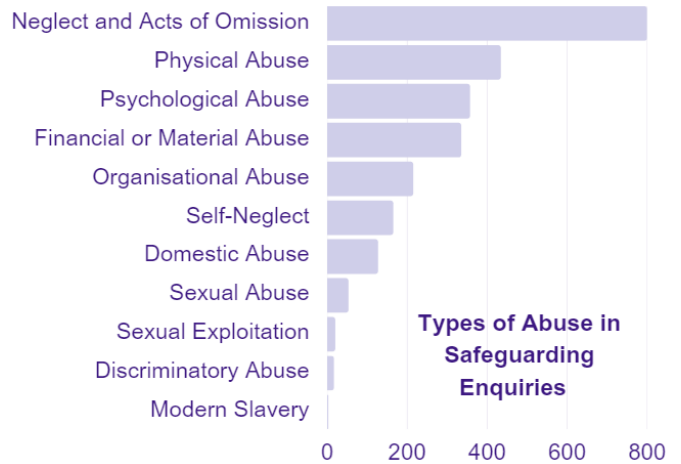
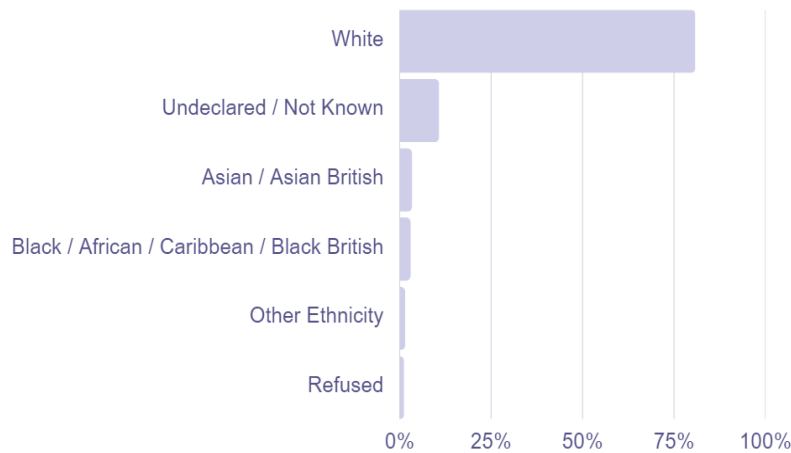
More women than men were involved in safeguarding enquiries



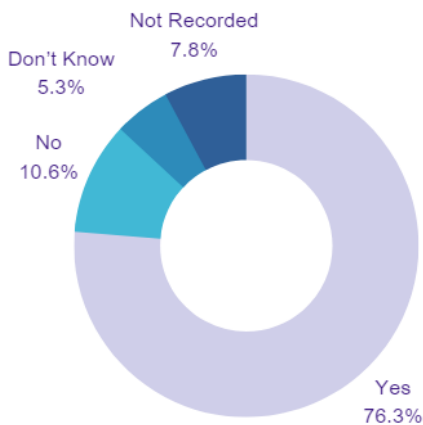
The age range of people who had safeguarding enquiries



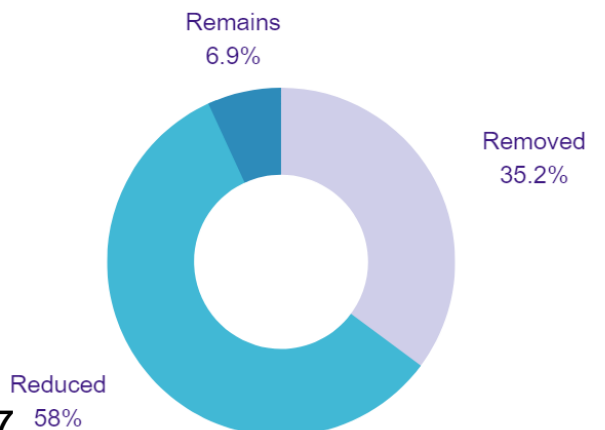
Ethnicity of Individuals Involved in Safeguarding Enquiries



Was the Person Asked their Desired Outcomes in the Safeguarding Enquiry?



In Safeguarding Enquiries Was the Risk Removed or Reduced?



# 3. About Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership



Safeguarding aims to protect and prevent, the physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and financial abuse of adults who have care and support needs and acts quickly when abuse is suspected. It can also include neglect, domestic violence, modern slavery, organisational or discriminatory abuse.

The Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership (SASP) is a strategic, multi-agency partnership that brings together statutory and non-statutory organisations to actively promote effective working relationships between different agencies and professionals to address the issue of abuse and harm. The Safeguarding Adults Executive leads and holds individual agencies to account, to ensure adults in Sheffield are supported and protected from abuse and neglect.

The SASP’s overall purpose is to make sure that people in Sheffield, particularly those with care and support needs are protected from harm, abuse, and neglect. This is a challenging task, but we are clear that by working in partnership with the community, carers, and those who receive services, we can make a difference to the well-being and safety of people across Sheffield.

SASP is required under the Care Act 2014 to produce a Safeguarding Adults Annual Report each year. The report should say what we have done during the last year to protect adults at risk of abuse and neglect in Sheffield and how the year’s objectives have been achieved. The report includes an overview of the structure and membership of the partnership, data relating to safeguarding over the last financial year and examples of how partners have worked to achieve the partnerships 5 strategic priorities.

This annual report covers the 12 months from April 2022 to March 2023 and provides an update and information on significant activity and developments for Adult Safeguarding in Sheffield.

For more information about SASP please look at our [website](#), where you can find information for professionals including Learning Briefs from [Safeguarding Adult Reviews](#), [how to report a Safeguarding Concern](#), policies and procedures including the newly published [Multi-Agency Self Neglect Policy and Practice Guidance \(Including VARM and CCM\)](#) and how to book onto [multi-agency training and the courses available](#). The website also has information for the public, carers, and families including information on [types of abuse](#) and an [Easy Read](#) on “What is abuse and how do I tell someone?”.

**Throughout this report, the following acronyms may be used when referring to partners:**

SYP	South Yorkshire Police
STHFT	Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
SHSC	Sheffield Health and Social Care NHS Foundation Trust
NHS SY ICB (Sheffield)	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
SYFR	South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
AC&W	Adult Care and Wellbeing
SCC	Sheffield City Council

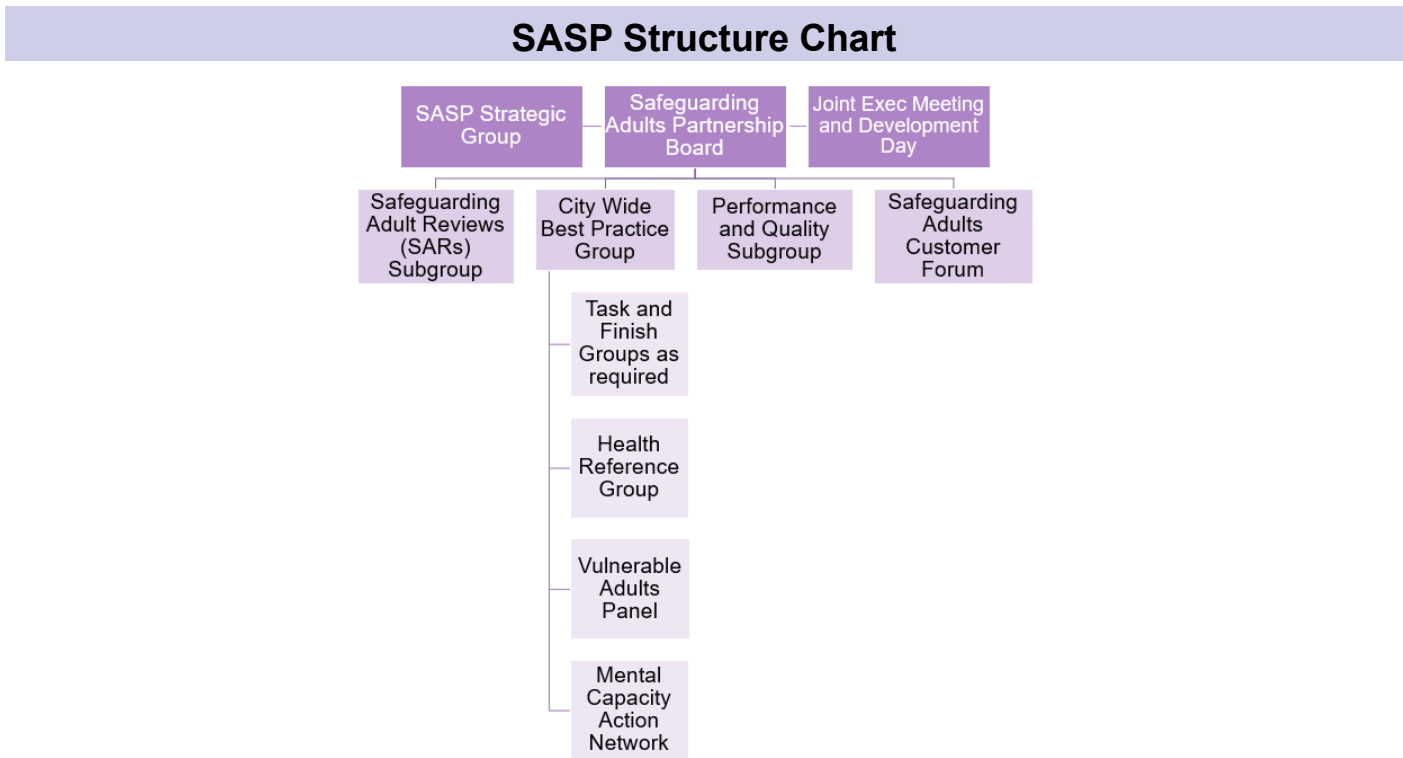


# 3.1 SASP Membership List

## Executive Board Membership List

<b>Member</b>	<b>Agency</b>
Independent Chair	SASP
Safeguarding Board Manager	SASP
Chair of the Customer Forum	SASP
Chief Nurse	Sheffield Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust
Exec Director of Nursing Quality and Professions	Sheffield Health and Social Care
Chief Nurse	NHS SY Integrated Care Board, Sheffield
Head of Service	Probation Service
Chief Superintendent	South Yorkshire Police
Area Manager for Prevention and Service Improvement	South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
Head of Neighbourhood Intervention and Tenant Support – Housing Service	Sheffield City Council
Strategic Director of Adult Care and Wellbeing	Sheffield City Council
Deputy DASS (Director of Adult Social Services)	Sheffield City Council
Councillor Lead	Sheffield City Council
Chief Executive Officer	Sheffield Carers Centre (Voluntary Services Representative)

# 3.2 SASP Structure Chart



**Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board:** The Board works to achieve the shared aims and objectives of the partners to develop a vision of safeguarding for Sheffield which includes a strong commitment to safeguard adults at risk, including carers, and engages the active support of the public. The board ensure that as far as practicable within the resources available, each agency provides services to the interagency system which are effective in safeguarding, promote the dignity and respect of Sheffield’s adults at risk, and that the Board works to maximum efficiency to achieve its purposes.

**Strategic Group:** Three safeguarding partners (SYP, SCC and NHS SY ICB) form the Strategic Group and set the strategic priorities, agree funding and resources, and drive forward the work of the Partnership, whilst ensuring that the vision and values are upheld. They advise and support the Executive Partnership Group to develop, implement and monitor an annual plan based on the priority actions agreed against the core business.

**City Wide Best Practice Group (CWBPB):** This subgroup provides a forum where improvements can be discussed, agreed and disseminated into partner organisations to staff who work with safeguarding procedures, national and local legislation, and policies/procedures.

**Performance and Quality Subgroup:** The SASP Performance and Quality function monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of safeguarding adults’ practice across the city, using qualitative and quantitative data intelligence to identify areas of best practice and themes, trends and areas requiring action or improvement.

**Safeguarding Adult Review Subgroup:** The SAR subgroup of the Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership is responsible for recommending the commissioning of SARs, managing the process, and assuring that all the associated recommendations and actions have been implemented by the relevant partners.

**Safeguarding Adults Customer Forum:** Members of the Forum share an interest in Safeguarding Adults and they can ask questions and bring information to share. The Customer Forum ensures that people have a voice and that their and opinions on safeguarding are fed back to the board and partners in order to improve services. Read more about the Forum on page 30.



# 3.3 Funding and Spend for 2022/23

**Balance (underspend) from 2022-23**  
*Adj to Reserve*

(177,410)

<b>Income</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Outturn</b>
Sheffield City Council	(327,176)	(327,176)
SY Police and Crime Commissioner	(12,000)	(17,913)
SY ICB (Sheffield) (prev. CCG)	(92,700)	(92,700)

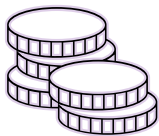
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Employers - Salaries	364,276	221,727
Transport - Employees Expenses	1,300	90
Supplies & Services	66,300	81,181

**Net in year underspend**

(134,784)

**Balance to be carried forwards to 23-24**

(312,193)



# 4. Relevant Safeguarding Issues for Care Homes

Nice Guidelines include a requirement for Safeguarding Adults Boards to include information on issues relevant to safeguarding in care homes within their Annual Report.

The following information provided by the Performance and Quality Team in Sheffield City Council, summarises some of the relevant issues and how they are monitored.

- The Quality and Performance Team for Adult Care and Wellbeing has continued to follow up on safeguarding concerns reported in relation to residents of care homes, looking at wider quality and safety implications. This is completed in partnership with the South Yorkshire ICB Care Homes Quality Team who explore clinical issues. Both teams jointly promote best practice within care homes.
- Both teams have supported care homes to ensure that appropriate reporting is occurring from care homes to the local authority and have promoted the training programme that is offered by Sheffield City Council.
- The Quality and Performance Team for Adult Care and Wellbeing has linked in with the Practice Development Team at the Council on specific cases relating to action that needs to be taken for People in Positions of Trust (PiPoT) and DBS referrals.
- Spoken with residents as part of quality monitoring visits to explore their wellbeing, looking at the opportunities they are offered to have a good quality of life, that they are asked for feedback in a variety of ways, that they know how to complain, and that their feedback is acted upon.
- Spot-checked how care homes manage residents' finances and how people are supported to retain access and control over their own money.
- Spoken to staff in care homes about their understanding of safeguarding, dignity and respect and how this works in day-to-day practice. Asked if staff members have attended safeguarding training and whether they are confident to raise risks with management and know about whistleblowing procedures.
- Checked that information-sharing and risk management systems in use at care homes and business continuity plans are robust.
- Discussed with care home managers their responsibilities regarding the procedures laid out in the Duty of Candour Regulation.
- Looked at recruitment practice and supervision of staff to ensure safe practice.



# 5. Safeguarding Adult Reviews

A Safeguarding Adult Review is a multi-agency process that considers whether or not serious harm experienced by an adult or group of adults at risk of abuse or neglect, could have been predicted or prevented and uses that consideration to develop learning that enables the partnership to improve services and prevent abuse and neglect in the future.

Section 44 of the Care Act states that we must carry out a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) if certain criteria are met. This is so that we can learn lessons where an adult, with care and support needs, has died or been seriously injured, and abuse or neglect is suspected and where there are issues with how agencies worked together. The purpose is not to apportion blame to any individual or organisation.

The SAR Sub-Group of the Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership is responsible for recommending the commissioning of Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) in line with the Care Act 2014 Guidance (Chapter 14), managing the process, and assuring SASP that recommendations and actions arising from reviews have been addressed by the partnership and individual agencies.

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## REPORTS AND LEARNING BRIEFS

Links to all Safeguarding Adult Review Learning Briefs and Overview Reports can be found here on our website [Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership - About the Board \(sheffieldasp.org.uk\)](https://www.sheffieldasp.org.uk)

## SAR DHR NEWSLETTER

Quarterly, SASP and [DACT \(Domestic Abuse Coordination Team\)](#) produce a SAR-DHR Newsletter, looking at themes and learning coming from reviews in the city, such a Safeguarding Adult Reviews and Domestic Homicide Reviews. We often see cross-cutting themes across these reviews. Newsletters so far have looked at:

- Carers
- Adult Family Violence
- Non-Engagement and Was Not Bought
- Trauma Informed Practice

**Past editions of these newsletters are available to read on our website.**

Find them here [Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership - \(sheffieldasp.org.uk\)](https://www.sheffieldasp.org.uk) (below the learning briefs).

# 5.1 Safeguarding Adult Reviews 2022/23

## Number of Referrals Received

From April 1<sup>st</sup> 2022 to March 31<sup>st</sup> 2023, SASP received 8 SAR referrals.

## Characteristics

Of the 8 SAR referrals, 4 were male and 4 were female. 2 were aged 40-50, 3 aged 51-60, 1 aged 61-70, 2 aged 71-80.

## SARs Commissioned

1 out of the 8 referrals has met the SAR criteria. 4 are still under consideration.

## SARs Ongoing

3 SARs are ongoing as of March 31<sup>st</sup> 2023, 1 of which the referral was received in 22/23, and 2 of which the referral was received prior to this financial year.

## SARs Completed

There were no SARs completed in this financial year.

## Of the eight SAR referrals received in 2022/23:

- One met the SAR criteria.
- Three did not meet the criteria. One did not meet the criteria as the person was not known to any agencies. Two did not meet the criteria as there were no concerns that agencies did not work together to safeguard the person.
- Four are still under consideration as more information is being gathered prior to making a decision e.g., awaiting toxicology results.

A decision was also made on two additional referrals received in the previous financial year (2021/22). One of these met the SAR criteria the other did not as there were no concerns over multi-agency failings, and instead a single agency report was presented to the SAR subgroup by Adult Care and Wellbeing.

Two SARs were therefore commissioned this year and are ongoing. Themes arising from these 2 reviews include:

1. Cuckooing, substance misuse, trauma informed practice, mental health.
2. Cross boundary working, information sharing, learning disabilities, mental health.

There is one additional SAR still ongoing that was commissioned in 21/22. Themes arising from this review includes cross boundary working, transitions, learning disability, mental health.

**3 SARs are ongoing in total as of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.**

There were no SARs completed in 2022/23. Learning Briefs for all of our reviews can be found [here](#).

## 5.2 Safeguarding Adult Reviews – Recommendations and Actions

In 2022 – 2023 SASP and partner agencies continued to implement learning and actions from Safeguarding Adults Reviews completed in Sheffield. Examples of actions completed can be found in editions of the SAR-DHR Newsletters. Actions have included:

Following learning from SAR Person E, SAR Person F and SAR Harris



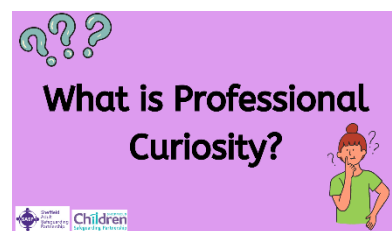
In July 2022, SASP published **The Multi-Agency Self Neglect Policy and Practice Guidance (including VARM and CCM)**. The purpose of this policy is to outline a multi-agency approach to support those across SASP when responding to concerns relating to adults who self-neglect. It aims to ensure that those professionals involved in working with adults who may exhibit self-neglect or hoarding behaviours, have a consistent approach to responding to concerns that are up to date, easily accessible and which promote positive outcomes for those of concern.

The practice guidance that goes alongside this policy can be used to support decision making for cases involving self-neglect, and those cases of self-neglect where there are other substantial risks, such as hoarding, drug and alcohol dependency, homelessness, and sexual exploitation and will support professionals with a framework for identifying and managing those collective risks.

Following learning from SAR Person D and SAR Person Harris



A video on professional curiosity was developed by the SASP Development and Training Manager and the Sheffield Childrens Safeguarding Partnership Workforce Development Manager. **It takes you through what professional curiosity is, what skills it involves and why it's really important that we are all professionally curious.** The video has been published on the SASP website, has been shared on social media channels, shared in the e-bulletin and shared around the City-Wide Best Practice Group. The video has been really well received on social media and by partner agencies. You can watch the video here **Professional Curiosity Video - YouTube**.



Following learning from SAR Person I



Sheffield Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust (STHFT) Continence Service updated their operational guidance to provide any young person who is transitioning to STHFT with a face-to-face appointment. The continence service is continually offering several options for clinical assessment to patients and carers including face to face. This is clearly documented throughout the Learning Disability template which is completed by all clinical staff. The Did not Attend/Was Not Bought Policy was updated and ratified.

The supply chain sends quarterly reports to the Continence Service on non-activated deliveries for patients with a learning disability. This data is monitored by the Continence Service.

Following learning from SAR Person I



The Preparation for Adult Team can now access Widgit Online (Inclusive Communication programme) to help aid communication with people who are nonverbal / prefer pictures to help communicate. The team have Makaton and BSL training arranged to help communicate and engage with the people we work with, to ensure their voice is heard.

The following recommendation was identified in [SAR Harris](#):

*“SASP should expedite continuation and finalisation of the consideration of a business model to enhance and improve interagency working and information sharing (that may or may not result in a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub). This work must include all relevant partners and consider how the resulting system will link in with the Children’s MASH.”*

Over the year 2022/23 partners worked together to develop an adult multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH) which launched in April 2023. This is a key example of partners working effectively together to ensure that they are doing what they can to keep adults at risk in Sheffield safe and fulfilling the duties and commitments made in the South Yorkshire Safeguarding Procedures. Daily huddles allow professionals to respond swiftly and effectively to safeguarding concerns, using the collective knowledge of partners and negating the risk of duplication or agencies undertaking safeguarding in isolation. Partner agencies can access their data prior or during the meeting and share relevant information, such as involvement with the individual(s). This can aid making safeguarding personal by agreeing who is best placed to take forward actions to support said individual.

For example, Adult Care and Wellbeing were contacted by the Children’s Service about a group of young women who it was feared were the victims of sexual exploitation. The ages of these young women straddled the age range between adult and children, and it was clear that a joint approach was required. The MASH being in place meant that all interested parties were brought together quickly to share information.

Although still in the early stages of its launch, key to the development of the multi-agency safeguarding hub has been partnership working. Partners have welcomed the introduction of the MASH to Sheffield which continues to develop and evolve at pace as it is embedded.



## 6. SASP Multi-Agency Training

Over the past twelve months SASP have continued to offer training courses and workshops, virtually using Zoom and Microsoft Teams. This was to create opportunities for people to access safeguarding adults training in a safe environment and due to the flexibility that online training can offer.



Over the past 12 months 859 people have attended the courses, workshops and conferences we have offered. They have been from a wide variety of agencies across the city, and this embraces the ethos of safeguarding being everyone's business and that safeguarding is a multi-agency process.

2022/23 saw the launch of our new self-neglect training course. This course is for anyone who works with adults (at risk) due to self-neglect, hoarding or where there are concerns around multiple risks and contextual safeguarding. It may be that they are not engaging with services or that services are not working together in a coordinated way to identify the risks, support the adult and share relevant information to promote the persons safety and wellbeing or the safety and wellbeing of others.

We have also continued to work closely with Children's Safeguarding, to deliver courses and workshops which look holistically at families and family dynamics. In 2022/23 we offered five courses, which 236 people attended in total. These courses are now firmly embedded in our core programme and will continue to be offered.

**Children** SHEFFIELD  
Safeguarding Partnership



The beginning of 2023 saw the introduction of a new training platform for SASP. This system provides information regarding our training prospectus, and it has helped to streamline the booking system, with automated provision not just for booking onto a course, but also capturing pre-evaluation, post evaluation and issuing attendance certificates. This will enable us to provide more detailed information regarding the courses and workshops which will help us review, evaluate and make the necessary changes and developments to course content.

[Click here to view and book SASP multi-agency training courses](#)

[Click here to view and book SCSP multi-agency training courses](#)



# 7. Strategic Priorities 2020-23

The SASP three-year strategic plan 2020-2023 was developed in consultation with partners but more importantly with people directly at risk of harm. The plan is a map of what the partnership will do to make changes happen and achieve the agreed objectives. The Executive Board is responsible for overseeing the achievements of the Strategic Plan. Setting the right priorities and being clear on what outcomes we want to achieve and have achieved is essential.

The 5 key priorities in the SASP three-year strategic plan for 2020-23 are:



**STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1**  
**Making Safeguarding Personal**  
Embed and assess the effectiveness of Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)



**STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2**  
**Working in Partnership**  
Ensure our structures work to enable effective collaboration and trust



**STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3**  
**Prevention and Early Intervention**  
Partners will work together to develop strategies, procedures and services



**STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4**  
**Engage and Empower**  
The views and experiences of those who use services, to inform how services are developed



**STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5**  
**Quality Assurance**  
Assure the quality and impact of safeguarding arrangements within Sheffield

The following pages demonstrate examples of work ongoing by partners to achieve the priorities in the strategic plan.



# 7.1 Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)

## **SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE (SYFR)**

SYFR continue to embed MSP into practice. The internal safeguarding concern form includes a section on MSP ensuring that safeguarding is person led and outcome focused with the aim to make people feel safer but also empowered and in control. Safeguarding concern forms are triaged by the Safeguarding Officers who regularly audit and identify learning and development opportunities within the workforce to improve practices and learning.

Safeguarding training covers MSP including case studies and learning from National and Regional Case Reviews.

### **IMPACT**

Ensures that the adult concerned is at the centre of adult safeguarding, working with adults in order for them to identify strength-based and outcome focus solutions.

Working to empower adults by working with them in a way that enhances individual involvement, choice and control as part of improving a quality of life, wellbeing and safety.

## **SHEFFIELD TEACHING HOSPITALS FOUNDATION TRUST**

A 7 Minute Briefing on MSP has been made available to staff via the Safeguarding Quarterly Newsletter and is accessible via the Safeguarding Patients intranet site.

MSP is promoted within the safeguarding adults mandatory training which includes discussion about person centred practice and creating opportunities to see the person on their own to obtain their wishes and feelings and to identify outcomes without the influence of family or carers.

The Safeguarding Team include MSP in discussion with staff members who contact the team for advice about an adult at risk and discuss MSP during safeguarding case supervision.

### **IMPACT**

Staff are supported and encouraged to be more aware of the need to identify outcomes with the adult at risk when raising a safeguarding concern.

## **SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE (SYP)**

SYP have continued to effectively embed training in relation to vulnerability. Domestic Abuse Matters and Child Matters training has continued throughout the year. This has been supported by continued professional development for supervisors and line managers around specific areas of identified learning.

### **IMPACT**

One key area has been Domestic Abuse from a survivor's perspective, sudden unexpected death in infancy from the perspective of a mother and stalking and harassment training. This has ensured Sheffield district continues to embed a vulnerability focussed response across a wide and diverse workforce, to ensure that outcomes have a personal focus and that the voice of the victim is heard.

# 7.1 Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)



## ADULT CARE AND WELLBEING

In the last year AC&W have continued to develop a safeguarding culture. Support for staff to make a difference in their practice is offered by the Practice Development Team and the new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

AC&W continue to ensure safeguarding responses support people to improve their wellbeing and resolve circumstances that may be difficult using the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal.

### IMPACT

Accountability requires collaboration and transparency between the local authority and all partner agencies. The introduction of MASH supports safeguarding responsibility for all in identifying areas of concern and improves safety measures and outcomes for the adults concerned.

Practice has focused on achieving meaningful improvement to people's circumstances rather than just on 'investigation' and 'conclusion'. The cultural change; staff support and development; engaging with people and across partnerships; has promoted the values and principles that are set out in Human Rights Act (1998), Care Act (2014), Mental Capacity Act (2005).

## SHEFFIELD HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Reviewed and adapted the MSP toolkit to make it workable for SHSC staff and service users. SHSC put together a training package based on the toolkit and delivered this to a Community Mental Health Team. In the future this potentially will be rolled out to other SHSC teams, incorporated into the Level 3 training package, and/or used within Bitesize training sessions.

### IMPACT

The aim of the training is to improve current knowledge and practice around MSP, in order to improve the quality of safeguarding concerns raised, and to ultimately ensure that service users are placed at the centre of their safeguarding. Next steps will be to complete a baseline audit of the team's safeguarding concerns against the toolkit, alongside a post-training audit to measure the impact the training has had.

## CARERS CENTRE

The Carers Centre continue to provide an ongoing Carer Assessment and Advice Service. All Carer Advisors inform carers where there is a potential safeguarding concern that the safeguarding process is intended to be supportive and personalised, which follows agreed training.

### IMPACT

Carers have reported being reassured by this advice.

On average one safeguarding concern per month is raised with Adult Care and Wellbeing. All safeguarding referrals or concerns are recorded on a safeguarding concern log, which is monitored by management at each monthly meeting.

## HOUSING AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICE

Housing has a strength-based approach that ensures parents and children are involved in case decisions and the Signs of Safety approach is used to ensure tenants are fully involved in plans.

Feedback from tenants via questionnaires/meetings is used to improve provision of services.

The annual visit form contains prompts which ensures their views are taken into account when discussing need for possible support/intervention.

### IMPACT

This ensures that the right support/intervention is provided to meet individual's needs.

## PROBATION SERVICE

People on Probation are fully involved with their probation practitioner, to develop their sentence plan and related support and actions.

Probation Service contribute to Adult MASH meaning that individual cases are managed more effectively and personally.

### IMPACT

Improved engagement and compliance with Community Orders.

Stronger multi-agency working, and better actions taken from MASH meetings.

## 7.2 Working in Partnership

### SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE

The Safe and Well Referral Partnership Scheme aims to improve how the fire service and local organisations work together to effectively identify and reduce hazards for people more at risk. SASP members continue to sign up to and make referrals to SYFR using the Safer South Yorkshire Referral Scheme. Data on referrals from partners is included in the SASP quarterly performance report.

SYFR are represented on both Safeguarding Adult and Children Partnerships and attend Sub-Group meetings. SYFR were involved in the recent task and finish group to develop a new Self-Neglect and Hoarding Policy and continue to be involved in Team Around the Person (TAP) meetings.

#### IMPACT

SYFR became involved with a male who lived alone with no support and was a careless smoker. He lived in the kitchen/front open plan room. He was self-neglecting and heavily hoarding but refusing any help. He had initially declined visits but on one occasion when the SYFR High Risk Coordinator visited he let her in to the kitchen with the SCC Prevention Worker.

Multi-Agency meetings were held over the concerns. First Prevention Team, Adult Care and Wellbeing, Cleaning company, GP practice and SYFR all discussed their concerns during the meeting.

A short while after he had a fall and was taken into hospital. It was at this point he recognised he did need help. The property was cleaned and cleared. A Care Act Assessment was completed, and carers were put in place. He agreed to Citywide alarms and a pendant and stopped using emollient products.

### SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE

Op Forge Kilo is a multi-agency response to identified Domestic Abuse perpetrators and their victims. An algorithm is used to identify the perpetrators and a problem-solving methodology is applied to reduce offending, reduce vulnerabilities and reduce demand, resulting in the prevention of further offences and protection of vulnerable adults.

#### IMPACT

One example of the impact of Op Forge Kilo is a perpetrator is being supported from an engagement perspective with a particular focus around mental health and substance misuse support. He has just been released from hospital with support.

Victims are receiving technology to enhance their safety (Ring Doorbell with cloud storage – Supplied by IDAS) and IDAS continue to support victims even where the perpetrator is remanded in custody; thus, continuing to build trust and confidence.

### NHS SY ICB – SHEFFIELD

Whilst working across the SASP and Community Safety Partnership the Designated Professional noted that on occasion there were cases referred for either a SAR or DHR that could potentially be one or the other. However, the information gathering tools being used in both cases didn't go into enough detail to gather information to make robust decision. This resulted in partner agencies being asked twice to provide information. The Designated Professional worked with the Domestic Abuse Commissioning Manager to update both the DHR and SAR information gathering templates.

#### IMPACT

Information is provided that can lead to better decision making and establish more accurately which review process is required, hence speeding up the process, improving accuracy in decision making and resulting in learning being identified more quickly.

### SHEFFIELD TEACHING HOSPITALS FOUNDATION TRUST

The STHFT Safeguarding Team participate in all SASP meetings and sub-groups including the multi-agency Vulnerable Adults Panel and the Safeguarding Adults Review Panel, undertaking Individual Management Reviews as required.

Members of the STHFT Safeguarding Team contribute to the SASP Multi-agency Training Pool, delivering safeguarding training to staff from different agencies across Sheffield.

#### IMPACT

This has led to a better understanding of other agencies and how collaborative working can benefit adults at risk, achieve better outcomes, and there is shared learning from working collaboratively with other agencies.

# 7.2 Working in Partnership

## ADULT CARE AND WELLBEING

Developed with partners an Adults Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) which is now in operation (As of April 2023). The MASH is a local arrangement to fulfil the duties and commitments made in the South Yorkshire Safeguarding Procedures. The MASH is a hybrid team and the majority of the function sits within the First Contact Team in AC&W, however all of the Adult Social Care Teams have access to the MASH. This ensures that safeguarding activity is highly visible and well-integrated across teams.

Adult Care and Wellbeing, housing and the Police are core members of the MASH, health colleagues are exploring resourcing their contribution, and currently attend as and when requested.

### IMPACT

Huddles, set daily allow professionals to respond with greater effectiveness and efficiency to safeguarding concerns using the collective knowledge of partners. For example, partner agencies can access their data prior or during the meeting and share relevant information, such as involvements. This can aid making safeguarding personal by agreeing who is best placed to take forward actions to support said individual.

As all partners have the huddle in the diary and this can be called at short notice for better multi-agency response times.

## SHEFFIED HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

SHSC has been involved in the development and implementation of the Adult MASH. SHSC has responded to requests for information from the Sheffield Adult MASH to support joint working and timely information sharing.

Continued to attend and share information at multi-agency meetings such as MARAC, MATAAC and VAP.

### IMPACT

The Adult MASH assists partner agencies to identify risks and make timely decisions by enabling a multi-agency view of the adult with care and support needs to be gained. SHSC's responses to requests for information contributes to reducing the risks identified within safeguarding concerns, responses being timely, and outcomes being improved for the adult at risk.

Attendance at multi-agency meetings increases partnership engagement, assists in improving victim safety and allows a multi-agency response to identified risks to be compiled, negating the risk of agencies undertaking safeguarding in isolation.

## HOUSING AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICE

The city's Community Safety Plan (CSP) has specific objectives to reduce criminal exploitation and safeguard vulnerable individuals.

The CSP has established 6 theme groups to address key crime concerns under specific themes, such as reducing hate crime, reducing violence against women and girls, and protecting vulnerable people. These theme groups are populated by safeguarding professionals and agencies likely to encounter vulnerable people.

### IMPACT

This allows for a more joined up approach to safeguarding issues from a strategic and practice perspective and provides a multi-agency approach to issues across of number of crime types.

## CARERS CENTRE

Sheffield Carers Centre is a member of the Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership.

Sources of referrals to the Sheffield Carers Centre continue to be shared with the Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership each quarter to ensure that carers are identified and supported.

### IMPACT

Being a member of SASP allows the Carers Centre to receive up to date guidance, information and knowledge which can be shared with Carers Centre staff.

Sharing source of referral data quarterly allows the Safeguarding Partnership to identify where promotion of the carers centre could be improved to increase referrals.

## PROBATION

There is now a Partnership Development Manager in place to embed the Probation Service Stakeholder Engagement Policy.

The Probation Service linked Manager contributes to Adult MASH.

### IMPACT

The appointment of the Partnership Development Manager will allow for Improved partnership working across the city.

The contribution to Adult MASH leads to improved MASH meetings and actions on individual cases.

# 7.3 Prevention and Early Intervention

## SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE

The SYFR Safer South Yorkshire Referral Partnership Scheme aims to improve how the fire service and local organisations work together to effectively identify and reduce hazards for people most at risk. SYFR regularly train partners and their teams on fire safety awareness and secure referral pathways for partners working with people at risk. Work has been undertaken in Sheffield that has resulted in a number of referrals through the portal. The training also enhances fire and risk awareness in practice. Agencies once registered can make direct referrals to SYFR and work in partnership to either reduce or eliminate the risks.

SYFR provide quarterly reports to the Fire Authority and continue to see an increase in the number of cases relating to concerns about adult abuse and neglect.

### IMPACT

SYFR are active members and contributors to the annual Safeguarding Awareness Week. During 2022-2023, SYFR delivered 9 virtual training sessions covering SYFR Safer South Yorkshire Partnership scheme and Hoarding, Emollient & Airflow Products. In total, out of 167 people booked onto one of the sessions delivered that week, 110 were in attendance.

This increase in the number of cases relating to concerns about adult abuse and neglect can be attributed to the targeted interventions by SYFR for the most vulnerable coupled with increased awareness due to learning and development training sessions.

SYFR also receive referrals from Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (IDVAS) and SYP for Home Safety Checks where there is a threat of arson and relating to a history of Domestic Abuse (DA) within the household.

## SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE

A GPS project, Dementia Missing People Trial was set up county wide with funding from the SYP innovation fund. This provided 50 devices for use across South Yorkshire, and these were predominantly given to dementia sufferers who are at risk of going missing.

A further example of early intervention is the use of, Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPO's). A civil order that provides protective measures in the immediate aftermath of a domestic incident. They are used for example where there is insufficient evidence to charge the perpetrator or provide protection via bail conditions. Prior to the application for a DVPO, a Domestic Violence Protection Notice (DVPN) is served on the perpetrator. These orders include a number of conditions, for example they can prevent the perpetrator from returning to the residence and/or from having contact from the victim for up to 28 days.

### IMPACT

One successful example of the Dementia Missing People Project relates to a marathon runner who has dementia. Their illness meant they couldn't always remember how to find their way home. This has previously resulted in a missing episode where they were missing for three days before being found sleeping in someone's back garden. SYP worked with the family to devise a solution. This person now goes running with a GPS tracker, which allows the family to locate them if they are unable to find their own way home.

## SHEFFIELD TEACHING HOSPITALS FOUNDATION TRUST

The STHFT Safeguarding Team has established a network of Safeguarding Champions to support ward staff to identify safeguarding concerns and take appropriate early action to safeguard vulnerable individuals.

A 7 Minute Briefing on Professional Curiosity has been developed and circulated to staff across the organisation and is available via the Trust Safeguarding Patients Intranet site. Professional Curiosity is promoted during mandatory safeguarding training to encourage staff to make further enquiries into a person's circumstances where there may be a safeguarding concern in order to identify risks and provide early intervention.

### IMPACT

Safeguarding Champions receive additional training from the Safeguarding Team and are able to provide first line advice to ward staff. This is particularly helpful during shifts outside of core hours and at weekends when the Safeguarding Team is not available.

Professional Curiosity is encouraged in all interactions with staff when seeking advice about a safeguarding concern and during safeguarding supervision.

## NHS SY ICB - SHEFFIELD

The Designated Professional for Safeguarding Adults and Mental Capacity Act (MCA) Lead has introduced a series of safeguarding adults and MCA key performance indicators (KPIs) for health provider organisations which will be monitored on a quarterly basis.

### IMPACT

Whilst these have previously been provided, they were lacking in detail. These new KPI's have been included within provider contracts and will allow for more effective monitoring of safeguarding performances. These KPIs will provide details and early indication of good working practices or emerging concerns. This will allow for early intervention and support if required, or the suggestion of sharing good practice with other providers.

# 7.3 Prevention and Early Intervention

## ADULT CARE AND WELLBEING

Due to pressures surrounding hospital discharge, carers are sometimes making the difficult decision to “bridge the gap” by allowing the customer to be discharged into their care while awaiting support from STIT. Where the customer is on our waiting list, we aim to offer as much support and communication as possible to them and their carers in advance of their start date with STIT.

In February 2023, following a month of high referrals to the carers’ centre, a project was initiated within STIT to offer targeted support to unpaid carers. A Provider Support Assessor was tasked with undertaking the role of Carer Support Officer. As a service STIT have always coordinated effectively with unpaid carers and wanted however to trial how effectively a designated role could benefit unpaid carers, the customers they care for and the wider service.

### IMPACT

Whilst the primary aim of the project was to directly benefit and support carers (offering carers centre and other referrals, practical support and a listening ear), indirect benefits to the customer and wider service have also been identified including supporting people to sustain their support and feel like they could ‘cope’ and preventing carer breakdown and stress.

This role involved contact with carers via telephone, prioritising carers of customers waiting at home to commence STIT service, and in-person visits were arranged where possible. Home visits proved effective and gave an opportunity for further observation and insight into needs of customer and carer.

Further contact with customers waiting at home has supported transition onto service in the following ways: identifying and chasing up equipment, medication etc. in advance of initial assessment, offering carers “bridging the gap” support and information, and identifying where STIT service is no longer required before the initial assessment.

## SHEFFIELD HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Safeguarding Adult Level 3 training and Bitesize Training has been implemented.

In addition to mandatory training, SHSC deliver a session once a month, on a variety of topics. The topics are usually identified through themes in advice calls or following investigations. SHSC have delivered sessions in house on MARAC, Prevent, Sexual Safety and have had external speakers from IDAS, Magpies (Hoarding Support), Citizens Advice and SYFR.

### IMPACT

Safeguarding Adult Level 3 Training ensures staff have the necessary skills and knowledge to recognise and respond to abuse and neglect and domestic abuse. Training includes section on domestic abuse, coercive control and economic abuse and when and how to complete a DASH-RIC. It aims to increase staff confidence when responding to all forms of abuse and know where to access necessary assessments and how to complete. The additional bitesize training on local processes or services increases staff awareness of support services for their service users and increases staff confidence to respond earlier and signpost or refer to specialist agencies.

## HOUSING AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICE

Community Safety has introduced 10 Crime and Vulnerability Meetings to key neighbourhoods and is providing training on spotting the signs of criminal exploitation to safeguarding professionals and staff who may encounter these issues.

The Team Around the Person (TAP) service take referrals based on risk to the individual and hold regular multi agency meetings across services to help prevent escalation of risks. They also complete referrals to relevant services/agencies.

### IMPACT

This work provides opportunity to prevent the exploitation of vulnerable adults by criminal gangs and provide support for those who are at risk of becoming involved. Staff will have a better understanding of the impact of organised crime and know what to do earlier to safeguard vulnerable individuals.

TAP provides support to individuals at an early stage and ensures the right support is in place to prevent escalation of risk.

## CARERS CENTRE

The work of the Carers Centre allows for early identification of risk and referrals to adult care and wellbeing or other prevention services.

### IMPACT

This allows risks to be addressed and mitigates escalation. Carers feel supported and are able to engage with relevant services.

## PROBATION

Probation Service now have improved access to Police information on domestic abuse to inform our pre-sentence reports at Court, and in ongoing management of community sentences.

### IMPACT

This has led to better risk assessments and improved advice to sentencers.

# 7.4 Engage and Empower

## **SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE**

Through our work with referral partners SYFR can offer support to those who are at risk of becoming homeless by providing Home Safety Checks in order to help keep them safe and independent. SYFR would make relevant referrals for those in need if it was found that they were struggling to maintain their tenancy. We can also provide similar interventions to recently rehoused homeless through housing associations.

While homelessness is not a protected characteristic SYFR do encourage consideration of non-legislative factors when completing Equality Impact Assessments.

### **IMPACT**

Information has been circulated to front line staff and Fire Control Room staff in relation to referring those who are homeless when we may interact with them during incidents or while in the community. Information is also shared for the cold weather protocols for the areas SYFR cover. Previous work has been carried out with the British Red Cross to utilise fire station spaces to support the cold weather periods.

## **SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE**

SYP uses a Repeat Victim Index that helps officers and staff identify victims and locations of multiple incidents.

It includes an assessment of the number of incidents, how recent the incidents are, the harm caused, the severity of incidents and the risk that is present.

### **IMPACT**

This helps to identify any cumulative risk to victims. A weighting of the specific criteria provides a score, which is used to prioritise the response for both people and locations.

The index helps with understanding whether different teams are safeguarding or investigating the same person to focus resource and effort. It is used to inform meetings where individuals are discussed and a decision is made on which people need a plan to support them. Examples can be provided of where action has been taken that has reduced the risk to individuals and prevented more repeat incidents or reduced the seriousness of incidents occurring.

## **SHEFFIELD TEACHING HOSPITALS FOUNDATION TRUST**

STHFT has published an Inclusion Calendar on the staff intranet site. Staff are given the opportunity to promote awareness within their own departments as appropriate. The Trust will disseminate information to promote these events via the weekly staff communication bulletin.

The Trust has developed a number of staff network groups to raise awareness of and encourage equality and diversity, respect for others. The networks promote ownership and accountability by encouraging staff to challenging racism and discrimination, negative attitudes and behaviours. Staff are encouraged to 'Speak Up' to raise concerns about patient or staff safety, professional misconduct or financial malpractice.

### **IMPACT**

This highlights and promotes celebration of national and world awareness events including events to recognise people with diversity and protected characteristics and those that may be discriminated against or subject to abuse and hate crimes e.g., LGBTQ+, transgender, suicide awareness, mental health awareness, carers week, world day against trafficking in persons, plus many others.

The Trust has also published a Freedom to Speak Up Charter.

## **NHS SY ICB – SHEFFIELD**

Sheffield ICB Safeguarding and Looked After Children Team, held a Protected Learning Initiative (PLI) event for Primary Care in October 2022. This was attended by several hundred Primary Care colleagues and focused on safeguarding adults, children and looked after and care experiences children and young people.

### **IMPACT**

The content and guest speakers were chosen based on the current themes and issues arising within Sheffield. On the whole the feedback was positive and was a welcomed opportunity for professionals to have some time out from their day-to-day role to focus on safeguarding and looked after children.

# 7.4 Engage and Empower

## SHEFFIELD HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

The safeguarding team had identified a service user who wanted to support in policy development and attend the Safeguarding Assurance Committee.

Additionally, SHSC are working on service user engagement to support service users after an allegation against staff or serious incident.

### IMPACT

SHSC recognise that service user engagement is important to ensure policies and processes are person centred and have a true MSP approach. However, SHSC also recognise that safeguarding is a sensitive and complex area and the person identified was not able to progress. SHSC are now working with colleagues in our Engagement and Experience Team to identify a volunteer.

Learning from an incident following a staff allegation SHSC are working with a service user to review processes, share learning and service user experience and improve our allegations against staff policy and support that will be offered to service users.

## ADULT CARE AND WELLBEING

Adult Care and Wellbeing were contacted by the Children's Service about a group of young women who it was feared were the victims of sexual exploitation. The ages of these young women straddled the age range between Adults and Childrens and it was clear that a joint approach was needed. The MASH being in place meant that we could quickly bring all interested parties together to share information.

### IMPACT

A number of these young women were accommodated by a local supported housing provider who were looking to statutory services to support. We are working with the young women to help them understand their situation better, including making taxis available to take them back to their accommodation if they find themselves in a risky situation. We have also covered rent for young women at risk of eviction to keep them housed in order for us to work with them to help secure legitimate income.

## PROBATION

The Annual People on Probation Survey helps the Probation Service to make improvements in services and improve service performance.

### IMPACT

Some of the actions that will be taken forward following this survey include:

- Improving employment opportunities for people with lived experience of the Criminal Justice System.
- Introduce local 'you said, we did' in each office to give feedback to people on probation on the issues they have raised with us.
- Improve the involvement of people on probation in the development of their sentence plan.
- Improve links between prison releases and transfer to probation in the community through introducing Community Integration Teams (already achieved).
- Improved access to substance misuse services for people on probation.

## HOUSING AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICE

The Neighbourhood Services directorate safeguarding group quarterly meetings identify safeguarding practice improvements e.g., addressing safeguarding concerns with private B&Bs for temporary accommodation.

### IMPACT

This has led to improved identification of safeguarding issues and support for individuals involved.

## CARERS CENTRE

Carers are supported to maintain appropriate boundaries with people they support and to flag any concerns re. potentially abusive or neglectful behaviour with relevant services / practitioners.

### IMPACT

Carers are supported to understand services should support them and the people they care for in a safe and respectful way (and to raise any concerns as soon as possible).



# 7.5 Quality Assurance

## SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE

SYFR Safeguarding Officers continue to be actively involved in the processes associated to reporting on and making referrals in relation to SARs. The impact of the reviews can be seen as influential across the organisation and all staff.

SYFR also contribute to the National Fire Chief Council (NFCC) Safeguarding work stream and Section 11 Safeguarding Audit and Assurance Meeting.

### IMPACT

Lessons Learnt are embedded to improve policy, practices and processes. A number of seven-minute briefings have been created as a result of learning and communicated to staff in the internal weekly bulletin and via email to all staff.

A new Safeguarding page has been created on our internal intranet page for all staff to access. This includes policies, 7-minute briefings, safeguarding training, safeguarding flow chart and internal safeguarding form. We have also included website direct links to all South Yorkshire children and adult partnerships across South Yorkshire.

The Safeguarding Officers for SYFR attend the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) and ensure that information and strategic messages from these meetings are reflected and embedded in the relevant policies and procedures and that these are cascaded down to relevant roles and responsibilities within the service.

Safeguarding Fire Standard completion of self-assessment, gap analysis and implementation toolkit has provided SYFR with an up-to-date position statement and actions required for the organisation to implement and focus on learning and improvements required.

## SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE

SYP continue to be actively involved in the processes associated to reporting on and making referrals in relation to SARs. The impact of such reviews can be seen as influential across the organisation and all staff. The SYP Force Intranet provides a forum to publish developments in areas such as lessons learned, self-assessment and accountability. These are monitored centrally within force by the Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) Governance Unit, and this is cascaded to each local district for reference/action/implementation.

### IMPACT

Following Sheffield SAR Person E, the forces crime recording system has now been updated so that incidents whereby self-neglect and or hoarding is a factor/concern can be recorded more effectively. The system enables the addition of 'keywords' to investigations. The system has now been updated so the keywords of 'self-neglect' and 'hoarding' can be added to any appropriate investigations. This allows for more effective reporting, allows for more effective management and investigation and these keywords will also appear on partner referrals that are automatically transferred through the system.

## NHS SY ICB – SHEFFIELD

As part of the ICB commissioning functions, SY ICB Sheffield attend NHS providers Safeguarding Assurance Committees. The providers safeguarding data and performance are presented for internal understanding and scrutiny.

### IMPACT

The Designated Professional attends these meeting to gain assurance that systems and process are working effectively. There is also an opportunity for the Designated Professional to make suggestions to the trusts about their performance data or to offer constructive challenge. By being involved in these meetings the ICB can work with trusts where issues may arise or take conversations to other people or teams to ensure all contractual and statutory obligations are being met to safeguard adults at risk.

## SHEFFIELD TEACHING HOSPITALS FOUNDATION TRUST

Safeguarding adults mandatory training compliance at levels 1 and 2 has been maintained at above 90% which is the Trust target for mandatory training.

A Safeguarding adults level 3 training programme which reflects the requirement of the Intercollegiate Training and Competence Framework has been implemented. A Training Needs Outline has been agreed which identifies those staff members who require level 3 training.

### IMPACT

There has been an 18% increase in the number of safeguarding referrals raised by STHFT staff compared to 2021-22.

Level 3 training has commenced, and compliance will be monitored via the Trust Safeguarding Assurance Group.

# 7.5 Quality Assurance

## ADULT CARE AND WELLBEING

Until this year there was a long-standing issue with regard to care managers non-social work qualified Sheffield City Council staff, undertaking Safeguarding activity. This was due to a persistent cultural understanding dating back to pre-care Act 2014 timers, which perceived safeguarding as accusatory investigatory role performed by social work qualified social workers. This was changed over the last year by the introduction of new job descriptions for social workers and care managers making them social care professionals with Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) as a core element of their work.

### IMPACT

The impact of this has been improved throughput on safeguarding case work and an upskilled workforce.

## SHEFFIELD HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

A member of the Safeguarding Team will attend the Daily Incident Safety Huddle where all incidents across the trust that occurred in the preceding 24hrs are reviewed.

### IMPACT

The Safeguarding Team can identify incidents where safeguarding concerns have not been identified, review incidents where there may be a safeguarding issue and request further detail. This provides a safety net if a safeguarding concern is required but has not been completed and, in these huddles, the Safeguarding Team have identified incidents where an allegation has been made against a staff member but policy has not been followed. The Safeguarding Team are also able to provide a safeguarding perspective on incidents such as pressure care or use of restraint.

## HOUSING AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICE

Housing contributes to multi-agency audits and reviews (e.g., Safeguarding Adult Reviews and Domestic Homicide Reviews). Any learning or actions for Housing from these reviews form part of the overall review action plan.

### IMPACT

Examples of recent actions that have been completed are:

- Updating the ASB policy to recognise that noise nuisance could be in relation to Domestic Abuse.
- Ensuring staff in Housing attend Trauma Informed Practice training, to help staff recognise trauma and improve responses to vulnerable tenants. The training pathway for Neighbourhood Officers was updated to make this mandatory.

## PROBATION

R-Cat & C-Cat rolled out and will be embedded in Sheffield during next 12 months. (These are quality assurance processes for sentence management and Court reports).

EQuaL rolled out and will be embedded in Sheffield during the next 12 months. This is the process for ensuring quality of casework is maintained and improved.

### IMPACT

Improved management of individual cases, improving safeguarding processes.

## CARERS CENTRE

All safeguarding referrals or concerns are recorded on a safeguarding concern log, which is monitored by management at each monthly meeting.

### IMPACT

This allows concerns to be reviewed and ability to give feedback to Carer Advisors re. individual practice and provides continual oversight and review of internal safeguarding procedures to ensure these remain fit for purpose.

# 8. SASP Initiatives Sheffield Safe Places and Not Born Yesterday

SASP support and fund two initiatives within Sheffield to keep people safe, raise awareness and work in partnership to address safeguarding concerns. These are Trading Standards – Not Born Yesterday and Sheffield Safe Places.



Run by Heeley City Farm, the aim of Safe Place's is to support people to feel safe when they are out and about in Sheffield. For example, if someone needs help, if they are lost, ill or frightened, Safe Places can provide a temporary refuge until a friend or carer comes, or the person feels able to leave again on their own. They are a network of organisations across the city that are committed to ensuring the safety and dignity of people who join the scheme.

**NOT BORN  
YESTERDAY**  
...take control  
guard against scams

SASP funds a position in Sheffield City Council Trading Standards to support tackling financial abuse from doorstep crime, rogue traders, and scams in the city. The Not Born Yesterday (NBY) campaign, helps protect vulnerable people from scams and rogue traders.

# 8.1 Safe Places – Heeley City Farm



## HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS 2022/23

## THE IMPACT

- 4 new safe places joined the scheme and trained up.
- 40 safe places packs handed out.
- 42 community meeting / conferences attended.
- 12 community workshops / presentations.
- 17 co-produced advocacy meetings ran with member volunteers and over 5 organisations across the city.
- 10 known people recorded using a Safe Place when in need.
- Helping the development and launch of 'Synergy' Sheffield mental health alliance.
- 1 Exposed magazine award won.
- 7 Hate Crime awareness events ran / attended. One being a flash mob on The Moor handing out over 75 leaflets and working with Sheffield Voices and SY Police.
- New safeguarding and disability training developed, designed, and coproduced with our volunteers and over 50 people's experiences, with an adjoining animation made by our volunteers and FlyCheese Animation studio, concentrating on raising awareness of the equality act and social isolation.

As part of feedback from the Autism partnership board, Safe Places have been focusing on marketing and community engagement, to ensure more people know about the scheme. Engaging more with communities that are under the radar this year has brought a lot of inspiration and momentum for the upcoming year. Especially with transition ages (young people), refugees and asylum seekers, Hate Crime / Mate Crime and developing stronger more cohesive disability awareness across the city.

All of this hard work reaching out to new grass route organisations will hopefully help Safe Places to support new people and signpost them to other amazing support groups, advice centres, charities, and events across the city. Working more with new people and organisations has given Safe Places a lot of feedback and things to improve for the upcoming year.



Read more about Safe Places on their website [www.sheffieldsafepaces.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldsafepaces.co.uk)



# 8.2 Trading Standards - Not Born Yesterday

## HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS 2022/23

### Crime in The Home (doorstep crime and rogue trading)

- The team has responded to **52** reports of Crime in the Home.
- The victims have paid the criminals a total of **£183,000.00**. Through interventions, Trading Standards have stopped the victims from paying a further **£53,000.00**. All interventions have resulted in either further investigation or intelligence gathering. In all cases, measures were put in place to protect these victims from further financial abuse.

### Awareness Raising

- Delivered awareness raising sessions to members of the public and organisations including Age UK, SASP, National Power Grid Care Team, South Yorkshire Fire and South Yorkshire Police.
- Distributed NBY material including no cold calling door stickers to housing officers, PCSO's and Neighbourhood Watch.
- Established contacts within the voluntary sector including Lunch Clubs, Dementia Cafes and Carers Cafes and have provided NBY material for distribution.
- Worked with Neighbourhood Watch schemes to distribute NBY material to libraries, doctors' surgeries, post offices and various community events.

### Events

- Participated in Safeguarding Awareness week to deliver NBY bitesize training sessions and participated in Regional Crime in The Home week including hosting a NBY event in Morrisons supermarket.

### Scams

- Carried out home visits to 11 victims of postal scams.
- 3 Trucall Call Blocker units have been installed to help protect victims of telephone scams.

### Prosecutions

- 1 successful prosecution resulting in an immediate custodial sentence and 5 cases proceeding through the court process.

## THE IMPACT

- In recognition of the success of the Not Born Yesterday (NBY) campaign, it was used by the Yorkshire and The Humber Region during Crime in the Home week in January 2023.
- Further recognition has come from Rotherham Trading Standards who have adopted the NBY campaign to raise awareness in their area.

## THE NUMBERS\*



- ❖ Local Authority Trading Standards Interventions:
  - Total Financial Savings = £484,724.
- ❖ Through home visits to suspected scam victims, local trading standards officials realise:
  - Estimated future financial savings = £10,010.
  - Estimated healthcare savings and health related quality of life saving = £5,405.
- ❖ Through doorstep crime education to suspected scam victims, Local Trading Standards officials realise:
  - Estimated future financial savings = £254,600.
  - Estimated healthcare savings and health related quality of life saving = £137,484.
- ❖ Call Blockers administered; local Trading Standards Officials realised:
  - Financial savings from Call Blockers Programme = £49,622.
  - Estimated healthcare savings and health related quality of life saving = £26,796.

\* Calculated using The National Trading Standards Scams Team calculator and is based on 'average' savings data collated by the Sheffield Team.

# 9. Sheffield Adults Safeguarding Customer Forum

The Customer Forum is a group of individuals who have lived experiences of adult social care and health and in some cases, safeguarding. They bring their knowledge and experience to the group meetings and combined with their passion to promote adult safeguarding, they work in partnership with other agencies and organisations.



## In 2022/23

This year the group have been brought back together for face-to-face meetings. In 2022, the group were approached by Hallam University and asked if they would be involved in the co-production of a research funding bid and potential research project in relation to Loneliness, Isolation and Wellbeing. The research funding bid has now been submitted and this is a perfect example of co production. The Customer Forum have been involved from the initial idea and have played an active part in consultation sessions and the drafting of the bid application. If the bid is successful, then the co-production will continue as part of the research plan.

The Chair and Vice Chair of the Customer Forum have been involved in the Mental Capacity Act Action Network (MCAAN) working with colleagues to ensure the Mental Capacity Act (MCA) is understood and applied by all staff and how it will reflect potential amendments and changes.

The MCAAN was formed due to the probable introduction of Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) in place of Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) and now LPS has been indefinitely delayed the group agreed to continue to ensure there is a better understanding of MCA, that it is consistent in its use throughout all involved areas and to improve all aspects relating to MCA.

The Customer Forum also continue to be active members of the City-Wide Best Practice Group, contributing to ensuring best practice in relation to adult safeguarding in Sheffield.

To learn more about the forum, the work they do, how to get involved, and future meeting dates, take a look at our website [Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership - \(sheffieldasp.org.uk\)](https://sheffieldasp.org.uk)

# 10. Case Study 1 - Housing and Neighbourhood Service

## BACKGROUND

Following reports of Cuckooing, the Housing and Neighbourhood Service became aware of a tenant, Jack\*. Upon engagement, officers established that not only was Jack the victim of Cuckooing, but the overall condition of his property was hoarded and unsanitary. This was further coupled with the fact that since signing for the property, a flat located on the third floor, Jack's health had deteriorated to a point where he was unable to safely self-evacuate (in the event of an emergency) from the property.

*Cuckooing is a practice where people take over a person's home and use the property for some form of exploitation. They may use the property for drug-dealing and other criminal activities.*

Due to the Cuckooing and other practices within the property (smoking / alcohol use), the flat was deemed a fire risk to both Jack and other residents within the block of flats.

## ACTIONS TAKEN AND SUPPORT PROVIDED

Officers took immediate action and raised an adult safeguarding concern, with Jack being placed into temporary accommodation to remove them from harm. A Vulnerable Adults Risk Management (VARM) was arranged with representatives from South Yorkshire Police, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue, Adult Care and Wellbeing and the Housing Service.

South Yorkshire Police oversaw any criminal related matters in relation to the cuckooing. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue conducted fire risk assessments of the property, along with providing fire safety advice / guidance to neighbouring properties. Adult Care and Wellbeing explored care packages to support Jack being independent and Housing looked for more suitable accommodation.

## IMPACT

A ground floor property was sourced which had a built in 'misting system' (this would activate upon detection of fire reducing risk for the tenant and neighbouring properties). This property considered any mobility issues Jack had, accounted for any fire risk posed and removed the risk of cuckooing as it was based in a new geographical area.

Adult Care and Wellbeing also implemented a care package to allow Jack to maintain a high level of independence upon moving to the new property. This allowed for future safeguarding moving forward.



\*For all case studies included in this report, a pseudonym has been used.

# 10.1 Case Study 2 – Hospital First Contact Team

## BACKGROUND

Luke is a 65-year-old gentleman with a history of self-neglect and alcohol dependency. He previously had care packages to support with meals, medication and personal care but cancelled them and deteriorated in physical and mental health over a period of time. He was admitted to hospital following a fall in his property resulting in a fractured leg requiring surgery. This injury resulted in a significant reduction in his mobility and significant increase in his care and support needs. His housing was now unsuitable as he lived in a 2nd floor flat and could no longer manage stairs. He was at increased risk of harm in case of a housefire as he was not able to safely self-evacuate. He was also at increased risk of social isolation being housebound, along with continued risk of self-neglect and poor home environment as he found this difficult to manage on his own. Luke now had an increased risk of falls along with other health needs that needed meeting.

## ACTIONS TAKEN AND SUPPORT PROVIDED

Hospital and community-based professionals including nursing staff, physiotherapists and occupational therapists worked to assess Luke's needs to ensure he could return home to his flat with the necessary level of care and reassessed his needs for his new level access accommodation. He was registered with Sheffield City Council Property Shop and provided with relevant information about different accommodation options e.g., extra care housing so that he could make an informed choice about what type of accommodation he wanted to live in the future. The Hospital First Contact team worked collaboratively with other colleagues in Adult Care and Wellbeing such as the Home First Team to ensure Luke was suitably rehoused and supported with all aspects of this including organising removal service, sourcing extra furniture and furnishings, support with setting up bills, registering with new GP practice and ensuring medications were delivered.

## IMPACT

Luke was supported to temporarily return home safely to his 2nd floor flat with all necessary equipment and care provider in place to meet his needs whilst waiting to be rehoused. He was supported to bid on suitable properties and was suitably rehoused in a 1 bed council bungalow with ramp access and wet room. Luke is extremely happy with the accommodation and feels it has improved his quality of life and feels hopeful in the future about accessing the community as he continues to improve with his mobility.

Luke engaged well with the care provider and therapy staff and is improving his confidence, strength and mobility. He is at significantly lower risk of self-neglect as his home environment is now well maintained and his personal hygiene and mental wellbeing is improved, and he is starting to do more for himself as he settles into the property. He has been visited by South Yorkshire Fire Service who installed the assistive technology required to ensure that in the case of a fire, the fire service is alerted and can support Luke in a timely manner. Luke has City Wide Care Alarm and key safe in place to ensure he can access help and assistance in an emergency.



Central to the positive impact of this case was effective relationship-based and person-centred practice. Luke's case was reallocated to the same social worker on each hospital admission over a period of 2.5 years. Over this time the social worker built a good rapport and trust with Luke and his brother, and this helped with supporting Luke to accept care and support and have informed choice about his future accommodation options.



## BACKGROUND

Margaret is 75 years old. She was referred to IDAS following a disclosure of harm towards her by her husband, Alfred. He was unpredictable, and the physical harm towards Margaret was increasing in severity, including non-fatal strangulation. The couple had little support in the family home and Margaret was worried for her safety. A high-risk DASH was completed, and Margaret was referred to MARAC.

Margaret and Alfred have been married for over 50 years and she describes him as a loving, caring and supportive husband. There is no history of abuse in their relationship. Alfred has dementia and was becoming increasingly confused as his condition deteriorated. His harmful behaviour towards Margaret during the previous few months was entirely due to his condition.

## ACTIONS TAKEN AND SUPPORT PROVIDED

IDAS spoke to Margaret about whether she would like any support, which she declined. She was shocked to learn that she had been referred to a domestic abuse service as she did not consider her situation in those terms. She spoke about how devastated she was about what had happened to Alfred and how cruel dementia is. She did not want Alfred referred to as a perpetrator of domestic abuse as their situation was entirely due to the effects of dementia.

IDAS advocated for Margaret at MARAC and requested that Alfred be referred to by his name or as PATCH (Person Alleged To have Caused Harm). We included details of the couple's history to help understanding that although harm had been caused, Margaret and Alfred were both suffering the effects of dementia, and not domestic abuse.

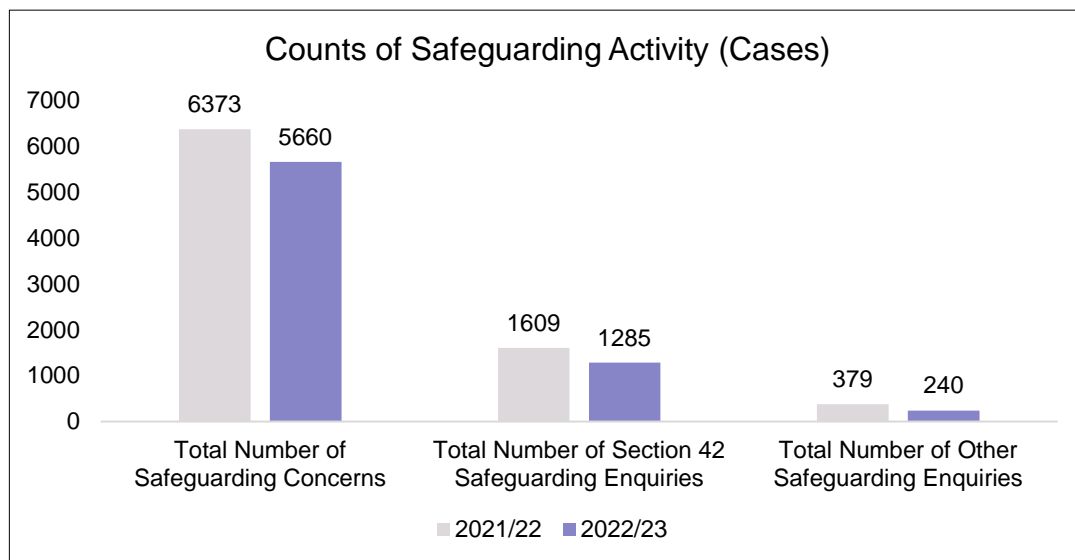
## IMPACT

Alfred's condition is now too severe for him to remain at home with Margaret and he now lives in a care home. While this means that Margaret is safe from further harm, she is now living apart from her husband and she finds this difficult. She was grateful that IDAS had advocated for her and Alfred. After Margaret's case was shared at MARAC, IDAS received positive feedback relating to the advocacy and about the language used to describe people causing harm in situations like Margaret and Alfreds.

# 11. What Do the Numbers Tell Us?

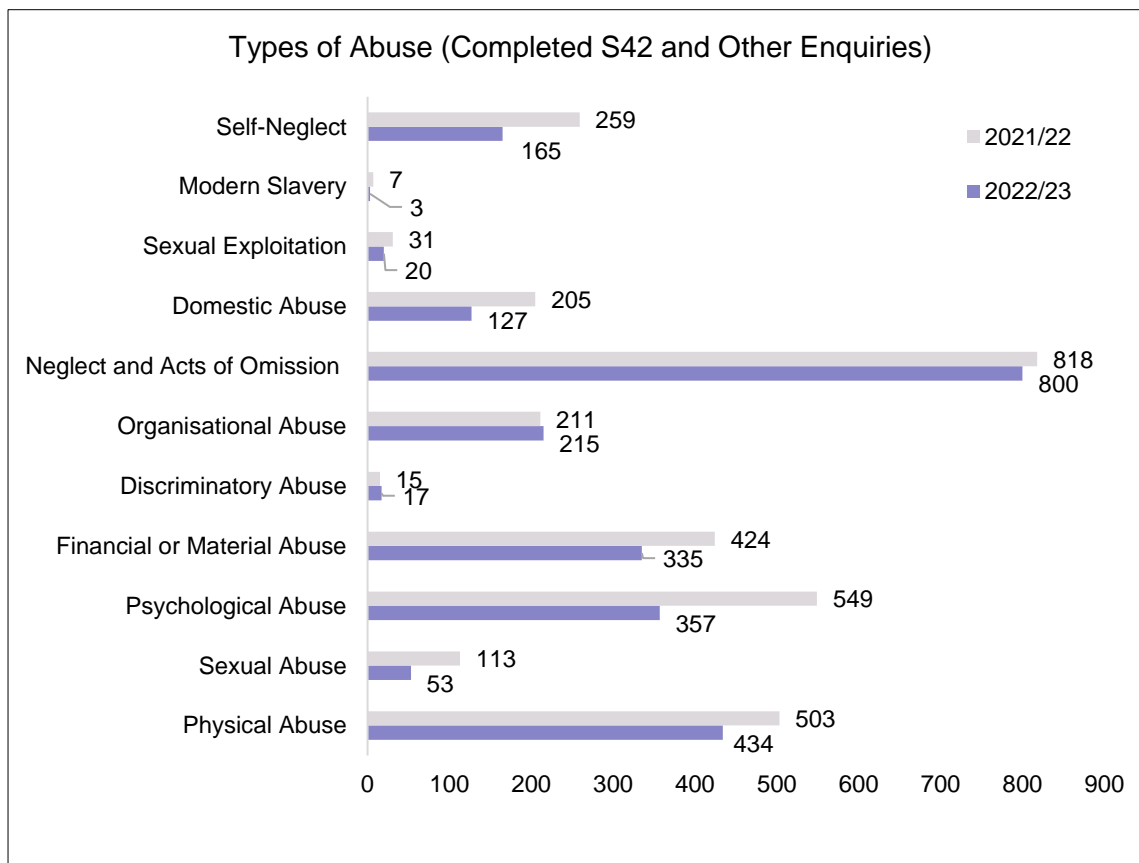
## Safeguarding Concerns and Section 42 and Other Enquiries

The total number of safeguarding concerns in 2022/23 was 5660, this is a decrease on the previous year. Safeguarding Concerns make up the biggest proportion of safeguarding activity. There were 1285 Section 42 Safeguarding Enquiries (324 less than last year) and 240 “Other” enquiries. This data relates to Safeguarding Activity that commenced in the year 2022/23.



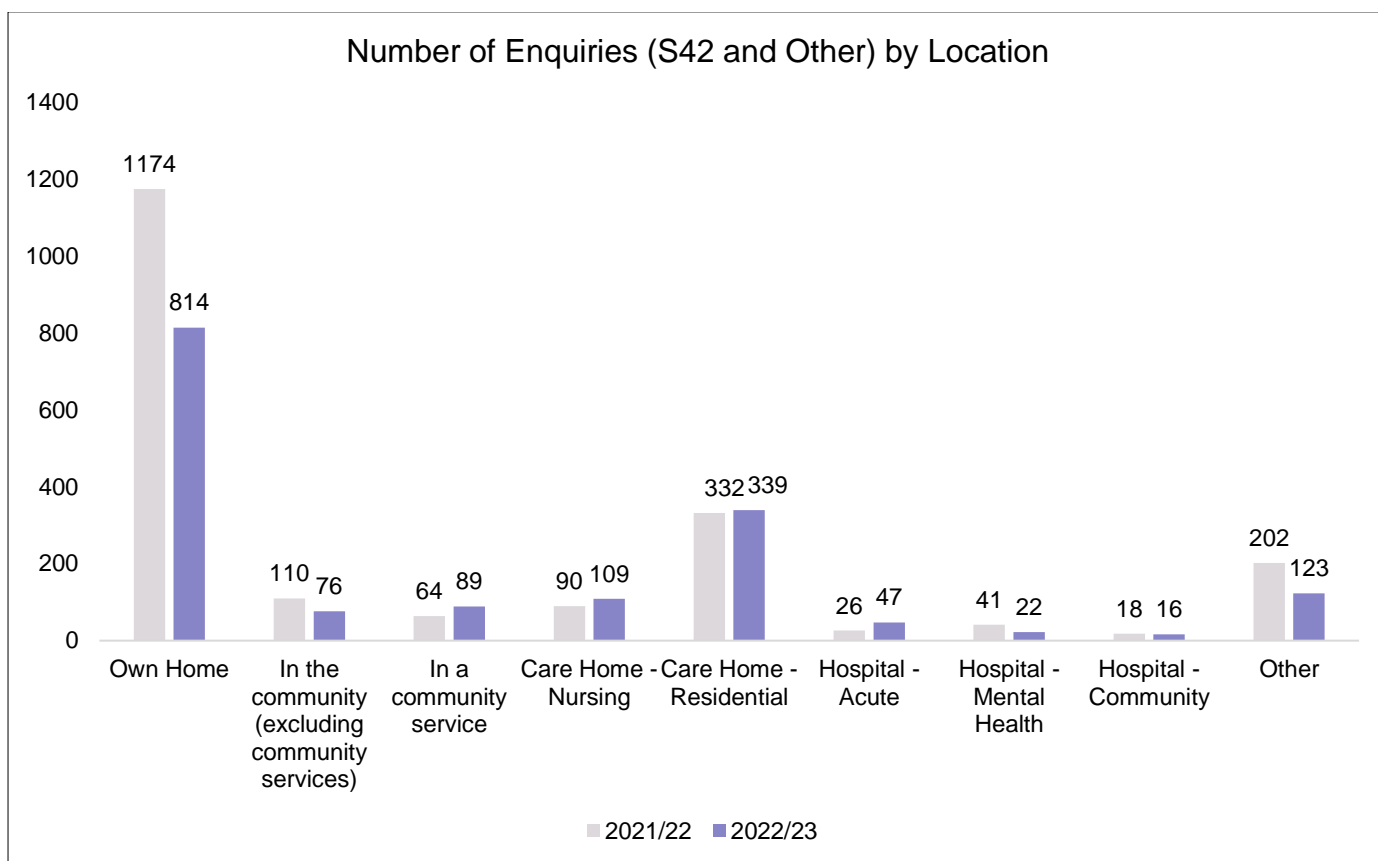
## Type of Abuse Experienced

Of the enquiries completed in the year 2022/23, the types of abuse that were most prominent were Neglect and Acts of Omission, Psychological Abuse and Physical Abuse.



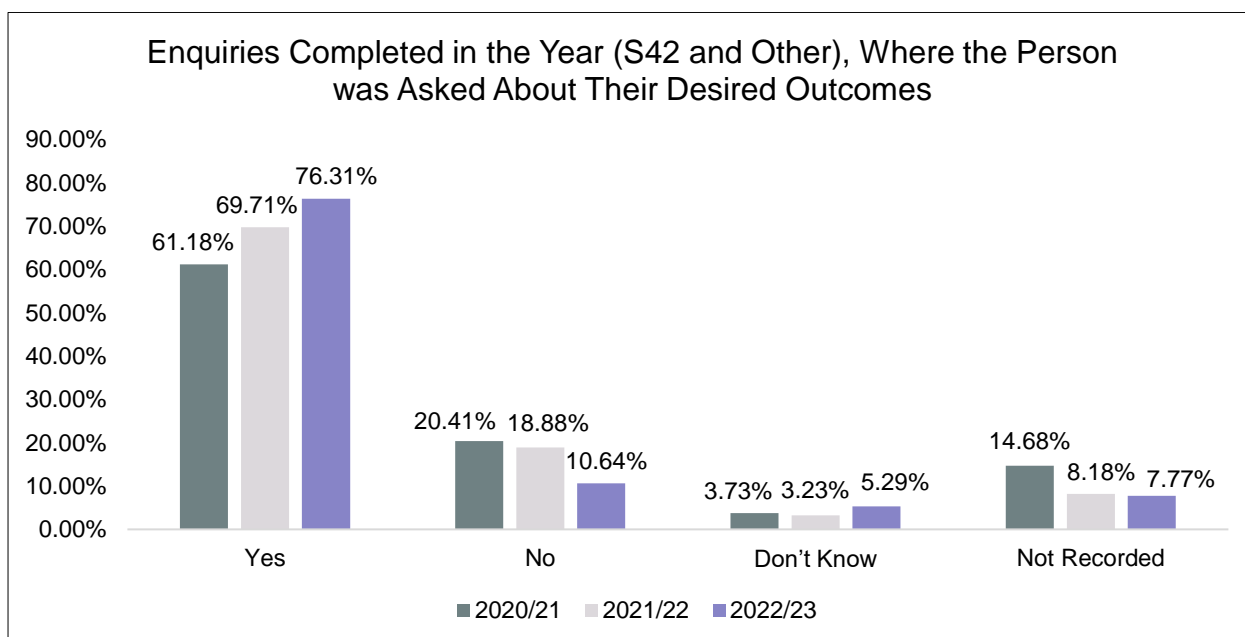
## Location of Abuse

Own home continued to be the most prominent location of abuse in enquiries completed, this was followed by residential care homes.



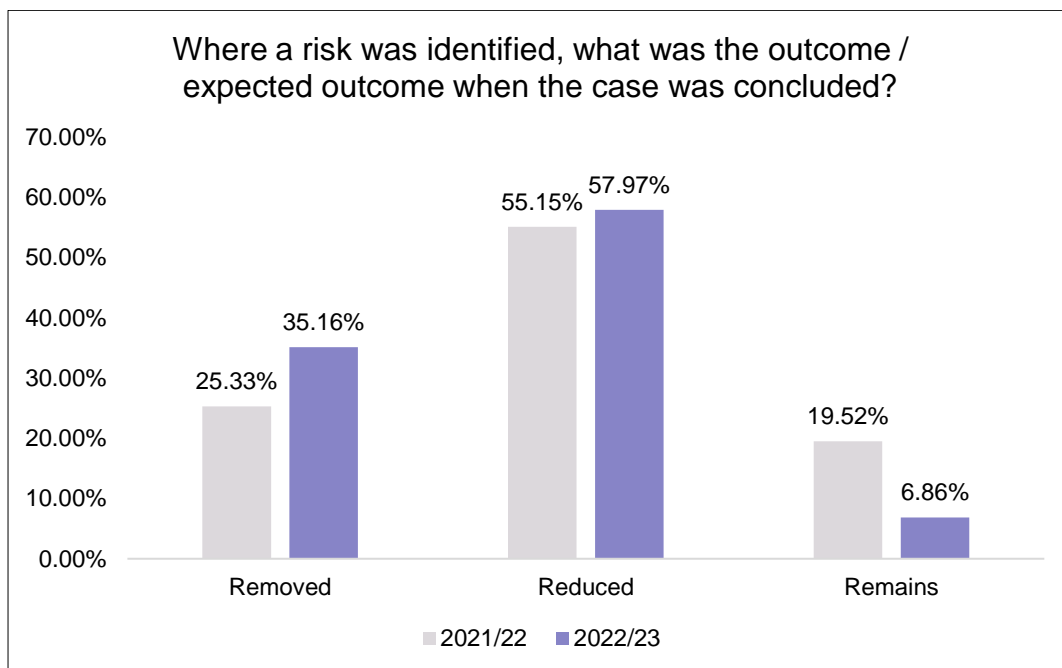
## Making Safeguarding Personal (AC&W Data Only)

The number of individuals who were asked their desired outcomes in safeguarding enquiries concluded, increased in the year 2022/23 compared with the previous year. In 2021/22 the proportion of people asked was 69.71% and in 2022/23 this figure was 76.31%. Both years were an increase on 2020/21 where in 61.18% of enquiries completed in the year people were asked about their desired outcomes.



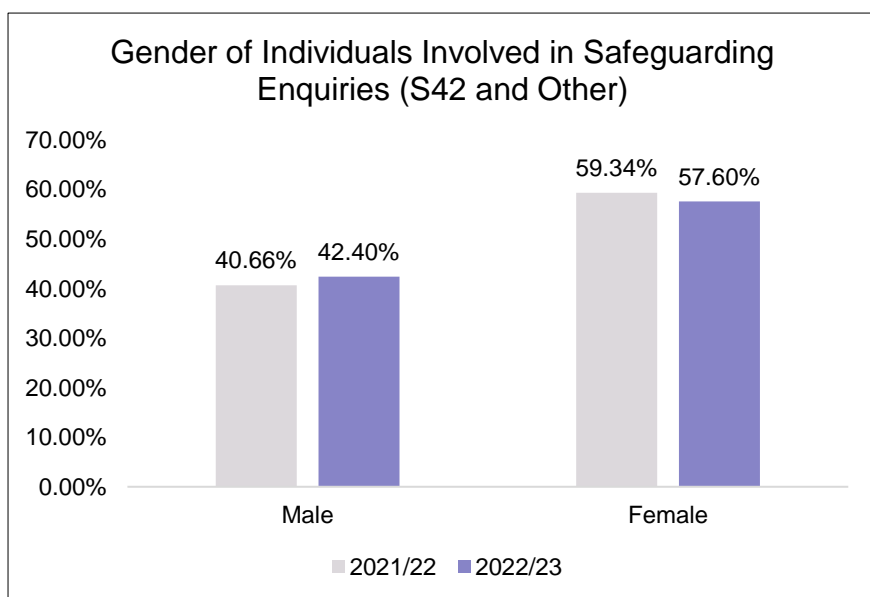
### **Impact on Risk (AC&W Data Only)**

Where risk was identified, the risk remained in 6.86% of enquiries completed (S42 and Other) this is an improvement on last year, where risk remained in 19.52% of enquires completed in the year. Risk was reduced in 57.97% of enquiries completed this year, compared with 55.15% the year before, and the proportion of enquiries where risk removed increased by around 10%.



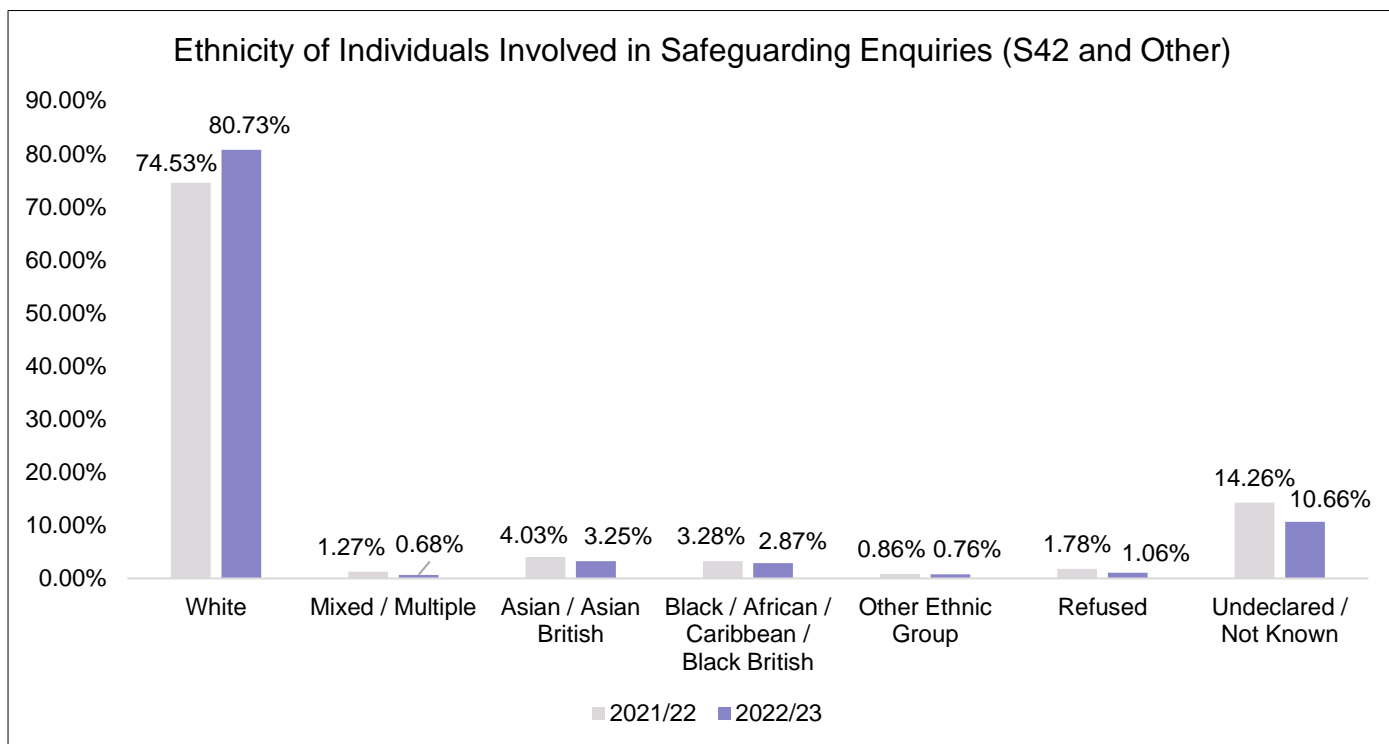
### **Demographics of Individuals Safeguarded (Safeguarding Enquiries)**

More women than men were involved in a safeguarding enquiry that commenced in the year (57.60% vs 42.40%) a slightly higher % of men and slightly lower % of women were involved in safeguarding enquiries compared with last year.

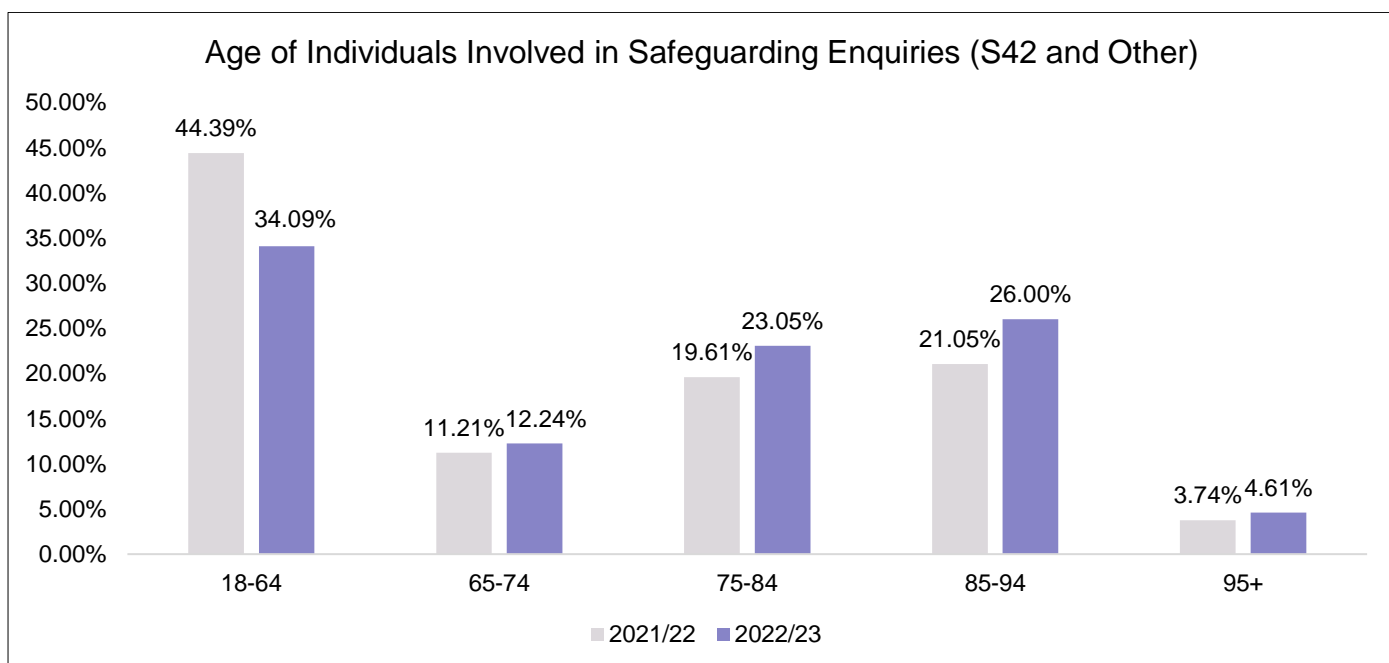


Adults who identified as White continue to be the highest represented group in safeguarding enquiries that commenced in the year, and this figure increased on last year (74.53% vs 80.73%).

Except for instances where ethnicity was not known or undeclared, Asian/Asian British were the second highest represented at 3.25%. There was a decrease in the % where ethnicity was not declared or not known.



34.09% of enquiries commenced in the year involved individuals in the 18-64 category, 65.91% of individuals involved in enquiries were 65+. A higher proportion of individuals who were 64+ were involved in safeguarding enquiries in 2022/23 (an increase of around 10%) and the proportion of those aged 18-64 decreased by around 10%.



# 12. Overview from the Independent Scrutineer

Thank you for taking the time to read this report, which outlines continuing progress in the multi-agency work to protect and safeguard adults at risk in Sheffield.

The report covers the period from April 2022 through to March 2023, a period during which the partnership has continued to be tested in the aftermath of the Covid 19 pandemic. We have continued to see increasing referrals to services in both volume and complexity, workforce shortages, ever increasing pressures on public sector funding and a worsening economic and cost of living crisis, which is impacting differentially on the most vulnerable in our society.

I joined the partnership in April 2022 as Independent Chair and Scrutineer, a role intended to support partners by providing an independent perspective on their work to safeguard adults and to highlight challenges where appropriate. One of my duties is to be satisfied that the agencies who make up the safeguarding partnership are working effectively together to ensure that they are doing what they can to keep adults at risk in Sheffield safe, with the resources that they have available.

## **Developing Our Approach to Assurance**

In December 2022 I introduced a quarterly scrutineer's report to SASP which takes account of the findings from all local and national reviews and considers how identified improvements should be implemented locally. To do this I draw upon the ongoing work of regulators such as the Care Quality Commission (CQC), His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services, as well as reports from the National Network of Chairs of Safeguarding Adult Boards and reviews undertaken by NHS England and Improvement.

Assurance is also informed by partners responses to the annual Section 11 Safeguarding Audit and Assurance Meetings which are held in May each year, by the quarterly performance report and the Performance and Quality Subgroup, which monitors and evaluates the effectiveness of safeguarding adults' practice across the city, using qualitative and quantitative data and intelligence.

In addition, SASP partners commissioned an independent review to test our approach to compliance with legislation, quality assurance and continuous improvement, as well as our process for and evidence of system wide learning, with a particular focus on our governance and decision making around Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs).

Importantly the review found:

- Overwhelming willingness and desire of all staff to support and ensure that safeguarding practice is continuously improving and enhancing the quality of life of adults in Sheffield.
- A progressive and developmental approach to safeguarding across Sheffield.
- Outward facing partners, looking for and sharing new opportunities for partnership working.
- Making safeguarding personal embedded in practice.

Recommendations from the review covered; safeguarding referrals and feedback, partnerships and working relationships and embedding learning and governance. Recommendations are relevant both to individual partners and to the partnership, as a whole. SASP officers have developed an action plan in response to the recommendations in the review and assurance will be provided to SASP on an ongoing basis.

## **Safeguarding Adult Reviews**

This annual report details SAR activity in the year, together with an overview of the dissemination of learning briefs, capturing of key themes and the updating of policies, procedures and training offers as a result. My reflection would be that some themes such as information sharing, and professional curiosity continue to be repeated in new SARs. Partners feared that harm and neglect with their roots in the pandemic would emerge. Sadly, we have seen some examples where this is the case and Section 5 of this report outlines how the partnership has responded and tried to learn from these situations. A programme of joint SAR/DHR workshops has been arranged for this autumn. It is clear that there is an overlap between the two and both have similar emerging themes that we need to explore in relation to the best way to learn from these reviews and embed changes in our practice.



Over 70% of cases in the National Analysis of SARs – involved mental health, highlighting the importance of safeguarding in mental health. Safeguarding and mental health will form a key area in the work plan of the National Network of SAB (Safeguarding Adult Board) Chairs for 2023-24.

The Sheffield City Council Delivery Plan recognises that Adult Care and Wellbeing Services are under a significant amount of pressure across key areas of business with rising demands, costs and lack of capacity in the system. To establish the foundations for a sustainable Adult Care and Wellbeing system which improves the outcomes and wellbeing of adults and carers across Sheffield, a new long-term Strategy for Adult Care and Wellbeing, underpinned by a Delivery Plan, and an Adult Safeguarding Delivery Plan have been approved by the Council's Adult Health and Social Care Policy Committee. The Committee monitors the implementation of the plans which in turn provides an important source of public accountability and assurance.

A key example of partners working effectively together to keep adults at risk in Sheffield safe, was the development of an adult multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH) which launched in April 2023, more information about the MASH can be found on page 14.

## **Sources of External Assurance Inspection**

During the year SASP received assurance from several external sources.

### **The Care Quality Commission**

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is the independent regulator of health and social care in England, ensuring health and social care services provide people with safe, effective, compassionate, high-quality care and encouraging care services to improve. They monitor, inspect and regulate services. CQC reports are an important source of assurance to SASP.



The CQC's 'State of Care' report for 2021-2022 was published on 21 October 2022. The report says that the health and care system is in a gridlocked situation and unable to operate effectively. It is particularly concerning that capacity in adult social care has reduced and that unmet need has increased. We need to be cognisant in Sheffield about how this situation affects people, their carers and families. SASP has recently received a presentation on the Hospital Discharge Programme and investment in home care support in Sheffield. Sheffield has established new integrated partnerships arrangements across health and social care for transformation and oversight. These will provide an important source of assurance for the partnership that Sheffield is able to harness and scale up the potential for innovation to improve outcomes for our most vulnerable populations.

The CQC has also published its Monitoring the Mental Health Act (MHA) report 2021/22. The review found that mental health services and staff are at breaking point, with staffing shortages affecting people's care and putting safety at risk. In some cases, the lack of staff to deliver therapeutic interventions is increasing the risk of violence and aggression on inpatient wards, threatening the safety of patients and staff. While providers are attempting to put in place measures to mitigate staffing issues, the shortage of qualified mental health nurses is a systemic issue which requires longer-term national workforce planning.

CQC also highlighted inequalities in the care people receive, with people from Black and some ethnic minority groups subject to disproportionate use of sectioning and restrictive community treatment orders and suggest providers should be asking themselves what they are doing to actively challenge this. Sheffield Health and Care NHS FT provided assurance that there are robust arrangements in place around the use of restrictive practices and work is being carried out on inequalities and improving access to services.

CQC inspectors have found improvements at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust following an inspection in September 2022. CQC reported that when they returned to Sheffield; "it was promising to see that several improvements had been made and we hope the trust continues to make progress across services to ensure people receive safe and appropriate care." Following the inspection, the trust's overall rating remains as requires improvement. However, SASP can take assurance in relation to safeguarding, as the inspectors reported that in the areas they visited staff understood how to protect patients from abuse. Staff had training on how to recognise and report abuse and they knew how to apply it. Staff knew how to identify adults and children at risk of, or suffering, significant harm and worked with other agencies to protect them. Staff could describe how to complete a safeguarding referral and could give examples of how to protect patients from harassment and discrimination, including those with protected characteristics under the Equality Act.

The service has a team of midwifery staff specialised in managing vulnerabilities. The team are responsible for overseeing women who are identified as having a safeguarding concern and ensuring that the appropriate support and authorities are involved in women's care. The service followed the Family Common Assessment Framework (FCAF) (incorporating threshold of need guidance) and referral to the local safeguarding hub. Safeguarding adult and children's policies were in place, in date and in line with intercollegiate guidance.

CQC did have concerns re understanding of, training and application of the Mental Capacity Act (MCA) and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguarding (DoLS) and I am pleased to report that SASP has since received assurance in the form of a report on the Trust's Mental Health Improvement Programme together with a report on how Sheffield City Council is investing in the DoLS service.

Adult Health and Social Care is also CQC-regulated, and inspection is possible at some point over the course of 2023/24. Plans are in place and being implemented to ensure that they are well-prepared for this.

### **NHS England: Review of Safeguarding in NHS Mental Health Trusts**

On Wednesday 28 September Panorama aired an undercover documentary into Edenfield, a secure unit run by Greater Manchester Mental Health Trust. Monday 10th October Channel Four aired "Hospital Undercover: Are our Mental Health wards safe".



The programmes highlighted a culture that had grown and pervaded across teams and wards. The behaviours of staff towards some of the most vulnerable people in society, admitted for care and treatment was unacceptable.



The NHS National Director of Mental Health, Clare Murdoch ordered a national review of safety across all the NHS. She also wrote to all NHS Mental Health Trusts urging them to urgently review safeguarding of care in their organisations and identify any immediate issues requiring action.

An interim report was brought to the joint SASP/SCSP Executive on 21 October, focussed on the response in Sheffield from SHSC and partners were asked to consider how we will bring assurance to SASP going forward.

### **His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services**

His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services, conduct police effectiveness, efficiency, and legitimacy (PEEL) inspections, which assess the performance of all police forces in England and Wales. HM Inspectorate's inspection of South Yorkshire Police found the force's focus on vulnerable people to be strong in every area inspected. During 2022/23 SYP launched the Right Care, Right Person approach, with Phase 1 focused on Concern for Welfare. A multi-agency strategical and tactical governance structure has been established which enables partners to raise any safeguarding concerns. South Yorkshire Police has also been selected by the National Police Chief's Council to be the national case study demonstrating the effective use of Right Care, Right Person for our partnership working and focus on ensuring that vulnerable people are protected.

### **HM Inspectorate of Probation**

HM Inspectorate of Probation is the independent inspector of youth offending and probation services in England and Wales and reports on the effectiveness of probation and youth offending service work with adults and children. The inspectorate reported on their inspection of Sheffield Probation Delivery Unit (PDU) in April 2023. The inspectors noted that Sheffield had high vacancy rates across probation practitioner and administrative grades. The impact of that was being shouldered by frontline staff, almost all of whom were dealing with unmanageable caseloads. Sickness levels were well above the Civil Service average and there had been a steady flow of staff leaving the PDU for careers elsewhere. Those problems underpinned its findings in relation to casework. Work to keep the public safe was the weakest area of practice across all standards. There were a worrying number of cases where essential information had not been gathered from the police or social services, which weakened attempts to keep people (women and children in particular) safe from abusive behaviour. In response, the PDU now has a quality improvement plan in place and there is on-going recruitment of staff at all grades.

Regulatory inspection remains a key source of assurance to the SASP and over 2022/23 review systems have continued to develop. The national network of SAB chairs has recognised the need for discussions with the Home Office, Department for Education and NHS England to explore how the requirements of different review systems might be more closely aligned to ensure that the potential for learning is maximised. Discussions have taken place with the Home Office and with NHS England to ensure that nationally, the interface between SARs, DHRs and patient safety incident reporting is acknowledged. Contact will be made with the Department for Education to open discussion regarding the links between SARs and Safeguarding Child Practice Reviews. This work continues in 2023/24.

### **In Conclusion**

The annual report demonstrates that partners have faced significant challenges during the year and there is still much to address. However, there has also been significant innovation, and safeguarding has been maintained as a priority. Notwithstanding all the current challenges, what I

have seen since my arrival is real commitment to working together, and the willingness to address the need for change. I have seen some great examples of innovation, with Sheffield at the leading edge locally and contributing nationally to emerging policy on interventions that support vulnerable adults and families. Many examples are set out in detail in this report together with the impact they have made.

Safeguarding is very much everyone's business, and I would extend my appreciation to you all for your work and persistence in sustaining effective safeguarding in Sheffield. Thank you to everyone who supports the work of Sheffield Safeguarding Adults Partnership as a member, an adviser, or in running our business day-to-day. There are many examples of practitioners going above and beyond expectations to protect some of our most vulnerable adults and families and to them I send my thanks.

**Lesley Smith**

**Independent Chair and Scrutineer**

**Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership**

# 13. Acronyms

Acronym	Full Name
AC&W	Adult Care and Wellbeing
BSL	British Sign Language
C Cat	Court Case Assessment Tool (Used by Managers and Quality Development Officers to assess the reports and work done by probation court staff).
CCG	Clinical Commissioning Group
CCM	Complex Care Management
CWBPG	City Wide Best Practice Group
DACT	Domestic Abuse Co-ordination Team
DASH	Domestic Abuse, Stalking and 'Honour'-based violence.
DBS	Disclosure and Barring Service
DHR	Domestic Homicide Review
DVPN	Domestic Violence Protection Notice
DVPO	Domestic Violence Protection Orders
EQual	Embedding Quality and Learning (Probation)
IDAS	Independent Domestic Abuse Services
IDVAS	Independent Domestic Violence Adviser
MARAC	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference
MATAC	Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination
MASH	Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub
MCA	Mental Capacity Act
MSP	Making Safeguarding Personal
PiPoT	Person in Position of Trust
R Cat	Regional Case Audit Tool (Probation)
SAR	Safeguarding Adult Review
SASP	Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership
SCC	Sheffield City Council
SHSC	Sheffield Health and Social Care
STHFT	Sheffield Teaching Hospital Foundation Trust
STIT	Short Term Intervention Team
SYFR	South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
SY ICB	South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
SYP	South Yorkshire Police
TAP	Team Around the Person
VAP	Vulnerable Adult Panel
VARM	Vulnerable Adult Risk Management

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## update August 2023

### Part A

### Initial Impact Assessment

#### Proposal name

Safeguarding Adults Update and Delivery Plan

#### Brief aim(s) of the proposal and the outcome(s) you want to achieve

The Adult Health and Social Care Strategy 'Living the Life You Want to Live' made a commitment towards improving outcomes for adults from abuse and neglect and enabling a shift towards prevention of harm. An adult safeguarding delivery plan has been developed including key milestones to outline how that commitment will be achieved.

The delivery plan outlines ways of working that incorporate the six principles of safeguarding as outlined in the Care Act, Making Safeguarding Personal and strengths-based approaches.

Care Act principles of safeguarding:

- Empowerment
  - People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent
- Prevention
  - It is better to take action before harm occurs.
- Proportionality
  - The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.
- Protection
  - Support and representation for those in greatest need.
- Partnership
  - Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.
- Accountability
  - Accountability and transparency in safeguarding practice

Making Safeguarding Personal involves respecting the views of vulnerable people. It means that when practitioners are working with a person where safeguarding processes are necessary, that we take the time to listen and understand and support their wishes and desired outcomes.

The delivery plan is organised into four themes as shown below, along with examples of some of the milestones under each theme.

- Leadership and governance
  - Commission a thematic and benchmarking review of Safeguarding Adult Referrals (SAR), Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR), Deprivation of Liberty (DoLS), to establish areas for learning and improvement
  - Review current Safeguarding Adult Referral process to ensure in line with benchmark and best practice and take learning and recommendations to the Safeguarding Board.
- Outcomes and experiences
  - Safeguarding Waiting list reduced to acceptable risk levels
  - Embed learning from thematic review SAR, DHR, DoLS into practice

- Providing support
  - robust arrangements for identifying early indicators of concern, preventing abuse and neglect, preventing poor outcomes through lack of care continuity, and responding to safeguarding in regulated care environments.
  - effective multi agency arrangements in place to effectively screen and respond to Safeguarding via Hub
- Confident practice
  - Establish a safeguarding adult learning and development framework for safeguarding and implementation arrangements so that all staff have completed relevant minimum standards of safeguarding training.

The ambition is that adults in need of care and support live safely and well free from abuse and neglect

**UPDATE August 23**

Over the past twelve months good progress has been made towards implementing the delivery plan and several of the actions on the original endorsed plan have been successfully completed. The delivery plan has been updated to reflect this, and now contains only ongoing actions from the original plan and any new actions that have been incorporated in the plan as they have been identified, for example, through the 'Safe and Well' clinic that has been established and the independent review commissioned for the safeguarding partnership. This ensures that the plan continues to be a live and regularly updated document to effectively coordinate all safeguarding improvement work for adults in Sheffield.

**Proposal type**

- Budget       Non Budget

**If Budget, is it Entered on Q Tier?**

- Yes       No

If yes what is the Q Tier reference

**Year of proposal (s)**

- 21/22     23/23     23/24     24/25     other

**Decision Type**

- 
- Committee (e.g. Adult Committee)
- Leader
- Individual Coop Exec Member
- Executive Director/Director
- Officer Decisions (Non-Key)
- Council (e.g. Budget and Housing Revenue Account)
- Regulatory Committees (e.g. Licensing Committee)

**Lead Committee Member**

**Lead Director for Proposal**

Jenna Tait

**EIA start date**

01/09/2022

**Equality Lead Officer**

- Adele Robinson
- Annemarie Johnston
- Bashir Khan
- Beverley Law
- Ed Sexton
- Louise Nunn

**Lead Equality Objective ([see for detail](#))**

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Understanding Communities | <input type="radio"/> Workforce Diversity | <input type="radio"/> Leading the city in celebrating & promoting inclusion | <input type="radio"/> Break the cycle and improve life chances |
|--|---|---|--|

**Portfolio, Service and Team**

**Is this Cross-Portfolio**

- Yes
- No

**Portfolio**

People

Is the EIA joint with another organisation (eg NHS)?

- Yes
  - No
- Please specify

**Consultation**

**Is consultation required (Read the guidance in relation to this area)**

- Yes
- No

**If consultation is not required please state why**

**Are Staff who may be affected by these proposals aware of them**

- Yes
- No

**Are Customers who may be affected by these proposals aware of them**

- Yes
- No

**If you have said no to either please say why**

## Initial Impact

Under the [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) we have to pay due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- advance equality of opportunity
- foster good relations

For a range of people who share protected characteristics, more information is available on the [Council website](#) including the [Community Knowledge Profiles](#).

## Identify Impacts

**Identify which characteristic the proposal has an impact on tick all that apply**

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Health	<input type="radio"/> Transgender
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Age	<input type="radio"/> Carers
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Disability	<input type="radio"/> Voluntary/Community & Faith Sectors
<input type="radio"/> Pregnancy/Maternity	<input type="radio"/> Cohesion
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Race	<input type="radio"/> Partners
<input type="radio"/> Religion/Belief	<input type="radio"/> Poverty & Financial Inclusion
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Sex	<input type="radio"/> Armed Forces
<input type="radio"/> Sexual Orientation	<input type="radio"/> Other
<input type="radio"/> Cumulative	

## Cumulative Impact

**Does the Proposal have a cumulative impact**

- Yes                       No

<input type="radio"/> Year on Year	<input type="radio"/> Across a Community of Identity/Interest
<input type="radio"/> Geographical Area	<input type="radio"/> Other

*If yes, details of impact*

**Proposal has geographical impact across Sheffield**

- Yes                       No

*If Yes, details of geographical impact across Sheffield*

**Local Area Committee Area(s) impacted**

- All                       Specific

*If Specific, name of Local Committee Area(s) impacted*



## Initial Impact Overview

**Based on the information about the proposal what will the overall equality impact?**

The proposal is consistent with the legal requirements placed on local authorities in section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010, and the overall impact is expected to be positive. The delivery plan aims to develop a more efficient and person-centred approach and to ensure citizens' voices and experiences help to inform and develop the processes.

The nature and purpose of Adult Health & Social Care means that people sharing the protected characteristics of Age and/or Disability will be directly impacted by the proposals. However, the safeguarding remit means that people sharing certain other protected characteristics (e.g. Sex, Race) may also be particularly affected.

There is currently no indication of any disproportionate impact for staff at SCC and it's partner agencies.

**Is a Full impact Assessment required at this stage?**  Yes  No

**If the impact is more than minor, in that it will impact on a particular protected characteristic you must complete a full impact assessment below.**

## Initial Impact Sign Off

**EIAs must be agreed and signed off by the Equality lead Officer in your Portfolio or corporately. Has this been signed off?**

Yes  No

Date agreed

Name of EIA lead officer

## Part B

### Full Impact Assessment

#### Health

**Does the Proposal have a significant impact on health and well-being (including effects on the wider determinants of health)?**

Yes       No      *if Yes, complete section below*

#### Staff

Yes       No

#### Customers

Yes       No

#### Details of impact

The aim of the safeguarding delivery plan is to improve outcomes for adults in Sheffield, to enable a shift towards prevention of harm and ultimately to ensure that adults in need of care and support live safely and well free from abuse and neglect. Delivery of the milestones outlined in the plan should achieve a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of adults at risk.

The delivery plan includes milestones that should have a positive impact on staff working in adult health and social care. Reducing waiting lists, making processes simpler, improving multi agency joint working and an improved learning and development framework are all expected to improve the experience of staff.

#### Comprehensive Health Impact Assessment being completed

Yes       No

*Please attach health impact assessment as a supporting document below.*

#### Public Health Leads has signed off the health impact(s) of this EIA

Yes       N

**Name of Health  
Lead Officer**

## Age

### Impact on Staff

Yes  No

### Impact on Customers

Yes  No

### Details of impact

The aim of the safeguarding delivery plan is to improve outcomes for adults in Sheffield, to enable a shift towards prevention of harm and ultimately to ensure that adults in need of care and support live safely and well free from abuse and neglect. Delivery of the milestones outlined in the plan should achieve a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of adults at risk in Sheffield.

Table 1 in the evidence section illustrates that the majority of safeguarding enquiries completed are for older adults i.e. those in age groups of 60 and older. As a result it is anticipated that the delivery plan will have a positive impact on older adults in Sheffield. However, safeguarding referrals are received in adult social care about adults of all ages.

Table 1 also highlights that safeguarding referrals received that relate to older adults are more likely to be progressed to a safeguarding enquiry than those for younger adults. However, a high number of safeguarding referrals are also received for younger age groups, which suggests that there are potentially adults whose circumstances do not meet the statutory criteria for a safeguarding enquiry but who are in need of some support. The improvement of the prevention model and multiagency working included in the delivery plan is expected to achieve a positive impact for these adults.

## Disability

### Impact on Staff

Yes  No

### Impact on Customers

Yes  No

### Details of impact

The aim of the safeguarding delivery plan is to improve outcomes for adults in Sheffield, to enable a shift towards prevention of harm and ultimately to ensure that adults in need of care and support live safely and well free from abuse and neglect. Delivery of the milestones outlined in the plan should achieve a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of adults at risk in Sheffield.

[UPDATE August 23](#)

[Table 4 in the evidence section illustrates the variation in numbers of safeguarding referrals received and safeguarding enquiries completed for people based on the person's recorded primary care reason \(where a person is in receipt of care and the reason is known\).](#)

[Table 4 shows that there is large variation in the proportions of referrals that are progressed to a safeguarding enquiry depending upon primary support reason. For example, just 8% of referrals related to people with no recorded primary support reason/need are progressed to enquiry compared with 41% of referrals related to people who are recorded to have a learning disability as their primary support reason. As another example, 33% of referrals related to people who are recorded to have a hearing impairment as their primary support reason, are progressed to enquiry.](#)

As a result, it is anticipated that the delivery plan and improvements made will have a positive impact on adults with a disability.

As part of the Adult Care and Wellbeing 'Festival of Involvement' in June 2023 there was an event dedicated to discussing safeguarding and the safeguarding delivery plan. The event was co-hosted with members of the Safeguarding Adults Board Customer Forum, and members of the public were invited. Attendees included individuals with physical and/or learning disabilities, ensuring views of individuals within particular cohorts were represented in discussions about what does good safeguarding look like, how it should be measured, and the information and advice available.

## Pregnancy/Maternity

### Impact on Staff

Yes  No

### Impact on Customers

Yes  No

### Details of impact

## Race

### Impact on Staff

Yes  No

### Impact on Customers

Yes  No

### Details of impact

The aim of the safeguarding delivery plan is to improve outcomes for adults in Sheffield, to enable a shift towards prevention of harm and ultimately to ensure that adults in need of care and support live safely and well free from abuse and neglect. Delivery of the milestones outlined in the plan should achieve a positive impact on adults of all races who may be at risk.

Table 2 in the evidence section illustrates the variation in numbers of safeguarding referrals received and safeguarding enquiries completed for people of different ethnicities. In 20% of cases there is no record of a person's ethnicity which impacts the usefulness of the data and highlights an improvement required in the information held.

Table 2 shows that there is large variation in the proportions of referrals that are progressed to a safeguarding enquiry depending upon ethnicity. For example, 25% of referrals related to people within the black or black British Caribbean ethnicity are progressed to enquiry compared with 7% of referrals related to people within the black or black British other black background ethnicity. More work will be required to understand the differences highlighted.

## Religion/Belief

### Impact on Staff

Yes  No

### Impact on Customers

Yes  No

### Details of impact

## Sex

### Impact on Staff

Yes  No

### Impact on Customers

Yes  No

### Details of impact

UPDATE August 23

The aim of the safeguarding delivery plan is to improve outcomes for adults in Sheffield, to enable a shift towards prevention of harm and ultimately to ensure that adults in need of care and support live safely and well free from abuse and neglect. Delivery of the milestones outlined in the plan should achieve a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of adults at risk in Sheffield.

Table 2 in the evidence section illustrates that the majority of safeguarding enquiries completed are for females. As a result, it is anticipated that the delivery plan will have a positive impact on female adults in Sheffield. However, safeguarding referrals are received in adult social care about adults of all sexes and the changes will have a positive impact for all.

Table 2 also shows that the proportion of referrals received that are progressed to a safeguarding enquiry is very similar for males and females.

## Sexual Orientation

### Impact on Staff

Yes  No

### Impact on Customers

Yes  No

### Details of impact

UPDATE August 23

The aim of the safeguarding delivery plan is to improve outcomes for adults in Sheffield, to enable a shift towards prevention of harm and ultimately to ensure that adults in need of care and support live safely and well free from abuse and neglect. Delivery of the milestones outlined in the plan should achieve a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of adults at risk in Sheffield.

Table 5 in the evidence section illustrates the attempted analysis of safeguarding referrals and enquiries by sexual orientation. Unfortunately, the information is unknown for the majority of individuals and as such the analysis is very limited in use.

One of the actions in the delivery plan that has been completed, is for SCC to issue a statement regarding 'Conversion Practice'. *Is there a link to a public copy of the document that could be added here?* This position statement supports adults and young people with diverse gender and sexuality expressions enabling them to live, work, learn or worship in the city free of abuse i.e., bullying discrimination, homophobia or transphobia, social isolation, and rejection.

## Gender Reassignment (Transgender)

### Impact on Staff

Yes  No

### Impact on Customers

Yes  No

### Details of impact

UPDATE August 23

The aim of the safeguarding delivery plan it to improve outcomes for adults in Sheffield, to enable a shift towards prevention of harm and ultimately to ensure that adults in need of care and support live safely and well free from abuse and neglect. Delivery of the milestones outlined in the plan should achieve a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of adults at risk in Sheffield.

One of the actions in the delivery plan that has been completed, is for SCC to issue a statement regarding 'Conversion Practice'. *Is there a link to a public copy of the document that could be added here?* This position statement supports adults and young people with diverse gender and sexuality expressions enabling them to live, work, learn or worship in the city free of abuse i.e., bullying discrimination, homophobia or transphobia, social isolation, and rejection.

## Carers

### Impact on Staff

Yes  No

### Impact on Customers

Yes  No

### Details of impact

The aim of the safeguarding delivery plan it to improve outcomes for adults in Sheffield, to enable a shift towards prevention of harm and ultimately to ensure that adults in need of care and support live safely and well free from abuse and neglect. Delivery of the milestones outlined in the plan should achieve a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of adults at risk, including their carers (formal and informal).

## Poverty & Financial Inclusion

### Impact on Staff

Yes       No

### Impact on Customers

Yes       No

**Please explain the impact**

## Cohesion

### Staff

Yes       No

### Customers

Yes       No

**Details of impact**

## Partners

### Impact on Staff

Yes       No

### Impact on Customers

Yes       No

**Details of impact**

Owners of actions on the safeguarding delivery plan are SCC employees alongside representatives from partners from the Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership. Where any actions are identified as impacting staff or customers of partner organisations this will be discussed and managed jointly where required.

The aim of the safeguarding delivery plan is to improve outcomes for adults in Sheffield, to enable a shift towards prevention of harm and ultimately to ensure that adults in need of care and support live safely and well free from abuse and neglect. Delivery of the milestones outlined in the plan should achieve a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of adults at risk in Sheffield.

## Armed Forces

### Impact on Staff

Yes       No

### Impact on Customers

Yes       No

### Details of impact

### Other

*Please specify*

#### Impact on Staff

Yes       No

#### Impact on Customers

Yes       No

### Details of impact

## Action Plan and Supporting Evidence

### What actions will you take, please include an Action Plan including timescales

- April 23: Complete further analysis to explore the differences identified within ethnicities and understand these further with a view to developing a more detailed action plan if required.
- Revise this document at 6 month intervals in line with the proposed timescale for updates on the delivery plan to committee, or sooner where any significant changes are made to the delivery plan.



**Supporting Evidence** (Please detail all your evidence used to support the EIA)

Table 1: Safeguarding contacts April 21 – March 22 by age group

Age range	Contacts		Episodes		Enquiries		
	No	% of all contacts	No	% of all episodes	No	% of all enquiries	% of age range contacts that become an enquiry
18-29	1398	16%	673	12%	158	9%	11%
30-39	1304	15%	602	11%	128	7%	10%
40-49	1182	14%	549	10%	109	6%	9%
50-59	1152	13%	644	12%	177	10%	15%
60-69	895	10%	650	12%	207	12%	23%
70-79	900	10%	780	14%	285	16%	32%
80-89	1183	14%	1047	19%	426	25%	36%
90-99	619	7%	565	10%	237	14%	38%
100+	59	1%	44	1%	11	1%	19%
Total	8692	100%	5554	100%	1738	100%	20%

Table 2: Safeguarding contacts April 21 – March 22 by sex

Sex	Contact		Episode		Enquiry		
	No	% of all contacts	No	% of all episodes	No	% of all enquiries	% of sex contacts that become an enquiry
Female	4954	57%	3339	60%	1036	60%	21%
Male	3738	43%	2215	40%	702	40%	19%
Total	8692	100%	5554	100%	1738	100%	20%

Table 3: Safeguarding contacts April 21 – March 22 by ethnicity

See table at end of document

[Table 4: Safeguarding contacts April 21 – March 22 by primary support reason](#)

See table at end of document

[Table 5: Safeguarding contacts April 21 – March 22 by sexual orientation](#)

See table at end of document

**Detail any changes made as a result of the EIA**

**Following mitigation is there still significant risk of impact on a protected characteristic.**    Yes    No

**If yes, the EIA will need corporate escalation? Please explain below**

## Sign Off

**EIAs must be agreed and signed off by the Equality lead Officer in your Portfolio or corporately. Has this been signed off?**

Yes  No

Date agreed  of EIA lead officer

**Review Date**

Table 3: Safeguarding contacts April 21 – March 22 by ethnicity

Ethnicity	Contact		Episode		Enquiry		
	No.	% of all contacts	No.	% of all episodes	No.	% of all enquiries	% of ethnicity contacts that become an enquiry
Asian or Asian British - Other	224	2.6%	124	2.2%	24	1.4%	10.7%
Asian or Asian British - Pakistani	190	2.2%	118	2.1%	36	2.1%	18.9%
Black or Black British - African	126	1.4%	65	1.2%	17	1.0%	13.5%
Black or Black British - Caribbean	99	1.1%	70	1.3%	25	1.4%	25.3%
Black or Black British - Other Black Background	104	1.2%	44	0.8%	8	0.5%	7.7%
Mixed/Multiple Heritage	91	1.0%	35	0.6%	14	0.8%	15.4%
Not known / undeclared / refused	1761	20.3%	1138	20.5%	280	16.1%	15.9%
Other Ethnic Group	79	0.9%	44	0.8%	15	0.9%	19.0%
White - English/Welsh/Scottish/British/Northern Irish	5793	66.6%	3794	68.3%	1290	74.2%	22.3%
White - Other White Background	225	2.6%	122	2.2%	29	1.7%	12.9%
Total	8692	100.0%	5554	100.0%	1738	100.0%	20.0%

Table 4: Safeguarding contacts April 21 – March 22 by primary support reason

Primary Support Reason	Contacts		Episodes		Enquiries		
	No	% of all contacts	No	% of all episodes	No	% of all enquiries	% of primary support reason contacts that become an enquiry
Learning Disability Support	555	6%	445	8%	225	13%	41%
Mental Health Support	734	8%	282	5%	97	6%	13%
Physical Support - Access and Mobility Only	538	6%	422	8%	172	10%	32%
Physical Support - Personal Care Support	1953	22%	1632	29%	714	41%	37%
Sensory Support - Support for Dual Impairment	5	0%	3	0%	1	0%	20%
Sensory Support - Support for Hearing Impairment	18	0%	16	0%	6	0%	33%
Sensory Support - Support for Visual Impairment	32	0%	18	0%	9	1%	28%
Social Support - Asylum Seeker Support	1	0%	1	0%	0	0%	0%
Social Support - Substance Misuse Support	73	1%	53	1%	19	1%	26%
Social Support - Support for Social Isolation / Other	188	2%	130	2%	38	2%	20%
Social Support - Support to Carer	120	1%	94	2%	24	1%	20%
Support with Memory and Cognition	186	2%	166	3%	80	5%	43%
No support or reason not recorded	4289	49%	2292	41%	353	20%	8%
Total	8692	100%	5554	100%	1738	100%	20%

Page 32

Table 5: Safeguarding contacts April 21 – March 22 by sexual orientation

Sexual Orientation	Contacts		Episodes		Enquiries		
	No	% of all contacts	No	% of all episodes	No	% of all enquiries	% of sexual orientation category contacts that become an enquiry
A. Bisexual	8	0%	6	0%	2	0%	25%
B. Gay Man	3	0%	3	0%	0	0%	0%
C. Heterosexual/Straight	674	8%	529	10%	239	14%	35%
D. Lesbian/Gay Woman	3	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0%
E. Other - Please State	30	0%	23	0%	10	1%	33%
F. Declined To State	124	1%	101	2%	46	3%	37%
G. Still To Be Obtained	1590	18%	1296	23%	576	33%	36%
H. Unknown	6260	72%	3596	65%	865	50%	14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8692</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5554</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1738</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20%</b>

Page 13

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## Report to Policy Committee

**Author/Lead Officer of Report: Ben Brailsford,  
Head of Street Scene Services**

**Tel: 0114 205 3006**

**Report of:** Ajman Ali, Executive Director – Neighbourhood Services  
**Report to:** Strategy and Resources Committee  
**Date of Decision:** 20 November 2023  
**Subject:** Community re-use of Steel Containers

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? 2439				
Has appropriate consultation taken place?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-				

### Purpose of Report:

In line with the decision made at Strategy and Resources Committee on 24 January 2023 that *the future use of the containers be reported back to the Committee for approval*, this report sets out the process used to determine their future use. It describes how individual organisations bidding for their use have been selected as preferred recipients of the eight containers, and notes that the Executive Director for Neighbourhood Services will, following approval of the uses, proceed to confirm those recipients.

**Recommendations:****That the Strategy and Resources Committee:**

- 1) Note and approve the future uses of the containers, described in this report.
- 2) Note that the Executive Director for Neighbourhood Services enter into agreements to provide containers for reuse, with:
  - Friends of Glen Howe Park
  - Hallam and Redmire Rangers FC
  - Hillsborough Arena
  - Sheffield Wednesday Football Club Community Programme
  - St Wilfred's Centre
  - Wisewood Juniors FC

**Background Papers:**

[\(Public Pack\)Item 14 - Container Park Completion and Costs Agenda Supplement for Strategy and Resources Policy Committee, 24/01/2023 14:00 \(sheffield.gov.uk\)](#)

[Agenda item - Container Park Completion and Costs | Sheffield City Council](#)

Lead Officer to complete:-		
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.	Finance: Jonny McQuillan
		Legal: Robert Parkin
		Equalities & Consultation: Ed Sexton
		Climate: N/A
	<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>	
2	<b>SLB member who approved submission:</b>	Ajman Ali
3	<b>Committee Chair consulted:</b>	Cllr Tom Hunt
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the SLB member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.	
	<b>Lead Officer Name:</b> Ben Brailsford	<b>Job Title:</b> Head of Street Scene Services
	<b>Date:</b> 7 November 2023	



## 1. PROPOSAL

- 1.1 This report sets out the process used to offer the containers from the former Fargate Container park project to communities across Sheffield. It identifies six organisations that are recommended to be approved to progress with delivering their projects.

### **Background**

- 1.2 On the 24 January 2023, Strategy and Resources policy committee decided that the containers should be utilised for a different purpose other than as a commercial retail and food / beverage facility, such as usage by community groups, or to improve facilities in Sheffield's parks or other outdoor activity centres. The committee also required the future use of the containers be reported back to the Committee for approval, following the consideration of community submissions and having assessed opportunities for outdoor facility improvements. In total there are 8 containers which were utilised to construct the container park.

- 1.3 There was also a commitment that a review of the container park project be carried out by Internal Audit. That report will be considered at the Audit and Standards Committee on 23 November 2023.

### **Process**

- 1.4 In line with the decision at Strategy & Resources committee on 24 January 2023 a process was required to allow community groups the opportunity to propose a project to re-use the containers. The council has an established process used to call for submissions from community groups and businesses for its economic recovery fund. The process for the containers is based on this approach. A two-stage process is used, initially to receive expressions of interest, that are then scored, before the preferred projects are then supported through the final delivery. This two stage process helps reduce potential costs and administrative burdens on community groups who might not be successful, while giving the council confidence that the project has a good prospect of success. What this means is that the proposed projects, once approved, will still need to satisfy a number of formal approvals, such as planning permission, before final delivery.
- 1.5 A panel was established to assess applications from community groups. This panel is made up of council officers, with relevant experience and skills in dealing with construction projects, including from the council's Capital Delivery Service. It also included officers from the council's Communities Services, as well as councillors Richard Williams and Janet Ridler from the Community, Parks and Leisure policy committee. Councillor Marieanne Elliott was also invited but was unable to participate due to existing commitments.

Applicants were asked to produce bids which :

(a) were aligned to the aims of the council. These were supporting communities to be fair and empowered, helping improve neighbourhoods, tackling inequalities, supporting young people to get the start in life they need, improving health and wellbeing, and supporting economic growth in a sustainable way.

(b) addressed a clearly identified need or issue in their community

(c) had a strong project management approach and team to manage and oversee delivery

(d) represented good value for public money.

Proposals were assessed on these criteria as well as the overall clarity of the proposal.

- 1.6 An expression of interest form and guidance notes were developed to support community organisations in addressing the five criteria being assessed. A proposed budget sheet was required for submission and a plan was produced to help organisation identify which containers they might want to receive. The documents are located in appendices A-D.
- 1.7 The expression of interest process launched on 31 July 2023 and closed on Sunday 10 September. The process was publicised through a dedicated webpage on the council's website, media releases, social media and directly to community groups through the council's network of partnerships with community organisations as well as through communication with all 7 Local Area Committees.
- 1.8 In total 11 applications were received. A total of 25 containers were requested by these 11 applicants. 4 out of the 7 Local Area Committees were represented by the 11 organisations.
- 1.9 Each member of the panel scored the applications individually before having a joint moderation session where discrepancies between scores could be challenged. Each of the five criteria was scored on a points system with a maximum of five points being attributed to the best response. The scoring template, with the definition for each level of score is attached at appendix E. The moderation sessions identified a number of clarification points where applicant organisations were contacted to request clarity of areas of their submission.
- 1.10 The organisations and projects with the highest scores have been allocated containers as part of this proposal. As a contingency should any of these projects be unable to be delivered in the next phase, the other organisations with viable proposals have been asked whether they would like to receive a container in those circumstances.

- 1.11 Unsuccessful applicants have been given further information on alternate funding routes to take their project forward. They have also been put in touch with their Local Area Committee manager, where appropriate, to discuss how their project could potentially be delivered through other mechanisms.

### **Recommendation**

- 1.12 That the committee approves the future uses, and notes that the Executive Director for Neighbourhood Services is authorised to progress arrangements with the following proposed organisations and projects to re-utilise the containers.

#### **1.12.1 Friends of Glen Howe Park – 1 container**

A project to remove a derelict toilet block and replace it with a 'Community Engagement Hub'. The hub will be a base for the outdoor work undertaken by the friends group, but also a facility to host outdoor events and education.

This would be a space for people to meet, learn new crafts and run events related to the history of Glen Howe & surrounding areas, to encourage skills & education related to woodland crafts, ecology, natural habit & protection of wildlife.

The local community of Wharncliffe Side and surrounding area will be main beneficiary. This includes a broad demographic of households from low-middle income, families, single persons, elderly & young people.

The hub will facilitate a target of 20% increase in monthly attendance, increase the number of volunteers to 10 per event day and Deliver 6 public events per year.

One of the priorities of the North LAC is the improvement of park facilities

In their submission the Friends identified that “volunteering and attending events in the park promotes a stronger and more connected neighbourhood. People from the local community are brought together on a regular basis which helps promote a sense of community, engagement and belonging and offers people opportunities for people from all social spheres to put something back into their local neighbourhood. This provides a sense of ownership and pride. Many of the events we will hold will be free which will help people through the cost of living crisis.”

#### **1.12.2 St Wilfred’s Centre – 1 container and steps / decking**

St Wilfrid's is one of the largest and most comprehensive facilities for isolated, vulnerable, homeless and socially excluded adults in South Yorkshire. They offer a safe and supportive space where people can find understanding, practical assistance, a sense of belonging and the opportunity to begin to thrive. Clients are affected by homelessness, poverty, mental health needs, addiction, extreme isolation, learning disabilities and institutionalisation.

This project opens up access to the centre by creating a café and shop, as well as improving access by utilising the decking and stairs.

To open the Centre to the wider Sheffield Community will enable misconceptions and barriers to be addressed, but perhaps most significantly it will provide clients with real opportunities to provide a service and develop life and work skills.

The outputs will support reducing client vulnerability scores, increasing attendance from the community, increasing sales and services provided, and increase numbers of clients participating in activities.

In the application they said “We recognise the need to open our Centre (with a shop and cafe) to the wider Sheffield Community. This will enable misconceptions and barriers to be addressed but perhaps most significantly it will provide clients with real opportunities to provide a service and develop life and work skills”

### 1.12.3 **Hillsborough Arena – 1 container**

The container project will be used to create a classroom space, an additional meeting room, a craft space and a small storage area.

These additional facilities will support provision of activities for people with learning disabilities through an existing partnership with the “Sapphire Project Organisation”. It will also provide a space for health professionals and support workers to offer accessible health services tailored to the needs of individuals with learning disabilities.

The space will be used for young individuals transitioning into adulthood. Workshops on independent living, vocational training and educational opportunities can equip them with the tools they need to navigate the world confidently.

In addition to this, the container will be used as a meeting space for two other community groups which will provide a room hire income stream, to support the sustainability of the space.

Outputs will include delivering sessions in enhanced skills in key subjects-particularly reading, enhanced social interaction and communication skills, Implement financial capability sessions and develop self-advocacy skills

In their submission Hillsborough Arena noted that “The availability of a dedicated and well-equipped space will significantly enhance the quality of life for individuals with learning disabilities within our community. The shipping container will provide a secure and inclusive environment where they can learn, develop essential life skills, and build social connections.”

#### **1.12.4 Sheffield Wednesday Community Programme – 2 containers**

SWFCCP is a rapidly expanding, high community impact charity which currently enjoys successful partnerships with the Sheffield City Council, South Yorkshire Constabulary, Premier League Charitable Fund, English Football League, NHS. SWFCCP also works in partnership with over 50 local Schools and FE (post 16) providers

The facility will be managed to provide an inclusive approach to local residents utilising the space, as well as invited local groups of people to the site for sports provisions. The containers will be used to focus on the youth engagement programmes across Alternative Provision and Youth Mentoring programmes. The space would be used for one-to-one appointments, mentoring and wider workshops.

The key beneficiaries will be:

Young people living in deprivation, who are at-risk of exclusion from school across the city, in partnership with our local Primary and Secondary Schools.

Local young people within walking distance of the Jubilee, including Parson Cross, Winn Gardens, Hillsborough and Shiregreen.

Young people at-risk of criminal exploitation, referred into 1:1 mentoring by Sheffield Youth Justice, CAHMS, Social Care, PRU's and other services.

In their expression of interest they say “SWFCCP currently deliver projects that reach across Sheffield, providing activities in all local area committees. Through our currently and previous projects, we engage with culturally and ethnically diverse young people, older people, as well as more specific programmes that work with Pakistani women, refugees, asylum seekers, looked after children, Roma women, armed forces veterans, people with health conditions and many people living within deprivation. “The Barn” will become a central base for our various projects and will be open and accessible, providing services to our beneficiaries.”

#### **1.12.5 Hallamshire and Redmires football club – 2 containers**

The club has 300 players across 22 teams of both boys and girls. In 2022 they were awarded Sheffield & Hallamshire Football Association's Grassroots Club of the Year, in large part due to efforts to expand girls' football in Sheffield and to encourage more women to volunteer in football.

The containers provide a new and much-needed storage/changing facility for use by the club and all its teams at its home ground on Redmires Fields. They want all players to have access to safe, secure and dignified sanitary provision, including private changing areas and hygienic toilets. At a time when momentum behind women's football is at an all-time high, they are seeking to remove barriers into the game. The current facility of one Portaloo is seen as a significant barrier that would deter young girls from joining the club.

The ability to generate sufficient revenue to maintain their position as a financially healthy organisation would be greatly improved if there were more suitable facilities to hire or make and sell hot drinks and healthy snacks, providing income generation and greater economic sustainability.

The local community and its young people will benefit from this project. Players and their families come from across the city but have close relationships with communities around Hallam, Lydgate, Wisewood and Nether Green primary schools as well as Tapton, King Edward VII and High Storrs.

In the application they said "Our club is home to over 300 young Sheffielders, who love their football, form great friendships and are provided with a real insight into their own potential and ability to make an impact on the world. We believe we provide a positive, nurturing and inspiring opportunity – but unfortunately we feel limited by the physical infrastructure and facilities the club has at its disposal. The container clubhouse would be truly transformative for our club."

#### 1.12.6 **Wisewood Juniors Football Club – 1 Container**

The club offers football sessions for children 4-18 years old, for both boys and girls.

The containers would be used to improve the facilities at the club's ground at the former British Telecom pitches at Black Lane. There's currently only 1 male and 1 female toilet for a club with over 280 members. The club has a five year expansion plan to increase to 330 members, so the new toilet facilities are essential to supporting this expansion.

As well as club members, Wisewood & Loxley Juniors Schools access the facilities for 'Sports Day' and other sporting activities. The club have also been approached by a local women's running group 'Sheffield Stride-out' who would also like to use our facilities, so new toilets will also support their expansion.

Receiving a container for this project means club subscriptions don't need to be increased to fund new facilities. The North LAC has 11,000 families from deprived backgrounds, so maintain subscription levels during a cost of living crisis is important to maintaining the club's membership.

In their submission Wisewood noted “As a community club Wisewood's primary aim is to support young people's well-being and offer them exercise. We work also with children from disadvantaged areas.....A huge amount of effort from volunteers goes into sustaining Wisewood Junior Football Club. It's grounds are sitting in the heart of Wisewood community and are an asset now and we want them to be a community asset for the future.”

## **2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE ?**

2.1 The Our Sheffield 22/23 delivery plan sets out six ambitions

- Fair, inclusive and empowered communities
- Strong and Connected Neighbourhoods which people are happy to call home
- Tackling inequalities and supporting people through the cost of living crisis
- Happy young people who have the start the need for the future they want
- Healthy lives and well being for all
- Clean economic growth

2.2 In applying for a container, each organisation has had to set out how their project would achieve one or more of the ambitions.

## **3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?**

3.1 The desire to re-use the containers for community organisations was debated and agreed by the Strategy and Resources committee.

3.2 The criteria used for assessing the expression of interest forms was agreed by the Councillor representatives of the assessment panel.

3.3 The expression of interest process launched on 31 July 2023 and closed on Sunday 10 September. The process was publicised through a dedicated webpage on the council's website, media releases, social media and directly to community groups through the council's network of partnerships with community organisations and Local Area Committees.

3.4 Discussions on the re-use of the containers have taken place with the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) who are the public body that administered the Get Building Fund grant.

## **4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION**

### **4.1 Equality Implications**

The proposal is supportive of the Council's duties under the Equality Act 2010 and organisational equality policy. The range of community activities proposed to be supported is assessed as likely to have

positive impacts for several groups of people and interests, including in relation to:

Age, Disability, Health, Poverty, Sex, Race, Social Cohesion and the Voluntary, Community and Faith sector.

#### 4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

4.2.1 The community organisations receiving the containers do so in the knowledge that they are responsible for all project costs, and for the future upkeep and maintenance, and end of life decommissioning of the containers. There is therefore no planned ongoing revenue implications for the Council.

#### 4.3 Legal Implications

4.3.1 This project is funded through Get Building Fund grant from SYMCA, which includes a 100% claw back provision. However, for the reasons set out in 4.3.2 below and as the overall Project Outputs, Project Outcomes, Key Milestones or Delivery Milestones are not specific/exclusive to this Concession Agreement the risk of the clawback provisions applying is likely to be low.

4.3.2 The decommissioning of the containers took place as expected within this Concession Agreement and the proposal to place the Containers in storage (with the intention so use them following a exercise on the most feasible option) does not appear to materially impact on the overall Project Outputs, Project Outcomes, Key Milestones or Delivery Milestones (none of which appear to be specific to these containers being moved from the temporary site). If following the completion of the re-use options report, the Council decides not to proceed with moving the containers to the alternate site, as may have been anticipated from the outset of the Get Building Grant fund, greater consideration will be required to assess the impact of this on the outputs and deliverables and whether a project change needs to be reported to SYMCA and their approval sought.

#### 4.4 Climate Implications

4.4.1 An initial Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) has been completed and is attached at Appendix F. Any carbon impact is negligible.

#### 4.4 Other Implications

4.4.1 None

### 5. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**



- 5.1 There were five expressions of interest that weren't selected. The overall scoring for the six preferred projects was higher. Selecting the lower scoring projects would have resulted in an unfair process and a perception the Council weren't being transparent in their decision making.
- 5.2 If the preferred uses are not deemed suitable by the committee, the council could choose to re-run the expression of interest process with a different set of criteria, however it is unknown whether this would generate any different outcomes to the type of projects which have come forward already, as the distribution of the opportunities was extensively communicated.

## **6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 An assessment panel made up of professional officers with experience in dealing with community and construction projects, as well as Councillors from the Communities, Parks and Leisure Policy Committee, came to the conclusion that the six preferred projects most closely met the desired outcomes defined by the published criteria. The six projects chosen will help support the community organisations develop and grow their offers for the local community. All the preferred projects will be deliverable construction projects that can be funded by the organisations bidding for them. Overall, the risk of the container projects not being successful was low.

Appendix A – Expression of Interest form

See attached.

Appendix B – Guidance documentation

See attached



Appendix D - Plan identifying each container

Each container is identified on the plan with a letter A – H.  
Please reference the relevant letter (s) on your expression of interest form to show any you may be interested in

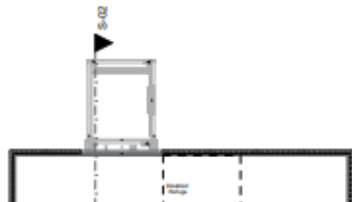
**A**

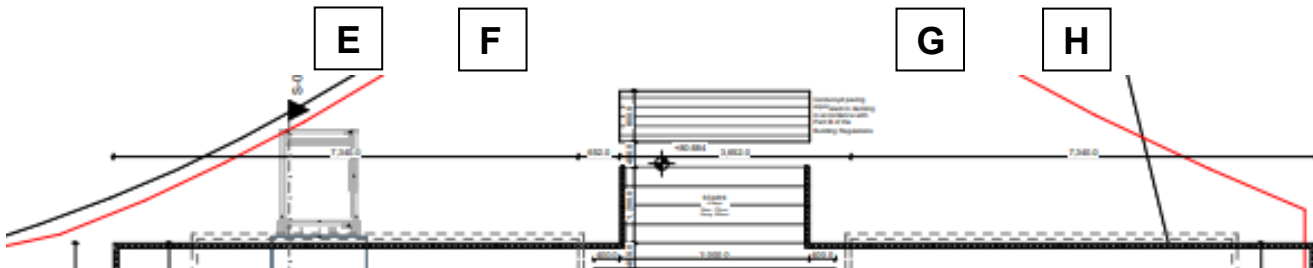
**D**

**C**

**B**

▼ E-02





## Appendix E- Scoring Sheet template

Scores for each section will be given out of 5, as follows:

Score	Description of Response
1	<p>Unacceptable Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No response, or</li> <li>• Not in alignment with the aims set out in the guidance</li> <li>• Response not relevant or question not answered</li> </ul> <p>Completely unsatisfactory suggesting the applicant would have serious difficulties delivering the project, or has provided no relevant information at all.</p>
2	<p>Poor Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response is partially in alignment with the aims of the council's objectives</li> <li>• The response has deficiencies, e.g. supporting evidence is minimal, relies on assertion</li> </ul> <p>Indicates that the applicant would meet only some of the proposals some of the time. Considerable work would be needed with the applicant to expand on information provided in order for the information to indicate that standards are likely to be met.</p>
3	<p>Acceptable Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response is in alignment with the aims of the Council's objectives</li> <li>• Some shortfalls but any concerns are of a minor nature</li> <li>• Further evidence may be required but confident that the applicant will be able to deliver the proposal. Further work may be needed to ensure that delivery will be consistent</li> </ul>
4	<p>Good Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response is in alignment with the aims of the Council's objectives</li> <li>• Good supporting evidence which is relevant, credible and supports claims</li> </ul> <p>Indicates that the applicant has fully understood the aims of the container re-use project and can apply and deliver all the elements of their proposal. A small amount of work may be required in non-key areas to minimise any risk of delivery failure</p>
5	<p>Excellent Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response is in alignment with the aims of the Council's objectives</li> <li>• Offers relevant detailed evidence to support their claims</li> <li>• Demonstrates a wholly comprehensive understanding of the aims of the project</li> </ul> <p>Indicates that the proposed approach will result in the project aims being met and exceeded.</p>

<b>Community Organisation</b>	
<b>Proposed use</b>	
<b>Containers requested</b>	
<b>Summary of outputs</b>	

<b>1. Alignment of Project Aims</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How strongly does the proposal align with the Council's objectives ?</li> <li>- What will the impact be (demographics / communities)?</li> <li>- How many people will be impacted?</li> <li>- Is the project a part of a longer term business plan for the area that will help meet the council objectives?</li> </ul> <p>(/5)</p>	<p>Mark out of 5</p>
<p>Comments:</p>	

<b>2. Clarity of the proposal</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the description of the project sufficiently clear?</li> <li>- How easy it is for us to understand what is being proposed and how it will be delivered?</li> <li>- Are there any gaps that require follow up evidence or clarifications</li> </ul> <p>(/5)</p>	
<p>Comments:</p>	



<b>3. Is it addressing a real problem?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does the proposal provide clear rationale or evidence of the specific need or opportunity it is aimed at addressing?</li> <li>- Does the projects duplicate existing provision in the community or another project that has already been initiated?</li> </ul> <p>(/5)</p>	
Comments:	

<b>4. Strength of Project Management / Team</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does the project appear to be deliverable?</li> <li>- Has the applicant investigated any relevant permissions or licenses?</li> <li>- Are there any concerns about Health &amp; Safety in this project?</li> <li>- How convincing are the timescales?</li> <li>- Does the applicant demonstrate capacity and capability to deliver?</li> <li>- Is budget realistic, over/underestimated?</li> <li>- Does the applicant have relevant experience? (/5)</li> </ul>	
Comments:	

<b>5. Does it represent value for money</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are the outputs clear? Will it have impact?</li> <li>- Is there any match funding, is this confirmed?</li> <li>- Is there a clear sustainable business case to ensure longevity to the project?</li> <li>- Are there tangible community benefit &amp; outputs</li> <li>- Is there clarity on the requirement for the containers (short term / long term / ownership)</li> </ul> <p>(/5)</p>	
Comments:	

<b>Overall assessment</b>
---------------------------

What is your level of confidence in this proposal? What are your main concerns? What are its key strengths?	Overarching Score /25
Comments for feedback:	

# Appendix F

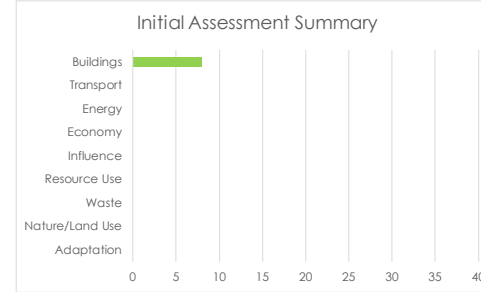
## Climate Change Impact Assessment Summary

<b>Project/Proposal Name</b>	Re-use of Steel Containers	<b>Portfolio</b>	Operational Services
<b>Committee</b>	Strategy and Resources	<b>Lead Member</b>	Cllr Tom Hunt
<b>Strategic Priority</b>	Fair, Inclusive and Empowered Communities	<b>Lead Officer</b>	Ajman Ali
<b>Date CIA Completed</b>	06/11/2023	<b>CIA Author</b>	Ben Brailsford
		<b>Sign Off/Date</b>	06/11/2023

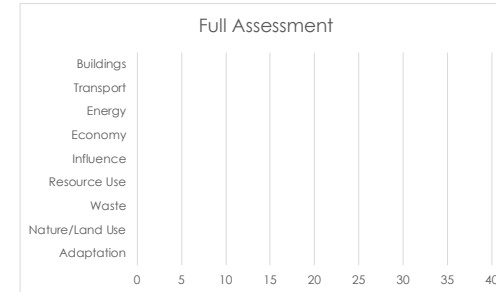
<b>Project Description and CIA Assessment Summary</b>	<p>Proposal is to re-use the 8 steel containers from the fargate container park project for community groups to benefit from. Six organisations have expressed an interest for the 8 containers. The 8 containers will be used to provide toilet, storage and meeting / catering facilities. In some cases creating new infrastructure, in other replacing worn infrastructure.</p> <p>There is a benefit from re-using the containers, as it saves carbon being release from disposal of the containers if they weren't utilised, however this will be negligible, so over all the impact is expect to be neutral.</p>
---	---

<b>Rapid Assessment</b>	Does the project or proposal have an impact in the following areas? Select all those that apply. Only complete the sections you have selected here in the assessment.		
<b>Buildings and Infrastructure</b>	Yes	<b>Influence</b>	
<b>Transport</b>		<b>Resource Use</b>	
<b>Energy</b>		<b>Waste</b>	
<b>Economy</b>		<b>Nature/Land Use</b>	
		<b>Adaptation</b>	

### Initial Assessment Summary



### Full Assessment Summary



<b>&gt;=27</b>	The project will increase the amount of CO2e released compared to before.
<b>21-26</b>	The project will maintain similar levels of CO2e emissions compared to before.
<b>12-20</b>	The project will achieve a moderate decrease in CO2e emissions compared to before.
<b>3-11</b>	The project will achieve a significant decrease in CO2e emissions compared to before.
<b>0-2</b>	The project can be considered to achieve net zero CO2e emissions.

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# Expression of interest

## *Application Form*



## ***Key information:***

- All applications must be submitted by email to [citycentre.management@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:citycentre.management@sheffield.gov.uk) by **10 September 2023**.
- Please read the application fully so you know what information is needed.
- Please read the **guidance notes** and supporting information. Guidance notes and instructions for specific sections are written in italics.
- Please work within the maximum word count where given, e.g. (100 words).
- **Contact the team** if you have any questions - email [citycentre.management@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:citycentre.management@sheffield.gov.uk) or call **0114 273 6895**. Support and guidance is available to help you.

## ***Eligibility checklist***

Before your application can be scored we need to know that you meet our eligibility criteria.

Please tick to confirm the following are true (supporting information on these points should be included in the relevant section of your application):

1. You have the necessary in principle approval from the landowner to locate the container(s) on your nominated site

2. Your project is aimed at benefiting local communities in your target area or sector

3. You can name the Lead Organisation that will receive and manage the containers

## ***Pre-submission checklist***

**Before you submit your application make sure you have:**

1. Attached your budget (using the template available)
2. Ticked to confirm you have read and understand the ways of working (section 6)
3. Ticked to confirm that you have read the Council's Privacy Notice and understand how we will use, store and share your data (section 7)
4. Attached any supporting information (such as images, details in section 8)

# 1. Applicant Details

## **Name of Lead Organisation**

This is the organisation that will be in contract with the Council and be responsible for the containers.

## **Address including postcode**

## **Contact name and job title**

The named person should have authority to submit the application on behalf of the Lead Organisation and any partners represented on the project. This person should be contactable throughout the application and contracting process.

## **Direct phone number**

## **Email address**

## **Legal status of lead organisation and year established**

The named person should have authority to submit the application on behalf of the Lead Organisation and any partners

## **Registration numbers of lead organisation** (if applicable)

Charity

Companies House No.

## **Primary organisational aims/purpose**

Tell us in a few words what your organisation does – its core mission/purpose.

## 2. Project Details

Detailed description (400 words)

***Be as specific as possible to help us understand your ideas.***

- What your project will deliver, achieve, provide or supply
- How the project will be achieved
- Who will do the work

***Project start date***

***Project end date***

(No sooner than November 23 but no later than (if relevant)  
April 2024)



***Project Team tell us:***

- Who will be overseeing/delivering this project
- Who is in your core team working on this application
- If made up of a collective, rather than an individual organisation, please list organisation each one works for.
- If they will have any specific roles on your project (e.g. Treasurer, Coordinator, Project Manager etc) please include and describe these.

You do not need to give a full list of all employees in the Lead Organisation. We are interested here in who is working on the application and will be the core team for the project you are proposing.

### 3. Project Funding and Budget

The Council will not be providing any financial support to those who are successful in their application. The organisation applying for use of the containers will need to have the funds to undertake all required work to make their project a success. Details of where to find information on other bodies who may support community organisations with funding can be found at [www.sheffield.gov.uk/your-city-council/grants](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/your-city-council/grants). Please let us know how your project will be funded and whether any of the funding is still to be secured.

#### Total project cost

Overall cost of the project including all other sources of funding and income

#### How will the project be funded?

Please list all funding sources that make up the total project cost.

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
		<b>Total</b>

Please select whether funding is secured (by which we mean this funding is certain and confirmed and will not be withdrawn) or unsecured (wherever you are yet to apply to the funding source, awaiting a decision from a funder, or any other reason for which this funding could be in doubt).

#### Funding Source Amount Secured?

**TOTAL Should match to total project cost figure above**

You must submit a project budget alongside this application form, using the template provided. Base this on known (rather than estimated) costs wherever possible. Please tick to confirm that you have attached your full project budget spreadsheet to the application/email.

## 4. Outputs and Impacts

### *How will your project meet our objectives?*

(Tick all that apply – just the ones that you feel are relevant to your project, you do not need to meet them all.)

- Fair, inclusive and empowered communities:** Sheffielders contribute to and shape the issues that matter to them in their communities and their city
- Strong and connected neighbourhoods which people are happy to call home:** Sheffielders live in clean, vibrant and caring communities where people feel safe and are treated with respect. More people have access to good homes, reliable transport, and the key local amenities they need to live their day-to-day lives
- Tackling inequalities and supporting people through the cost-of-living crisis:** Sheffielders live in a city where inequality and discrimination are actively challenged, respect and diversity are valued and we strive to make our economy and our city work better for everyone
- Healthy lives and wellbeing for all:** Sheffielders all have the opportunity to lead long, healthy, active and happy lives and can connect to the right health and wellbeing support at the right time
- Clean economic growth:** Sheffield seizes on the opportunity for clean, sustainable and inclusive growth and supports an innovative and creative city economy with thriving businesses and good jobs
- Happy young people who have the start they need for the future they want:** young Sheffielders are happy, safe and have the opportunities they need to be fulfilled and reach their potential in a changing world

### *Describe how your project meets the objectives you ticked above* (300 words)

Describe how the project aligns to the objectives you think are relevant. The project does not need to align to all of the objectives – one or two is fine, just focus on the ones you feel best fit with your project. Be as specific as possible.

**Who will this project benefit?** (100 words)

Who will benefit directly from your project: any communities, sector(s), suppliers, businesses, sole-traders, customers/buyers, employees etc?



**Specific**



**Measurable**



**Achievable**



**Relevant**



**Timescale**

**What will your project achieve?**

Think about what you intend to deliver through this project – how can you describe and count what this will achieve? Try and follow the ‘SMART’ principles when adding your project outputs. Can you say that your output is: specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and can be delivered within this fund’s timescale?

**Output/Indicator**

**Quantity**

**Additional information**

Tell us how this output might be measured evidenced – make sure it is something you can count

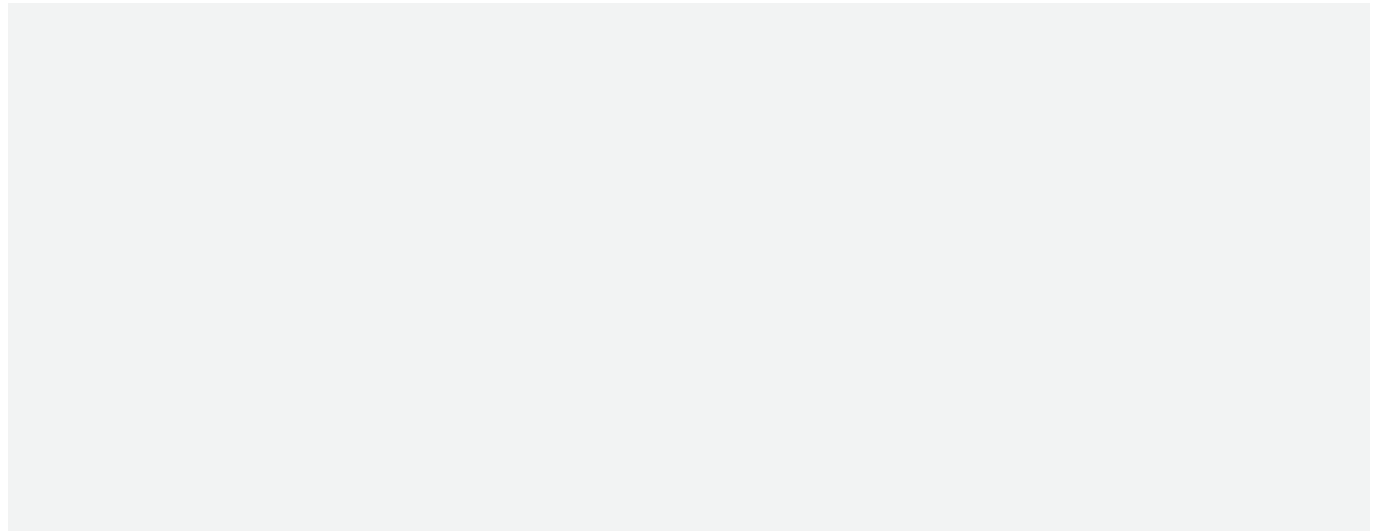
Output/Indicator	Quantity	Additional information

## **Sustainability** (300 words)

Think about the impact of your project on the climate and the ways in which you can minimise its impact.

For example, things like:

- Materials used and how these can be as sustainable as possible
- Whether you can include public discussions and activities around this issue as part of your project
- What you will ask of suppliers (e.g. if you are running events, can you request no single use plastics are used?)

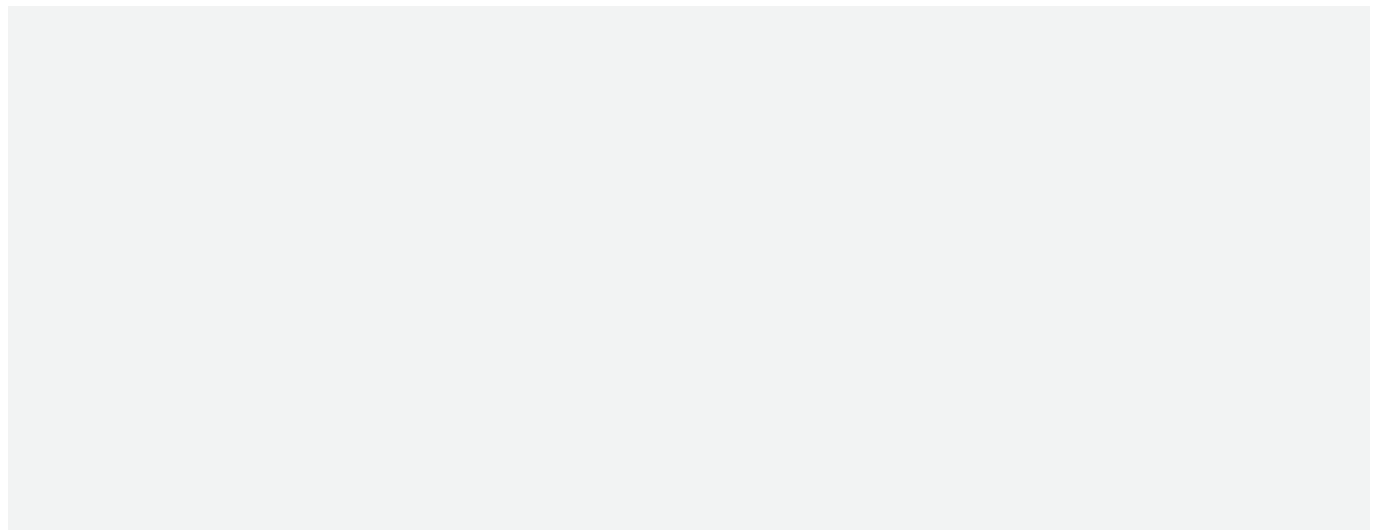


## **Inclusion** (300 words)

It is really important that your project reflects the diversity of your community and that you work in an inclusive way, so that nobody feels left out or that they did not have an opportunity to feed in views or participate if they wanted to.

Consider here how you will engage with different parts of your community and how they might need different support or mechanisms to encourage their involvement.

Consider who is on your steering group/management committee/on your project team. How far does it reflect your community and local business owners? Where it doesn't how might you change that?

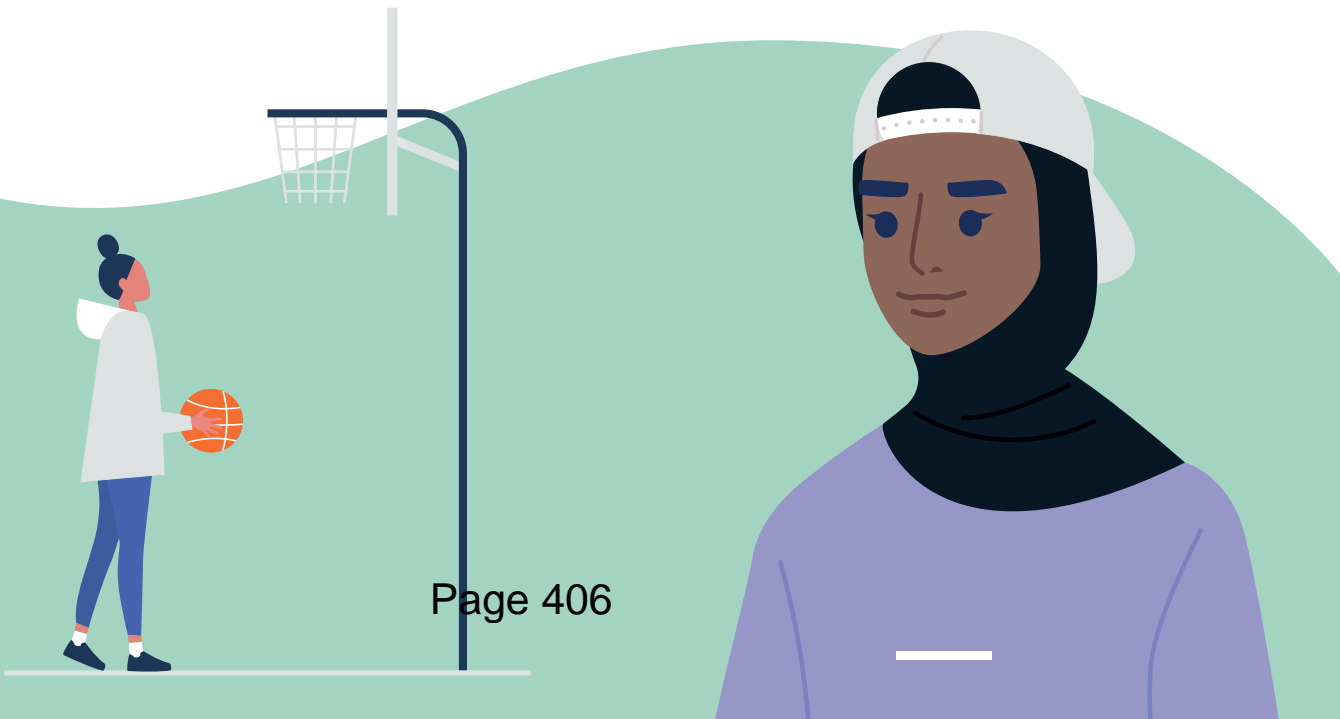


**What are the key milestones you will aim to meet?**

These will be the dates you are planning for the main activities to take place; key dates we need to be aware of and working towards. This is a starting point and we expect things might shift and change. Consider including things like:

- Dates your management team/project group might meet
- When events might take place
- When you undertake promotion and communications activities
- When you will achieve your outputs

<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Month</b>



# 5. Project Management

## What are the key risks you foresee?

You should consider potential risks with your project: cost, delivery, management of relationships, communications, contracting and reputation. Describe how you will look out for these and stop them from throwing your project off course if they do happen.

### Risk description

### Likelihood

How you will mitigate for and manage this risk?





## **6. Ways of Working and our Expectations**

Please tick to confirm that you have read the following statement about how we hope to work with you if you are successful in your application.

As well as signing a contract with the Council to deliver your project, you're also entering a partnership with us where we'll support your aims and work with you to help make them happen.

Setting some shared ways of working is important to help this partnership run smoothly.

As a public body the Council abides by the 7 Principles of Public Life: Selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership. In receiving funding from the Council you should be aware of these principles and there are some specific ways of working that you should respect throughout your project:

1. You should not bring the Council into disrepute or damage the reputation of the Council while delivering your project.
2. The Council will retain the right to refuse to include or move forward with any element of your project that is deemed not to be in the best interests of the Council or the local area to progress.
3. Any suppliers or contractors appointed to carry out work as part of your project should be appointed on the basis of merit and value for money. You should seek more than one quote for works, and contracts should not be awarded to persons known to the project unless they can be proven to be the best value and have gone through a fair process.
4. Although the Council will have approved your project, if any part of it requires another type of formal approval (e.g. a license or similar) then that is still needed. It is the responsibility of the organisation, with support from the Council, to identify any processes and permissions that you need to follow.
5. We do not need to approve every social media post or newsletter in advance but the Council will see your main/leading communications assets (print and digital) before they are published.
6. When promoting or discussing the project on social media, all members of the project team should make sure everything they say is professional, respectful, impersonal and positive. Projects will be required to delete or remove any social media or other communications which do not meet this standard.
7. Where projects are taking photos or video to evidence and celebrate the activity delivered by their project they will abide by GDPR legislation and obtain consent from anyone identifiable/featured in images. Ideally this will include consent to for these to be shared with and used by the Council.
8. Projects should actively try to be as inclusive as possible, ensuring that all parts of the business and wider community feel welcome and able to participate in and enjoy the project.



## **7. Your Privacy and what we do with this Information**

Please tick to confirm that you have read the following statement and the Council's privacy notice, that sets out how we store and use your information.

The Council's Privacy Notice explains how we work within legislation to manage and use your information. It also tells you how you can access the information held about you.

To score applications and manage communications with you we will share the information you provide in your application form with:

- relevant Council employees or consultants, and
- with our Steering Group.

We will not use this information for any other purpose or share your data with anyone not connected to the management and delivery of the Economic Recovery Fund, unless with your direct written permission.

If you have any questions about how we will store, use and share your information, please ask.

## **8. Additional Information (NOT SCORED)** (100 words)

### **List of any additional information or attachments**

Is there any other information you think it is important for the Steering Group to know that you have not been able to include elsewhere in the application?

You may wish to include a small number of images to help us identify key locations you refer to in your application. Please append these to the application form (below), send via WeTransfer/ Dropbox link/compressed file (or similar) or attach in your email when you submit your application. Where you attached additional documents/files, please list these below.

Please note that the information you provide here should be illustrative only and will not be scored.

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# Application Guidance

*How to Get Started*



**This guide is for anyone interested in applying to use the eight Steel Containers that were part of the temporary Fargate Container Park development. It will help you understand the details of the containers and the application process. You may apply for just one, or multiple containers up to the eight available.**

***Points to consider if you're thinking of applying:***

- **Start early.**  
You'll need plenty of time to plan your project and put together a great proposal.
- **Be inspired by your community.**  
Great projects make the most of what's special about their local area or business community and are rooted in what it needs.

***Things you will need to do:***

- Have a clear set of ideas
- Have a budget showing all the costs you expect within your project
- Have a 'lead organisation' that can enter into a contract with us and take on 'full responsibility/ownership of and liability for' the containers
- Be able to demonstrate support from your community

***How we can support you:***

- Give you a point of contact to work with
- Offer guidance and advice
- Put you in touch with your Local Area Committee Team

Once you've read this short guide through and want to know more, call us on **0114 273 6895**, or email [citycentre.management@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:citycentre.management@sheffield.gov.uk)

***We can support you through the application process.***



## What is the opportunity and how does the application process work?

### *Who can apply?*

An application can be submitted by a group that is representing the interests of a community or an individual organisation. The group can include local businesses, community organisations, Councillors or Council employees, but the proposed project must be for the benefit of the local community.

**Applications will be expected to demonstrate the following:**



Your project is aimed at benefiting the local community in your target area or sector



You can name the lead organisation that will receive and manage the funding



## What can projects deliver?

Projects to utilise the containers can deliver any mix of things that support Sheffield City Council's strategic goals. These are:

- **Fair, inclusive and empowered communities:** Sheffielders contribute to and shape the issues that matter to them in their communities and their city
- **Strong and connected neighbourhoods which people are happy to call home:** Sheffielders live in clean, vibrant and caring communities where people feel safe and are treated with respect. More people have access to good homes, reliable transport, and the key local amenities they need to live their day-to-day lives
- **Tackling inequalities and supporting people through the cost-of-living crisis:** Sheffielders live in a city where inequality and discrimination are actively challenged, respect and diversity are valued and we strive to make our economy and our city work better for everyone
- **Healthy lives and wellbeing for all:** Sheffielders all have the opportunity to lead long, healthy, active and happy lives and can connect to the right health and wellbeing support at the right time
- **Clean economic growth:** Sheffield seizes on the opportunity for clean, sustainable and inclusive growth and supports an innovative and creative city economy with thriving businesses and good jobs
- **Happy young people who have the start they need for the future they want:** young Sheffielders are happy, safe and have the opportunities they need to be fulfilled and reach their potential in a changing world

This could mean creating classrooms, changing areas for sport, secure storage or events providing catering facilities – or anything else you come up with. It's important to make sure everything you want to deliver is:

- realistic
- deliverable within one year (projects shouldn't need to start before November 2023 but must be able to receive the containers by April 2024)
- well costed
- inspired by your area and community

## What do the containers encompass?

***There are 2 x 30 foot long containers and 6 x 40 foot long containers.***

The containers are made of steel. All the containers have been modified in some way and will contain doors and windows apertures. Some containers will have inlets for power and water. Some have fittings and plumbing for toilets and hand sinks.

There are 3 x set of green wall fittings and plumbing.

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There is a set of steel steps and decking.

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Detailed plans can be found [here](#).

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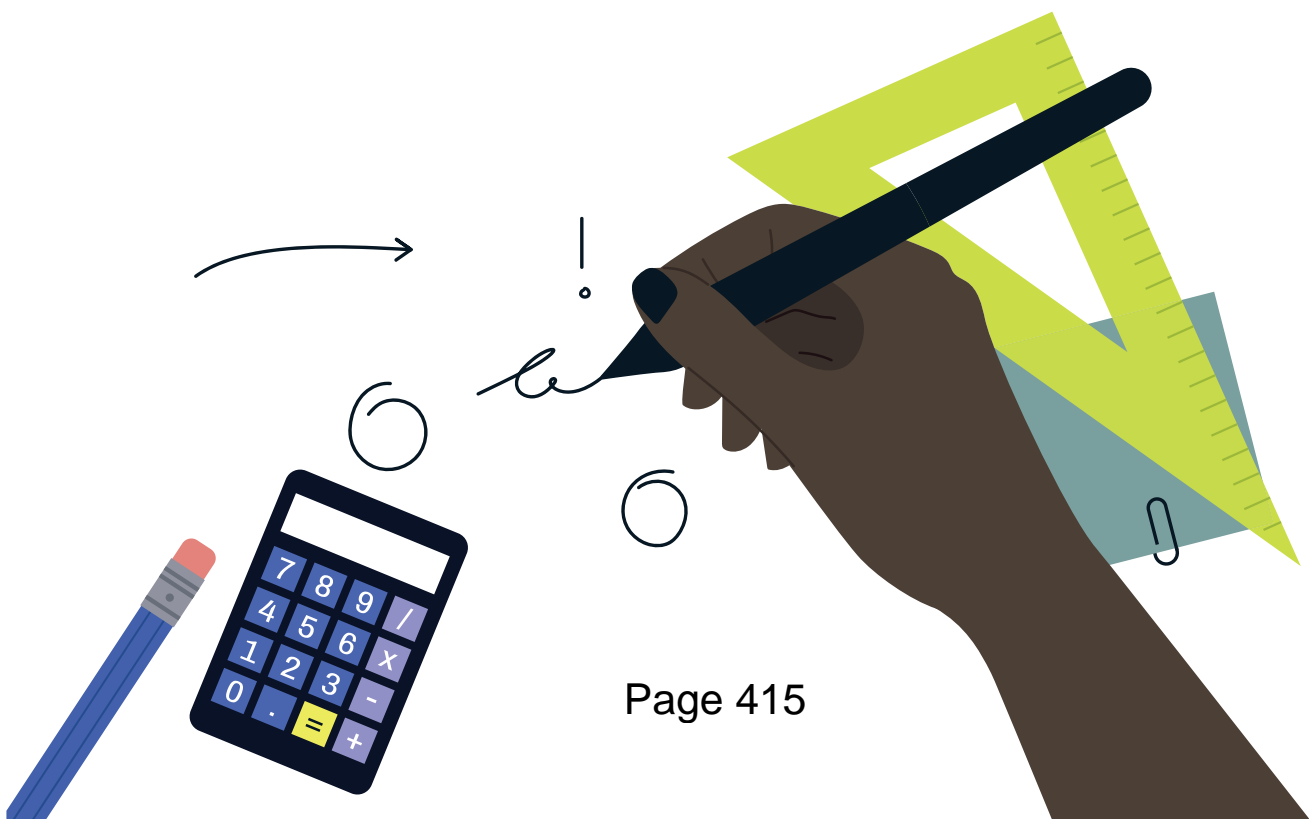
Organisations need to be able to fund the collection and transportation of the containers to their site.

Organisations will need to arrange all relevant permissions to allow the containers to be used for their project, this could include, but not be limited to:

- [Planning permission](#)
- [Licensing](#)
- Insurance and public liability cover
- Building control approval
- Connection to utilities
- Relevant fire assessments for construction and use of containers.

Organisations can apply to bid for all units or fewer depending on their needs.

This process is open to community organisations and not for profit companies to bid. This process is not open to commercial companies to purchase the containers. This does not prevent community organisations from working in partnership with businesses to ensure the project is successful and sustainable.



## How will the Council decide which projects are approved?

Applications that pass the eligibility checklist above will be scored by a Steering Group. This group will be made up of:

- senior Councillors from the three political parties represented on the Council
- senior Council employees

Applications will be scored out of 5 against set criteria. The pass mark for all criteria is 3 and applications will need to meet a minimum threshold of 15 points to progress. Scoring is not subject to appeal.

## How can the Council support your group with their application?

You will need to actively help by explaining what the issues are in your area and the things you want to focus on.

You will be part of discussions with the wider community because it is you and the local project team that will take the project forward if it is approved.

## How can the Council support your project?

For successful applicants who go on to deliver their projects we will:

- help guide projects by: solving problems, connecting you with other parts of the Council and helping you through any Council processes.
- hold an initial welcome session to talk you through the process and how we expect to work together with you on the project.
- we would also be happy to discuss any wider training or support that could help your area and think about how we can help you meet these needs.

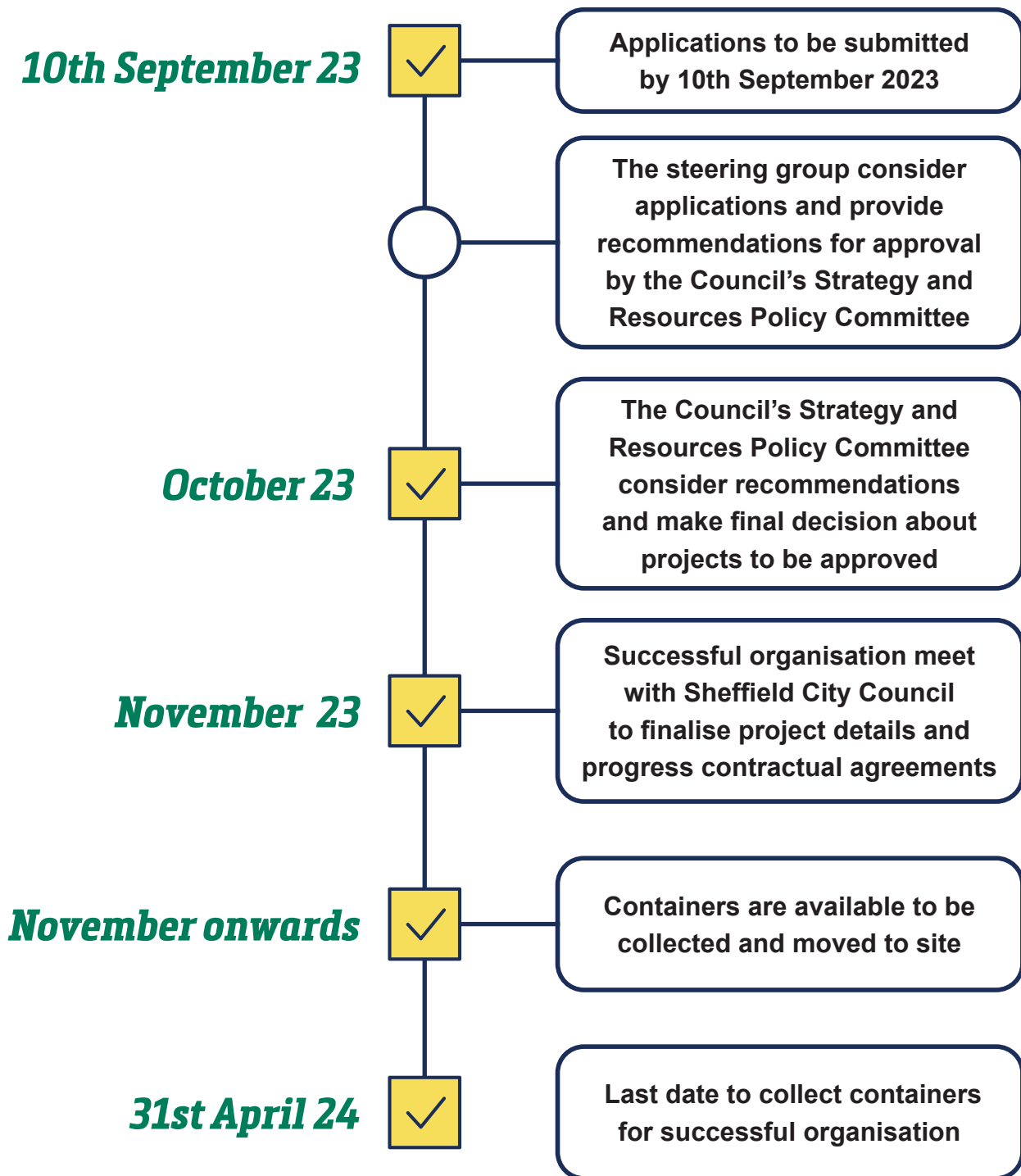
### **What does it mean to be a Lead Organisation?**

The Lead Organisation will enter into a contract with the Council to deliver the project as set out in the application form.

Lead Organisations should be independent organisations, for example from the voluntary or community sector. We will not contract with new organisations that have no track record of delivery. The Lead Organisation should attend all meetings and be responsible for submitting any relevant paperwork.



# Application Timeline



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## Report to Policy Committee

**Author/Lead Officer of Report:** Nik Hamilton,  
Investment Team Manager

**Tel:** 07554 555 749

**Report of:** Executive Director - City Futures  
**Report to:** Strategy & Resources Committee  
**Date of Decision:** 20 November 2023  
**Subject:** Establishing a new Partner City Policy

Type of Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) undertaken	Initial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Full <input type="checkbox"/>
Insert EIA reference number and attach EIA	<b>2408</b>	
Has appropriate consultation/engagement taken place?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-		
<p><i>“The (<b>report/appendix</b>) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (<b>insert relevant paragraph number</b>) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”</i></p>		

### Purpose of Report:

Sheffield City Council does not currently have any formal Policy in place in respect of responding to approaches to establish new international relationships through such mechanisms as Twinning (sometimes referred to as Sister City agreements), through to entering into such things as Friendship or Collaborative agreements.

The Council regularly receives approaches to forge new relationships, whether this is to enter into specific agreements or simply to host a visiting delegation.

There is a need for clear objectives and decision-making criteria for entering into any Twinning / Sister City agreements or developing new less formal international links; identifying outputs and outcomes and the potential to link with key partners to help achieve wider benefits for the city and its residents.

With limited time and resources, deciding on what opportunities to pursue, requires transparent and consistent decision-making criteria. Such criteria should provide quantifiable value to the City and its residents, and be kept under review. Whilst

we may choose to maintain existing relationships, new opportunities for city partnership working will inevitably arise.

Given Sheffield's broad range of existing international links, with a variety of terminology in place, the purpose of this report is to propose the creation of a clear **Partner City Policy**, so called to ensure consideration of each of these different types of arrangements, and to provide a framework for:

a). Assessing new approaches, and b). Reviewing the effectiveness of existing international relationships.

The Council has scarce resources, which need to be focussed on improving service delivery and value for money to residents. International partnering arrangements may also create the potential for reputational risks as well as benefits for the Council and the city. For this reason, there must be clear and objective criteria for entering into and maintaining such arrangements. Criteria will establish whether a proposed arrangement will benefit and contribute to the life of the city and its residents.

Proposals for a draft Partner City Policy are attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

**Recommendations:**

This Paper is presented to Strategy and Resources Committee for consideration, on the basis of establishing a new Partner City Policy being a policy matter, not otherwise allocated to a Committee.

Members are being asked:

- To consider the current proposals for a Partner City Policy, as have been set out within Appendix 1;
- To authorise the General Counsel and Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Executive Director – City Futures to finalise the policy based upon the proposals (as currently set out within Appendix 1) and any observations made by the Committee.

**Background Papers:**  
Proposed Partner City Policy (draft).

<b>Lead Officer to complete:-</b>		
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed.	Finance: Natalia Govorukhina
		Legal: Petra Der Man
		Equalities & Consultation: Bashir Khan
		Climate: N/A
	<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>	
2	<b>SLB member who approved submission:</b>	Kate Martin, Executive Director – City Futures
3	<b>Committee Chair consulted:</b>	Councillor Tom Hunt
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the SLB member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.	
	<b>Lead Officer Name:</b> Nik Hamilton	<b>Job Title:</b> Investment Team Manager
	<b>Date:</b> 20 November 2023	

## 1. PROPOSAL

- 1.1 There is no legal requirement for local authorities to establish relationships with other locations around the globe. Such arrangements may however bring mutual benefits to the Council, the city and its international partners.
- 1.2 Sheffield has established relationships with at least 14 international cities, through Twinning; Sister City; Trade & Collaboration or Friendship links. These relationships include six designated Twin Cities and two Sister Cities. A full list of our current 'partner cities' can be found in the proposals for a Partner City Policy document (see Appendix 1). Our oldest formal international relationship dates back to 1920, when Sheffield chose to 'adopt' the French town of Bapaume.
- 1.3 There are currently no processes or agreed protocols in place when considering establishing new international relationships. Each case is considered on its own individual merits – whilst this allows a good degree of flexibility and enables us to move swiftly, there is currently no formal assessment criteria nor is there any mechanism in place to ensure consistency in terms of how such applications are and will be considered.
- 1.4 This is currently unsatisfactory for the Council and is clearly problematic for any potential international applicants too as they would not know the criteria upon which such relationships with the Council are to be judged, as well as being unsatisfactory for the residents of the City.
- 1.5 Historically, there have been some occasions where links have been established on the basis of individual connections, political affiliation or in response to a particular incident, such as a natural disaster. Creating a clear set of criteria will provide transparency and add to the Council's due diligence procedures.
- 1.6 Clarity is needed to demonstrate any and all tangible opportunities that may come from existing and new international relations, whether they are civic; business; cultural or educational, together with an assessment as to whether these are realistically achievable. In addition, the expectations and perceived benefits to both parties need to be considered and capable of being measured.
- 1.7 Currently, we also find ourselves with historical links with cities, where the relationship has long since become 'dormant'. Establishing a new Partner City Policy would not only provide a framework to assess new applications, but could be part of the mechanism to be used to consider existing relationships and whether we might wish to reinvigorate or withdraw from them, going forward.
- 1.8 The proposed assessment criteria is detailed within the draft Policy

appended to this report. The criteria has been developed through a process of reviewing our existing relationships to understand the rationale behind establishing such linkages, together with informal benchmarking activity and discussions with other Core Cities, in order to establish how they respond to approaches received.

- 1.9 In establishing a Partner City Policy, it is proposed that this is a precursor to a wider **Sheffield International Strategy**, which alongside the proposed assessment criteria outlined, would also incorporate focused market international trade opportunities and seek to re-align specific international activities with City partner organisations. The Sheffield International Strategy, together with an estimation of resource requirements would be the subject of a further Committee report, in due course.

## **2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?**

- 2.1 A Partner City Policy would seek to align to the strategic priorities contained within current corporate plans. For the moment, this fits with the 'Our Sheffield' Delivery Plan 2022-23. As such, it fits with the series of key steps, including: clear strategic goals which show what we want to achieve for this city and an improvement journey that helps us to quickly respond to our challenges and grasp opportunities. Furthermore, 'Our Sheffield' specifically identified a need to improve how Sheffield City Council does business and the services it provides. These principles are inherent in the development of the proposed Partner City Policy.
- 2.2 Of particular note, under Goal 6 'Clean Economic Growth', we want Sheffield to "*punch its weight*" and raise the profile of the city nationally and internationally. A Partner City Policy should provide a mechanism to properly consider opportunities, balanced against any relevant risks with the potential to enhance and maintain Sheffield's profile, nationally and internationally.
- 2.3 In time, it is expected that a Partner City Policy, once finalised, would be reviewed to ensure that it is aligned to priorities that will be contained within the emerging Council Plan and Sheffield City Goals, which are both currently in development.
- 2.4 Having clear assessment criteria embedded within the Policy will provide a mechanism to consider how we might deliver tangible benefits to Sheffield's residents and communities, with the ability to evaluate and measure outcomes.
- 2.5 There is an opportunity to build upon existing connections via previous and existing projects and partnerships.
- 2.6 The existence of a clear Policy will provide clarity in respect of the decision-making process, whilst being cognisant of the limited human and financial resources available in respect of establishing new international relationships.

### **3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?**

- 3.1 The Council is not required to consult with members of the public on this issue. There is an acknowledgement that our current internal decision-making processes in the context of international relations are lacking and leaves the Council open to challenge. Hence, the decision to develop a Partner City Policy.
- 3.2 Members of the three main Political parties have all had an opportunity to be briefed and their views sought on the initial development of the assessment criteria to be used.

### **4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION**

#### **4.1 Equality Implications**

- 4.1.1 There are implications and risks organisationally and City-wide for Sheffield in continuing to operate in a more 'ad hoc' manner in respect of international relationships and partnership work. At present, there is no framework in place to consider the implications of particular alliances with identified cities and/or countries. The concern is that we could unwittingly be associating the City Council with questionable regimes that do not fit comfortably with our own organisation's aims, objectives and values. Without any agreed due diligence procedures in place, we could inadvertently be linked with locations that might have less than desirable Human Rights records, for example. A clear rationale for the Council to be able to say 'No' if an approach does not fit with our stated aims is needed.

#### **4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications**

- 4.2.1 The development of a Partner City Policy, itself, does not have any specific financial implications, other than the requirement for existing staffing resources to undertake the assessment of any new approaches. The costs associated with development of a Partner City Policy will be managed within existing City Futures revenue budgets.
- 4.2.2 It is proposed that a specific Sheffield International Strategy is developed, there is currently no budget identified to fund this activity and it is proposed that a separate report pertaining to the development of the Sheffield International Strategy is brought to Strategy and Resources Committee, for this to be considered. A business case will be developed to outline economic benefits, links to strategic goals, the costs and funding options.

#### **4.3 Legal Implications**

- 4.3.1 The Council, has the statutory power, to enter into new twinning and partnership arrangements, pursuant to s. 1 of the Localism Act 2011,



commonly known as the “general power of competence”. (The general power is provided subject to the restriction that its use is not prohibited by other legislation). When exercising such a power, the Council must have regard to the local council plan / strategy.

4.3.2 The form and content of formal Twinning / Sister City Agreements are not prescribed and are not legally binding. They may be amended, unilaterally reviewed and brought to an end by either party without penalties being imposed. The signing of a formal Twinning / Sister City Agreement merely facilitates the acknowledgment of and/or setting up of a long-term, trusting relationship.

4.3.3 The proposals for the draft Policy are being taken to the Strategy and Resources Committee, on the basis that the Council’s Constitution provides that included within the Corporate Responsibilities of the Strategy and Resources Committee is the “Responsibility... for any policy matter not otherwise allocated to a Committee...”.

4.3.4 The data protection legislative principles may apply to any relevant information shared pursuant to any agreement entered into in accordance with this Policy. (This is in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulations 2018). Accordingly, where appropriate, the City Council’s Data Protection Officer will be appraised of each Agreement.

4.3.5 Pursuant to the Equality Act 2010, [“the Act”] the Council must in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act,
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not,
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

4.3.6 There may be relevant equalities implications arising from each Twinning and Partnership arrangement.

#### 4.4 Climate Implications

4.4.1 In adopting a new Partner City Policy, there are no immediate climate implications envisaged. That said, should approaches be received to partner with new locations, it is suggested that consideration be given as to how best to effect a meaningful relationship with prospective partners utilising technologies such as Teams, as opposed to international travel being the default position.

4.4.2 As part of the assessment process to consider any new international partnerships, it is suggested that a Climate Impact Assessment be undertaken in respect of each proposal. Where travel is required, consideration should be given to minimising carbon emissions.

#### 4.5 Other Implications

- 4.5.1 None envisaged. The implementation of an agreed Partner City Policy does not have any implications in respect of property or public health, for example.

### **5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 5.1 The alternative option is to retain the status quo and not have any form of stated policy. For the reasons outlined elsewhere in this report, this is not considered to be an appropriate position to continue with, either for the Council, nor for any potential cities that may wish to consider entering into a formal relationship with the City.

### **6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 Implementation of a Partner City Policy, once approved, would seek to address a current gap within the Council's procedures, ensuring that there is a degree of rigour in our assessment of new approaches and that decisions are taken that are fully informed.
- 6.2 Intended outcomes are such that where Sheffield chooses to enter into new international partnerships, the new relationship will have been thoroughly considered in respect of such aspects as: existing synergies; the potential benefits to each party; resource requirements; reputational aspects and potential alignment to key stakeholder activities and strategies.

## APPENDIX 1

# Sheffield City Council – DRAFT Partner City Policy

## Introduction

Worldwide, significant impetus has been given to establishing formal international links between cities, especially following the Second World War, as a means of developing friendship and mutual understanding, together with the prospect of deriving economic benefit.

Sheffield has actively developed formal international relationships for over 70 years, through a range of mechanisms including Twinning / Sister City arrangements or Friendship Agreements. Some of these have been in place for many decades. Given changes in policy, combined with resource constraints, some of these relationships are less active than they were previously.

Note that the 'Sister Cities' terminology – as opposed to 'Twinning' - is typically used in the Americas and Asia, whereas 'Twinning' is the more accepted term in Europe, although in recent years, the 2 terms are often used interchangeably. In reality, there appears to be little distinction between the two in terms of the parameters of the relationship, rather this tends to be detailed in the specific documentation signed by the respective parties.

There are approximately 2,000 Twinning arrangements in Britain, c. 75% of which are with French and German authorities. There is no fixed definition or model of Twinning or Partnership arrangement. A Twinning link is customarily defined as an agreement involving co-operation between two communities in different countries, endorsed by both local authorities. The idea is to pair towns and cities in different countries with the focus being to foster human contacts. Twin towns often, but not always, have similar populations and characteristics.

The two twinned communities typically organise projects and activities around a range of issues and develop an understanding of historical, cultural and lifestyle similarities and differences. These activities can involve a wide range of community members.

Twinning / Sister City relationships represent a long-term commitment between the partners, not a short-term project partnership. They should always be able to survive changes in political leadership and short-term difficulties of one or other partner, and support each other in times of need.

Sheffield has established relationships with at least 14 international cities, through Twinning; Sister City; Trade & Collaboration or Friendship links. These relationships include six designated Twin Cities and two Sister Cities. Given Sheffield's broad range of existing international links, with a variety of terminology in place, this policy has been named a **Partner City Policy**, to ensure consideration of each of these arrangements.

Going forward, for the purposes of this Policy, it is appropriate to agree a hierarchy of relationships:

- **Twinning / Sister City relationships** should be seen as formal longer-term agreements (albeit with the inclusion of agreed review points);
- **Partner relationships including: Partnership Agreements, Declarations of Friendships; Memoranda of Understanding; Letters of Support, Trade & Collaboration Agreements** are more likely to be time-limited arrangements, where each party receives short-term benefits. These partnerships may be renewed or converted into Twinning / Sister City relationships, at a later date, if desired.

- The Council will need to be clear at the outset as to what form of arrangement it wishes to enter into.

The approach outlined above is for a tiered system, whereby initial approaches do not automatically lead to a Twinning / Sister City Agreement being agreed and signed at the outset. For example, a 'Declaration of Friendship' may be more appropriate in the first instance, until such time as the potential relationship has been scoped out and the resource implications considered.

This tiered system could also be of particular benefit where there is a desire to develop some form of symbolic relationship, or to express solidarity with a particular country or location, where there may be limited potential for further collaboration, or economic or trade opportunities. That said, there still needs to be some form of framework to assess individual opportunities to be able to manage expectations; consider resource implications and effect a degree of due diligence.

Sheffield currently has the following established international relationships with no end nor review periods:

### **China**

**Anshan** – Twin City since 1983;

**Chengdu** - Twin City since 2010;

**Daqing** - Trade & Collaboration Agreement since 2016;

**Nanchang** - Trade & Collaboration Agreement since 2016.

### **Europe**

**Bapaume**, France - 'Adoptive' relationship since 1920;

**Bochum**, Germany – Twin City since 1950;

**Donetsk**, Ukraine – Twin City since 1956;

**Khmelnytskyi**, Ukraine – Twin City since 2022.

### **The Americas**

**Pittsburgh**, USA - Sister City since 1980;

**Esteli**, Nicaragua – Twin City since 1984.

### **Japan**

**Kawasaki** - Friendship Agreement since 1990;

**Minoh** – Proposed Friendship Agreement in 1992 (*appears not to have been signed – reasons unknown*).

### **Africa**

**Kitwe**, Zambia – Sister City since 1981.

## Asia

**Kotli**, Pakistan-administered Kashmir - 'Declaration of Friendship' since 1994;

**Jeonju**, Korea - 'Exchange City Agreement' since 2013.

Sheffield City Council is also a signatory to a 'Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Cooperation relating to Small and Medium Businesses' with the **Small and Medium Business Administration of the Republic of Korea**; although, there have been no further developments in this regard since the agreement was entered into approximately 5 years ago.

We are also a member of **EuroCities**, a network of more than 200 cities in 38 countries, representing 130 million people, formed as a mechanism to encourage collaboration and the sharing of best practice.

Sheffield became a member of the **World Conference for Peace Through Inter-City Solidarity** in September 1994.

## **The Rationale Behind and the Benefits of International Partnering**

There is no fundamental requirement to establish relationships with other locations around the globe. Such arrangements can however bring mutual benefits to the Council, the city and its international partners.

The key principles that guide our international relations work should ensure we manage our relationships with a focus and aim to bring a rationale to our international linkages, one that focuses on mutual benefits between Sheffield and the partner city or region.

Sheffield City Council is keen to embed international relations corporately and to promote the city internationally as a place to invest, visit and live and to strengthen ties with our existing partner cities through mutually beneficial initiatives and exchanges, where appropriate.

The City Council is one of many key stakeholders and agencies who have a role to play in international linkages and work collectively to play a full and productive role.

Developing links or partnerships can support with achieving policy objectives such as culture; sports; heritage, and links with diaspora, economic development as well as tourism. There may be opportunities to work on problems or develop innovative solutions with partners around key challenges such as urban regeneration, smart cities, climate change, for example.

Potential mutual benefits include:

- Exchange of knowledge, skills and experience;
- Trade and investment opportunities;
- Increasing cultural awareness, including knowledge and understanding of the places of origin;
- Increased tolerance and understanding;
- Enhanced opportunities for youth activities, and
- The development of close friendships and ties built up over many years.

## **Community Links**

Across the UK, historically, the creation and running of traditional Twinning / Sister City arrangements has often been a community-led process and may have arisen from demand and interest from within the community either seeking a new link or responding to a request from elsewhere. Some towns and cities specifically have community-led Town Twinning Associations, often on an individual membership basis, with approaches for support made to their respective Councils, as required.

From a Sheffield perspective, links with Nicaragua were initially established via the Sheffield Estelí Society and focused on humanitarian aid and supporting education and environmental projects, although activities appear to have diminished in recent years. However, it appears that the majority of our international relationships have tended to be Council initiated and led.

An alternative to a formal Twinning / Sister City arrangement is for the Council to adopt a role of initial enabler and facilitator and thereafter have a limited, less formal role that would fit within the looser Partnership model. In these assistances, the Council may not even be required to commit to or sign anything, rather involvement might be limited to hosting an introductory meeting or effecting introductions between appropriate organisations.

Both types of arrangement have their respective benefits.

## **Partnering Criteria**

There is a need for clear objectives and decision-making criteria for entering into any Twinning / Sister City Agreements or developing new less formal international links; identifying outputs and outcomes and the potential to link with key partners to help achieve wider benefits for the city and its residents.

Sheffield City Council regularly receives approaches to forge new relationships, whether this is to enter into specific agreements or simply to host a visiting delegation. With limited time and resources, deciding on what opportunities to pursue, requires decision-making criteria and robust assessment and will require a rationale that is rooted in evidence. Whilst we may choose to maintain existing relationships, new opportunities for city partnership working will undoubtedly arise.

Opportunities may be generated either by our work or via partners through their own activities and will require measured assessment to determine value for the City Council and our stakeholders. Using objective criteria, we will evaluate each new opportunity and each current relationship against a range of economic, tourism, cultural, historical connections, educational, and operational factors before providing recommendations on the merit of any new opportunity. With a mind to shared values such as their ability to demonstrate the promotion of human rights, gender equality and advocate for social justice, respect and diversity of cultures.

Twinning / Sister City or other forms of Partnership Agreements can offer benefits especially when there is a clear objective, with a strong, shared interest, community involvement and commitment of the partners involved. Such partnerships can offer an important opportunity to learn, share ideas and support community engagement.

The criteria detailed over the following pages should be used to assess new opportunities and approaches.

## ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

### Location Overview

- Is the location a “good fit” for Sheffield in terms of:
  - (a) Population size;
  - (b) Population profiles (e.g. age, gender, race);
  - (c) Economic profile - Key sectors / main industries etc.
  - (d) Type of governmental structures – e.g. is there a sufficient similarity in powers and span of competence of each local authority?
  - (e) Its ability to bring tangible benefits to Sheffield.
- Is the partner, city or network making progress against similar challenges to Sheffield and are they doing so in a progressive manner?
- Does Sheffield have any existing partnerships or Twin / Sister Cities in the same country?
- What other existing international town/city links does the partner, city or network already have in place?
- Key dates to be aware of – e.g. Independence Days; City Days; Keys Dates in the Civic Calendar.

### Strategic Fit

- Does the proposal fit in with the Council’s stated aims? (as currently set out in the ‘Our Sheffield’ Delivery Plan 2022-23. Note: In due course, alignment will need to be considered against the emerging Council Plan and Sheffield City Goals, currently in development).
- Does the proposal fit with strategic plans of the Council’s key partners? e.g. Situated in a target market identified in the SYMCA Internationalisation Plan, target market for international students.
- Will there be tangible benefits for Sheffield’s residents, businesses or partners?
- What is the rationale behind the approach – either TO Sheffield or FROM Sheffield e.g. Trade & Investment opportunities; Cultural opportunities; Education; Civic elements etc.
- Does Sheffield have any membership or affiliations to organisations in common with the partner, city or network?

### Profile

- Will it give Sheffield significant and positive PR?
- Will Sheffield City Council’s involvement help boost the profile of city partners, helping them to achieve mutually shared objectives?

## Due Diligence Considerations

- Are there any potential risks including reputational issues through association with the location and/or key individuals e.g. alleged corruption and/or Human Rights issues; conflicts of interest. Are there any political circumstances and/or special relationships / causes being championed that we, the City Council, need to be aware of?

## Connections

- Are there pre-existing links with the partner, city or network in respect of projects, networks or people to people dialogue?
- Is there an existing diaspora community in Sheffield?
- Are there significant numbers of international students from the country of origin studying in Sheffield?
- Are there any established companies located in Sheffield from the country of origin?

## Resources

- Do we have the resources (both staffing and financial) to enter into the project or partnership?
- Does the project have the potential to generate additional revenue or capital resources for Sheffield? e.g. Horizon Europe Funding.

## Purpose

- What is the Council seeking to gain through establishing a formal relationship with this partner, city or network?
  - (a) Social and cultural exchanges;
  - (b) Technical/knowledge sharing regarding common problems;
  - (c) Tackling environmental issues, regeneration, community safety, health promotion and community cohesion;
  - (d) Increasing educational opportunities for students (language learning, global awareness);
  - (e) Supporting trade and investment opportunities.
- Perceived Benefits of Engagement a). For Sheffield, b) For the applicant partner, city or network?
- Expectations of the partner, city or network? i.e. What are they seeking to achieve from collaboration?



## **Basis of Relationship**

- What form of arrangement will be entered into? (*e.g. Twinning/Sister City Agreement; Partnership Agreement; Declaration of Friendship; Memoranda of Understanding; Letter of Support, Trade & Collaboration Agreements etc.*)
- Is the arrangement sufficiently sustainable?
- Is there is a sufficient commonality of interest to sustain and grow the link within the specific and broader communities in the area?
- Are the proposed outcomes for the relationship measurable?

## **Decision-Making**

Before entering into any new Partnership arrangement, the Council will make an assessment of the proposal against the criteria set out above. The assessment will determine:

- Whether a formal Twinning / Sister City agreement is appropriate;
- If so, the recommended terms and nature of the arrangement;
- If a formal Twinning / Sister City agreement is considered not to be appropriate, whether a Partnership agreement would suffice;
- If so, the recommended terms and nature of the arrangement;
- If neither scenario above is deemed appropriate, whether an informal, community-based arrangement could be facilitated.

The table overleaf, provides an example of the suggested hierarchy for international partnerships.

Form of Relationship	Content	Documentation	Examples	Duration	Review Timescales
Twin / Sister City	Agreement to exchange information, knowledge and expertise, and develop strategic actions or joint initiatives and projects in defined areas, e.g. Education; Culture; Sport; Trade & Investment	Agreement ( <i>Note: a separate Agreement or MoU may be developed for specific joint projects to define the objectives and tasks required, if particularly detailed in scope</i> )	Sheffield & Khmelnytskyi (signed 2022)	Anticipated to be longer-term (potentially in excess of 10 years)	Every 2 years, with ability for either party to exit Agreement
Trade & Collaboration	Specific to a sector, or an individual opportunity e.g. a trade mission or contract	Memorandum of Understanding	Sheffield & SME Administration of the Republic of Korea (2015)	Aligned to the nature of the particular transaction	Envisaged to be every 6-12 months, dependent on the transaction and when it concludes
Partnership	A joint working arrangement where the partners agree to co-operate to achieve a common goal and share relevant information	Partnership Agreement	Sheffield & Jeonju (signed 2013)	Aligned to the nature of the particular collaboration	Envisaged to be every 6-12 months, dependent on the collaboration and when it concludes
Friendship	More ceremonial in nature, with language focussing on a commitment to fostering understanding, cooperation, and mutual benefit ( <i>as opposed to specific projects</i> )	Declaration of Friendship	Sheffield & Kotli (signed 1994)	Short-term	Every 12 months
Support	Formal response to a particular incident e.g. natural disaster or conflict	Formal Letter	N/A	Short-term	N/A

Current Partnership arrangements should also be reviewed periodically against these criteria. If an arrangement is felt to be no longer bringing benefit to the Council or city, consideration should be given whether to seek to revive or terminate the arrangement.

## Roles and Responsibilities

Councillors and Officers instrumental in proposing new relationships must ensure the following:

- Information in respect of the relationship is provided in a timely manner to ensure that this can be featured in an Annual Report on International Relations.
- Facilitate two-way communication and commit to regular engagement with representatives from the location, whether that be in-person meetings, or online meetings via Teams; engaging in visits or hosting representatives from the location in Sheffield. Care will always be taken to ensure that no information will be shared that may contravene the principles of data protection contained within the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulations 2018.

## Finances

It is recognised that the Council must play its part in hosting civic events for visitors and there will be an annual review undertaken as part of the budget setting process to ensure that sufficient funding is made available. The need for flexibility is noted due to the scheduling of visits and it is therefore accepted that there might be some circumstances that necessitate ad-

hoc expenditure in this situation. Income and expenditure will be monitored to ensure that budgets are kept under control and to assist with future financial planning.

In the event that gifts are exchanged, the Council's current policy stipulates when the Lord Mayor makes a presentation of a personal gift it will be paid for from the Lord Mayor's Budget. Going forward, should a budget allocation be found for International Relations, where it is appropriate that gifts be presented to **international** partners, it is suggested that the expenditure should be made from the International Relations Budget, should a budget be approved. Should a budget allocation be found, the intention would be to establish a dedicated stock of appropriate, cost-effective civic gifts.

## **Legislative Basis for Twinning / Sister City Relationships**

While not legally binding, the signing of a formal Twinning / Sister City Agreement facilitates the setting up of a long-term, trusting relationship. Its form and content are not prescribed. It may be amended, unilaterally reviewed and brought to an end.

The approval of this Policy is a matter for the City Council's Strategy and Resources Committee.

The Council, has the statutory power, to enter into new twinning and partnership arrangements, pursuant to s. 1 of the Localism Act 2011, commonly known as the "general power of competence". (The general power is provided subject to the restriction that its use is not prohibited by other legislation). When exercising such a power, the Council must have regard to the local council plan / strategy.

The data protection legislative principles apply to any relevant information shared pursuant to any agreement entered into in accordance with this Policy. (This is in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulations 2018.) Accordingly, where appropriate, the City Council's Data Protection Officer will be appraised of each agreement.

Pursuant to the Equality Act 2010, ["the Act"] the Council must in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act,
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not,
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

There may be relevant equalities implications arising from each Twinning and Partnership arrangement.

## **Informal Agreements:**

There are opportunities to explore / facilitate less formal future partnership arrangements in circumstances where there is a mutual interest and benefit that fits with the city's objectives, however, there needs to be a clear interest or commitment from the partners involved to develop and sustain the links. This type of arrangement is likely to be a less formal commitment.

Friendship / Co-operation Agreements / MOUs have become more popular in recent years where partners identify areas of interest in which the partner cities or regions are committing themselves to explore and a timeframe for any proposed collaboration.

## **Governance Structure**

### **Twinning / Sister City Agreements**

Step 1:

The Lord Mayor / Elected Members / Chief Executive / Executive Directors may initiate the process.

Step 2:

The proposal must be referred initially to the Strategy & Resources Committee for their consideration. The Committee will determine whether they wish the opportunity to be explored further and if so, delegate authority to relevant Officers to undertake an assessment.

Step 3:

In order to undertake a formal assessment using the criteria laid out within the Partner City Policy, research will be carried out by relevant Officers and informal contact made with the city or region. An assessment will be undertaken and a decision made by Officers. A summary report of the decision will be produced by Officers and reported back to the Strategy & Resources Committee, in due course. The decision will also be included within the Annual Report of International Relationships, produced each municipal year.

Step 4:

If a decision to proceed is made, more formal communications will commence with the relevant city and an agreement between the two cities is developed and agreed.

All Twinning / Sister City Agreements should be time bound with a review process undertaken every two years.

### **Relinquishing a Twinning / Sister City Agreement**

It must be noted that relinquishing an Agreement requires careful consideration and should involve the Strategy & Resources Committee before any such decision is taken.

There are a number of considerations that elected Members are required to take into account when approving an Agreement. These considerations would also need to be carefully reviewed again if there is any proposal to relinquish the Agreement.

## **Governance Structure**

### **Partnership Agreements**

Step 1:

The Lord Mayor / Elected Members / Chief Executive / Executive Directors may initiate the process.

Step 2:

Request reviewed and assessed by relevant Officers. If deemed appropriate, Officers will consult with the appropriate Executive Director to ensure there are adequate resources in place to support the Agreement.

Step 3: If a decision to proceed is made, a summary report of the decision will be produced by Officers and reported back to the Strategy & Resources Committee, in due course. The decision will also be included within the Annual Report of International Relationships, produced each municipal year.

Step 4:

If the recommendation to proceed is agreed, follow up research and contact with the city or region is undertaken by relevant Officers.

All Partnership Agreements should be time bound.

### **Risks**

The main risks are identified below:

- Reputation – In considering developing new partnerships, the process must foster collective support from the outset, addressing some of the issues identified with previous Twinning / Sister City relationships, ensuring that we do not align ourselves with partners that do not fit with the Council's stated policies and/or may cause reputational harm.
- Outcomes – The outcomes we are seeking to secure from new partnerships must be shared and tangible. They need to be realistic and understood. There is a risk that we enter into commitments that the city cannot deliver.
- Resources – Currently we do not have any dedicated staffing or budget resource specific to international relations. To be effective we need to ensure that appropriate resources are allocated.
- Strategic Fit - Once the Partner City Policy has been agreed, there is a need to have the ability to review the Policy, as appropriate, to ensure that it continues to fit with the strategic priorities of the Council. In particular, once the emerging Council Plan and Sheffield City Goals have been signed off, the Partner City Policy needs to be considered to ensure strategic fit.
- Flexibility – Relationships change over the time. Circumstances may mean that there is a need to review partnerships entered into. The Partner City Policy needs to have sufficient flexibility to enable relationships to be reviewed and potentially relinquished, if the arrangement no longer fits with the Council's priorities or has the potential to cause reputational damage.

## **Conclusion**

It is without doubt that international partnerships can bring many benefits to the Council and residents of the city but only if they fit within the Council's priorities and are vibrant and active.

Our international relations efforts will further ensure our elected Members play a key civic leadership role and that the assets at the Council's disposal are utilised to promote the city.

It must be recognised that the Council has scarce resources, which need to be focussed on improving service delivery and value for money to residents. International partnering arrangements can also create reputational risks as well as benefits for the Council and the city. For this reason, there must be clear, objective criteria for entering into and maintaining such arrangements. Criteria will establish whether a proposed arrangement will benefit and contribute to the life of the city and its residents.

**Nik Hamilton, Investment Team Manager**

**October 2023**

## PART A - Initial Impact Assessment

**Proposal Name:** Establishing a New Partner City Policy

**EIA ID:** 2408

**EIA Author:** Nik Hamilton

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**Proposal Outline:** Sheffield City Council does not currently have any formal Policy in place in respect of responding to approaches to establish new international relationships through such mechanisms as Twinning (sometimes referred to as Sister City agreements), through to entering into such things as Friendship or Collaborative agreements. The Council regularly receives approaches to forge new relationships, whether this is to enter into specific agreements or simply to host a visiting delegation. There is a need for clear objectives and decision-making criteria for entering into any Twinning / Sister City agreements or developing new less formal international links; identifying outputs and outcomes and the potential to link with key partners to help achieve wider benefits for the city and its residents. Given Sheffield's broad range of existing international links, with a variety of terminology in place, the proposal is to establish a clear Partner City Policy, so called to ensure consideration of each of these arrangements, and to provide a framework for: a). Assessing new approaches, and b). Reviewing the effectiveness of existing international relationships. This Policy will form an integral part of a wider International Strategy, to be developed in due course.

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**Proposal Type:** Non-Budget

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**Year Of Proposal:** 23/24

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**Lead Director for proposal:** Kate Martin

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**Service Area:**

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EIA Start Date: 18/10/2023

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Lead Equality Objective: Leading the city in celebrating and promoting inclusion

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Equality Lead Officer: Bashir Khan

## Decision Type

Committees: Policy Committees

- Strategy & Resources

## Portfolio

Primary Portfolio: City Futures

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EIA is cross portfolio: No

---

EIA is joint with another organisation: No

## Overview of Impact

### Overview Summary:

There are implications and risks organisationally and City-wide for Sheffield in continuing to operate in a more 'ad hoc' manner in respect of international relationships and partnership work. At present, there is no framework in place to consider the implications of particular alliances with identified cities and/or countries. The concern is that we could unwittingly be associating the City Council with questionable regimes that do not fit comfortably with our own organisation's aims, objectives and values. Without any agreed due diligence procedures in place, we could inadvertently be linked with locations that might have less than desirable Human Rights records, for example. The proposed Partner City Policy will have agreed



assessment criteria to consider opportunities, going forward, and a clear rationale for the Council to be able to say 'No' if an approach does not fit with our stated aims. As part of the assessment criteria, consideration will be given in respect of the synergies between the two locations., for example: Is the location a good match for Sheffield in terms of: Population profiles (e.g. age, gender, race); Are there pre-existing links with the partner, city or network in respect of projects, networks or people to people dialogue? Is there an existing diaspora community in Sheffield? Are there significant numbers of international students from the country of origin studying in Sheffield?

---

**Impacted characteristics:**

- Cohesion
- Partners
- Race
- Religion/Belief

## Consultation and other engagement

## Cumulative Impact

**Does the proposal have a cumulative impact:**

No

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**Impact areas:**

Year on Year

## Initial Sign-Off

**Full impact assessment required:**

No

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**Review Date:**

18/10/2023

## Action Plan & Supporting Evidence

Outline of action plan:

Action plan evidence:

Changes made as a result of action plan:

## Mitigation

Significant risk after mitigation measures:

Outline of impact and risks:

## Review Date

Review Date:

18/10/2023



## Report to Policy Committee

**Author/Lead Officers of Report:** (Bethan Plant, Health Improvement Principal, Public Health, Kayleigh Inman, Senior Finance Manager & Anna Beeby, Assistant Finance Manager)

**Tel: 07791212302: Bethan Plant**

**Report of:** Greg Fell – Director of Public Health & Integrated Commissioning

**Report to:** Strategy & Resources Policy Committee

**Date of Decision:** 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**Subject:** Public Health Grant Allocation 2023/24

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? <b>2387</b>				
Has appropriate consultation taken place?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-				
<i>"The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)."</i>				

### Purpose of Report:

This report:

- Describes how the ring-fenced Public Health Grant is allocated.
- outlines the purpose, scope, and progress of the Public Health Grant Review
- seeks approval of a recommended approach to grant expenditure in relation to contract spend and inflation, particularly in relation to staffing costs

**Recommendations:**

Strategy and Resources Policy Committee are recommended to:

- note the current allocation of Public Health Grant, the uplift in the Public Health Grant for 2023/2024 and the accompanying technical guidance and note the progress of Public Health Grant Review;
- approve the principle that, as set out in this report and in accordance with the principles set out in the technical guidance, some of the uplifted grant should be used to increase payments for services commissioned from NHS bodies from the Public Health Grant, wherever contractual arrangements allow, by 3.5%
- approve the principle that, as set out in this report, some of the uplifted grant should be used to increase payments for services commissioned from VCF bodies from the Public Health Grant, wherever contractual arrangements allow, by 3.5%

Lead Officer to complete:-									
1	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;">I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.</td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;">Finance: Kayleigh Inman, Senior Finance Manager</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Legal: Patrick Chisholm, Service Manager</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Equalities &amp; Consultation: Bashir Khan, Equalities Officer</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Climate:</td> </tr> </table>	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.	Finance: Kayleigh Inman, Senior Finance Manager		Legal: Patrick Chisholm, Service Manager		Equalities & Consultation: Bashir Khan, Equalities Officer		Climate:
I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.	Finance: Kayleigh Inman, Senior Finance Manager								
	Legal: Patrick Chisholm, Service Manager								
	Equalities & Consultation: Bashir Khan, Equalities Officer								
	Climate:								
	<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>								
2	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"><b>SLB member who approved submission:</b></td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;">Greg Fell</td> </tr> </table>	<b>SLB member who approved submission:</b>	Greg Fell						
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3	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"><b>Committee Chair consulted:</b></td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;">Tom Hunt, Leader</td> </tr> </table>	<b>Committee Chair consulted:</b>	Tom Hunt, Leader						
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4	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="vertical-align: top;">I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the SLB member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"><b>Lead Officer Name:</b> Bethan Plant</td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"><b>Job Title:</b> Health Improvement Principal</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="vertical-align: top;"><b>Date:</b> 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023</td> </tr> </table>	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the SLB member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.		<b>Lead Officer Name:</b> Bethan Plant	<b>Job Title:</b> Health Improvement Principal	<b>Date:</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2023			
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<b>Lead Officer Name:</b> Bethan Plant	<b>Job Title:</b> Health Improvement Principal								
<b>Date:</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2023									

**1. PROPOSAL**

Local authorities receive an annual ringfenced public health grant from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). The core condition of this grant is that it should be used only for the purposes of the public health functions of local authorities' (ADPH and PHE 2016). These functions include mandated/prescribed and non-mandated/non-prescribed activities (see appendix 1 for further explanation). Its allocation should also align with the Sheffield Health & Wellbeing Board priorities.

The Public Health grant is one of the 5 main responsibilities of the Director of Public Health (DPH).

The Director of Public Health and Section 151 officer must certify annually that the grant has been spent in line with the terms and conditions. This is checked by the regional Director of Public Health (RDPH) and the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID).

There is the possibility that the Secretary of State may reduce, suspend, or withhold a Local Authorities grant allocation or require the repayment of the whole or any part of the grant monies if they are not allocated and spent correctly.

To ensure that the DPH and Section 151 officer can sign off the spend of the grant we need to make sure that Public Health Grant spend meets the technical requirements and conditions for its use.

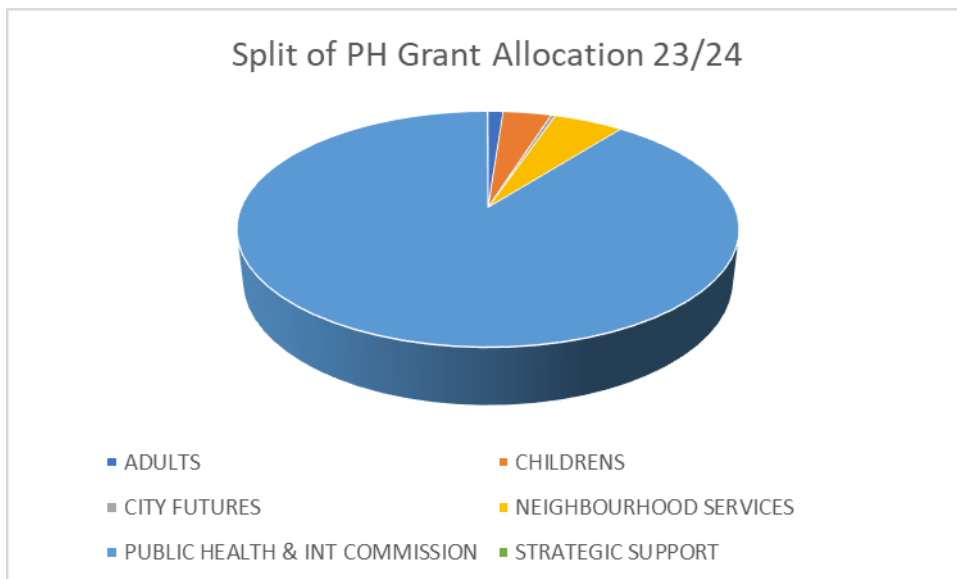
**1.1 Current Public Health Grant Spend**

The grant award for 23/24 is £36.4m.

Following the transfer of Public Health functions from the NHS to LAs in 2013 there has been an annual budget planning process which allocates the grant.

Figure 1A provides a high-level overview of how the Public Health Grant is allocated across SCC Directorates.

**Figure: 1A: Public Health Grant Allocation by SCC Directorate**



<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Permanent Public Health Grant Budget Allocation (£000)</b>
Adults	£423.6
Childrens	£1,343.8
City Futures	£126.6
Neighbourhood Services	£1,946.7
Public Health & Int Commissioning	£32,521.2
Strategic Support	£19.5
Grand Total	£36,381.4

For 2023/24 there is £808k of Public Health Grant to be allocated to services covering the potential contract uplifts, once allocated the split can be seen below.

**Figure 1B: Indicative split of Public Health Grant Spend 23/24  
£000s**

NHS Providers spend	21,568
VCS Providers Contract spend	5,869
SCC Staff	5,495
Health Protection contingency	1,000
Other contract/non contract spend	2,449
Grand Total	36,381

## 1.2 **Public Health Grant Review**

A review of the Public Health grant spend (consisting of 3 phases) is underway to assess the historical allocations and confirm that spend meets technical guidelines.

As part of our SCC Delivery Plan, it was agreed to:

‘Produce an overview of spend against the Public Health Grant, including a Public Health Contract List identifying all areas where Public Health Grant is allocated, to provide the basis for a review of Public Health delivery focused on outcomes.’

This process is underway, and our Public Health service plan identifies as a priority that we will work to strategically review allocation of the grant and determine if we are correctly following the technical requirements for its allocation.

Aligning Integrated Commissioning and Public Health provides an opportunity to establish new systems and processes to improve oversight, financial reporting, and performance monitoring of the Public Health Grant.

To date the review has:

- Established a contract list and identification of individual business units (BU) where Public Health Grant is allocated (Phase 1).
- Required BU managers to identify how the allocation of the Public Health

Grant they receive and spend meets Public Health outcomes (Phase 2)

- Allowed the early developments of a Public Health workforce plan which fits alongside Public Health priorities and identifies where capacity is required.
- Identified key areas where further scrutiny of the public health grant allocation is required (Phase 3) to ensure fit with technical requirements and Public Health functions.
- Enabled some corporate decisions and agreement with partners (e.g. NHS) to determine future commissioning arrangements for key mandated/prescribed and non-mandated Public Health functions.

Phases 1 & 2 of the review have been completed and recommendations have concluded:

- The requirement for a centralised Public Health function has been identified. This will include establishing robust Public Health grant management processes providing capacity and infrastructure that will link spending of the grant to outcomes (including appropriate performance monitoring systems and transactional finance management of the grant). Its purpose is to provide greater assurance through robust monitoring and scrutiny systems.
- Further in-depth reviews (Phase 3) are required to determine how the Public Health grant allocation provided internally across Early Years (including parenting), within Family Intervention Service (FIS) are utilised.
- Work with Integrated Commissioning is required to explore commissioning approaches and oversight to develop consistent agreed standards.
- To further review in greater depth (Phase 3) the allocation of grant going to 'Registration Regulation' and overall spend across the VCF sector and Housing Independence Service.

1.3

The final phase of the review (Phase 3) will be completed by the end of March 2024 and findings will be reported back to the Strategy & Resource committee.

### **2023/24 Public Health Grant to Local Authorities**

The (DHSC) have confirmed 2023/24 Public Health Grant allocations to Local Authorities with the headline details being:

- In 2023/24, all local authorities will receive a cash term increase of 3.3%, while indicative 2024/25 allocations suggest a 1.3% cash terms increase for all councils. DHSC states that this is a real terms protection of council public health funding.
- The allocations include local government funding of £1.4 million a year (national) for their enforcement duties under the Botulinum Toxin and Fillers (Children) Act 2021 - this is worth 0.04% of all authorities' 2023/24 allocations.
- Excluding this funding, using the Government's own terms, the 'core public health grant' increases are 3.2% and 1.3% for 2023/24 and 2024/25, respectively.
- The ring-fenced grant allocation for Sheffield in 2023/24 is **£36,381,431** – further detail can be found at: [Public health grants to local authorities: 2023 to 2024 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/public-health-grants-to-local-authorities-2023-to-2024)

There is an expectation by DHSC that the Public Health Grant will need to cover

pay pressures for 2023/24, including the impact of NHS pay settlements. Ongoing funding for this pressure will be managed through local authority commissioning streams. This means that where Public Health Grant is used to commission NHS providers, Sheffield City Council (SCC) is required to consider the financial implications and agree a corporate position with commissioned providers across all sectors.

**1.4**

**23/24 Public Health Grant Allocation – Inflation & Pay Awards**

It is recommended that, in accordance with the technical guidance that accompanied the 23/24 Public Health Grant, it is agreed by the Committee that part of the uplift provided to the Council should be used, where it is legally possible to do so, to provide a 3.5% uplift to NHS providers who provide services commissioned from the Public Health Grant.

It is also recommended that it is agreed by the Committee that part of the grant uplift provided to the Council should be used, where it is legally possible to do so, to facilitate a commensurate increase in contractual payments to VCF providers delivering public health activities funded by the Public Health Grant.

This would ensure that the Public Health Grant uplift was not being used to differentially protect the NHS and results in all providers, both NHS and VCF sector, being treated the same.

This statement of principle complies with the national guidance. The guidance outlines that there is an expectation for SCC to increase contract costs for NHS providers funded by the Public Health Grant up to 3.5% (in line with the increase received in our Public Health Grant allocation). Note: whilst the technical guidance refers to the uplift being intended to help address pressures arising from the NHS pay settlement it does not cover the entire pay award.

**Impact for Sheffield City Council**

**1.4a**

If SCC provide for inflationary uplifts across the board to all NHS and external VCF providers of the same amount (suggested 3.5%) to cover pay award costs, the financial implications of this are:

3.5% NHS pay uplift	£687,185
Public Health related VCFS pay uplift @ 3.5%	£120,433
Total Provision	£807,618

**2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?**

2.1 The allocation of the ring-fenced Public Health Grant has a significant impact for children, young people and adults who live, work and learn in the city of Sheffield. The approach taken in the allocation of the grant and how it is spent contributes to reducing inequalities and aligns with the Marmot principles. The grant also funds mandated services including the universal 0-19 Healthy Child Programme available to all children living in the city and Sexual Health Services, Substance



Misuse and Alcohol Services which are also accessed by Sheffield residents.

### **3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?**

The allocation of the Public Health Grant follows the principles and priorities outlined in our cities Health & Wellbeing Strategy. This strategy aligns with implementation of the Marmot principles and consultation has been undertaken with partners and the public to agree our statutory Health & Wellbeing Strategy priorities.

### **4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION**

#### **4.1 Equality Implications**

4.1.1 Decisions need to consider the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty contained in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

4.1.2 This is the duty to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

4.1.3 The Equality Act 2010 identifies the following groups as a protected characteristic: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex and sexual orientation.

4.1.4 A full Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been completed. This has identified the following implications: Using the Marmot principles and following our Health and Wellbeing Strategy ensure that race, disability, poverty, faith and sex are considered and priorities for how groups with these protected characteristics have access to services funded through the Public Health Grant.

#### **4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications**

4.2.1 The allocation of the Public Health Grant is in line with national DHSC/OHID technical requirements.

4.2.2 A 3.5% inflationary uplift is proposed to NHS contract providers in line with technical guidance. This is expected to cost £687k across three Trusts.

4.2.3 To award a 3.5% uplift to the VCF sector delivering public health activities, would cost £120k. Provision of £808k has been set aside from the Public Health Grant allocation.

4.2.4 Any NHS contractors, or VCF providers funded via General Fund will not receive any inflationary uplifts unless this is agreed through Business Planning. Some of the providers who provide services funded by the Public Health Grant do have other contracts with the Council funded from the general fund.

#### **4.3 Legal Implications**

- 4.3.1 As explained elsewhere in the report, SCC commissions both NHS and VCF providers to undertake some of its public health functions and these arrangements are funded through the Public Health Grant. There are a variety of different types of contractual arrangement in place. The proposal in relation to the uplift is that regardless of the exact contractual obligations, SCC will where it is legally permissible to do so, in effect pass on the benefit of the increase in the grant to the providers; as this was the purpose behind this part of the increase in the grant.
- 4.3.2 The technical guidance issued to accompany the latest grant allocation makes it clear that Local Authorities are expected to pass on this element of the increase to NHS providers. There is not the same clear expectation in relation to VCF providers but in view of the fact that they will have faced similar cost increases and the element of the grant through which the activity is funded has increased by the same amount, it would not be inappropriate to apply the same approach as that applied to NHS providers to VCF providers where the Public Health Grant Fund is the source of the funding.
- 4.3.3 In general terms, Local Authorities' statutory responsibilities for public health services are set out in the Health and Social Care Act 2012. The Act conferred new duties on local authorities to improve and protect public health. Local authorities have had a new duty to take such steps as they consider appropriate for improving and protecting the health of the people in their areas. The actions of reviewing how the Public Health Grant is managed, and measures to pass on increases to providers facing the additional costs which have prompted those increases, will contribute towards the fulfilment of those responsibilities.

#### 4.4 Climate Implications

- 4.4.1 There are no climate implications arising directly from the recommendations in this report.

### 5. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 5.1 Strategy and Resources Policy Committee could decide to provide a 3.5% increase only to the NHS in line with technical guidance. This is not recommended.

### 5. **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1 The recommendations are consistent with the technical guidance issued by the Department for Health and Social Care alongside the grant settlement. They also ensure parity of treatment between different providers delivering services funded from the Public Health Grant.

## Appendix 1

### Local authority public health responsibilities

Local authorities' statutory responsibilities for public health services are set out in the Health and Social Care Act 2012. The Act conferred new duties on local authorities to improve and protect public health. It abolished primary care trusts and transferred much of their responsibility for public health to local authorities from 1 April 2013. From this date local authorities have had a new duty to take such steps as they consider appropriate for improving and protecting the health of the people in their areas. Furthermore, regulations made under Section 6C of the NHS Act 2006 require local authorities to take particular steps in the exercise of their public health functions, or aspects of the Secretary of State's public health functions, for example, Regulation 8 is a function of the Secretary of State delivered locally.

Part 2 of the Local Authorities (Public Health Functions and Entry to Premises by Local Healthwatch Representatives) Regulations 2013 (SI 2013/351) makes provision for the steps to be taken by local authorities in exercising their public health functions. These regulated functions are often referred to as the '**mandated functions**'. Legislative measures for local authorities' responsibilities for dental public health are covered by separate statutory instruments.

Section 2B of the 2006 Act for all upper-tier and unitary local authorities in England is to take appropriate steps to improve the health of the people who live in their areas. These may include:

- carrying out research into health improvement, providing information and advice (for example giving information to the public about healthy eating and exercise)
- providing facilities for the prevention or treatment of illness (such as smoking cessation clinics) · providing financial incentives to encourage individuals to adopt healthier lifestyles (for instance by giving rewards to people for stopping smoking during pregnancy)
- providing assistance to help individuals minimise risks to health arising from their accommodation or environment. Alongside the mandated functions are a range of public health services (for example: tobacco control, weight management, behavioural and lifestyle campaigns). The commissioning of these services is discretionary, guided by the Public Health Outcomes Framework, the local joint strategic needs assessment and the joint health and wellbeing strategy.

The general duty to improve public health includes the provision of facilities for the prevention or treatment of illness. What this means in practice, public health outcomes are maintained or improving. Local authorities use the Public Health Outcomes Framework, joint strategic needs assessment and the joint health and wellbeing strategy to guide their commissioning of all public health services. These services can be shown to be safe, effective and have a good service-user experience.

The key mandated functions are defined in Part 2 of the Local Authorities (Public Health Functions and Entry to Premises by Local Healthwatch Representatives) Regulations 2013, summarised below:

- Weighing and measuring of children
- Health check assessment
- Conduct of health checks
- Sexual health services
- Public health advice service
- Protecting the health of the local population

## PART A - Initial Impact Assessment

**Proposal Name:** Public Health Grant Allocation 23/24

**EIA ID:** 2387

**EIA Author:** Bethan Plant

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**Proposal Outline:** Describes the allocation of the Public Health Grant for financial year 23/24, describes implementation of technical guidance for the spend of the ring fenced Public Health Grant (including approval of inflation uplift) and outlines progress of the PH Grant Review. The proposal considers inflation uplift for both NHS and Voluntary Community and Faith (VCF) sector providers funded by the ring fenced grant so as to mitigate VCF sector staff being negatively impacted and ensure parity for both NHS and VCF workforce. This proposal is under consideration and further on going work will fully examine all implications.

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**Proposal Type:** Budget

**Entered on QTier:** No

**QTier Ref:** #

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**Year Of Proposal:** 23/24

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**Lead Director for proposal:** Greg Fell

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**Service Area:** Public Health

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**EIA Start Date:** 06/10/2023

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**Lead Equality Objective:** Break the cycle and improve life chances

## Decision Type

Committees:

Policy Committees

- Strategy & Resources

## Portfolio

Primary Portfolio:

Public Health &amp; Integrated Commissioning

EIA is cross portfolio:

No

EIA is joint with another organisation:

No

## Overview of Impact

Overview Summary:

Describes how the ring fenced public health grant is allocation for financial year 23/24 in line with national technical guidance. This describes the appropriate use of the spending of the grant to achieve Public Health Outcomes. Describing Public Health mandated functions where grant has to be allocated and seeks a decision on implementation of inflationary uplift (in line with technical guidance) for the NHS and a local decision for VCF providers funded via the grant. The approach described recognises the importance of our local VCF and NHS providers that deliver Public Health Services.

Impacted characteristics:

- Health

## Consultation and other engagement

## Cumulative Impact

Does the proposal have a cumulative impact:

Yes

The approach for the allocation of the grant has been discussed internally within Sheffield City Council, with key partner organisations such as the Sheffield Integrated Care Board and partners represented at the Sheffield Health and Wellbeing Board.

Impact areas:

Year on Year, Across a Community of Identity/Interest

## Initial Sign-Off

Full impact assessment required:

Yes

Review Date:

31/03/2024

## PART B - Full Impact Assessment

### Health

Staff Impacted:

Yes

Customers Impacted:

Yes

Description of Impact:

The allocation of the ring fenced Public Health Grant has to adhere to national technical guidelines set via the Office of Health Improvement & Disparities (OHID) and the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) that aim to ensure that the funding is allocated to have the greatest population impact and to reduce health inequalities. Locally the grant is monitored to ensure

that it reaches those communities which are over/under represented in needing or requiring services and helps to provide and support individuals to access the services that they need. Specifically the allocation of the grant has an impact on characteristics including; Gender, Race, Disability, Poverty & Faith. The Public Health Grant review is assessing appropriate spend of the grant and investigating to ensure that it continues to meet technical guidelines for appropriate use of the grant and to ensure that it continues to meet Public Health outcomes. Alongside this SCC is making a decision to provide inflation uplift (inline with technical guidance) for the NHS and considering parity for VCF providers to ensure uplift across both NHS and VCF.

**Name of Lead Health Officer:** Ruth Granger

**Comprehensive Assessment Being Completed:** No

**Public Health Lead signed off health impact(s):**

## Action Plan & Supporting Evidence

**Outline of action plan:** From the completion of the EIA the Public Health Grant review process will consider how the grant impacts on: - Reducing people following a fundamental Marmot principle and life expectancy. The grant impacts directly impact on the characteristics including process and model for assessing and allocating the Public Health Grant. Monitoring of spend, contracts and funding that is allocated is being achieved. The proposal considers inflation uplift for both NHS and VCF funded grant so as to mitigate VCF sector staff being negatively impacted and VCF workforce. This proposal is under consideration and has implications.

**Action plan evidence:** To design a robust process for allocating the Public Health Grant, evidence of how the grant is spent has been reviewed to ensure it meets needs. To ensure that the PH Grant Review is evidence based, we will reinforce the priorities for the city and provide evidence to support the ring fenced Public Health Grant. The Sheffield Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the spend of the grant is aligned to these: <https://democracy.sheffield.gov.uk/documents/s34751/JoiningUp2024.pdf> The strategy identifies priorities for Starting Well, Living Well and having the best start in life and identifies the negative impact on individuals ability to 'live well'. This document has been used



allocate and commit allocation of grant funding across the Young People including 0-19 Healthy Child Programme □ V Community Development □ Sexual Health, Substance Misuse the health of the Sheffield population □ Healthy Weight and Public Health Workforce development and infrastructure The <https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/public-health/health-wellbeing> wellbeing of Sheffield residents. This document identifies rationale impact on health outcomes and being vital to healthy living process for allocating PH Grant includes recognition and pre-evidence from the Marmot Review: <https://www.health.org.uk> years-  
<https://www.health.org.uk/news/articles-and-reports/2019-07-16-what-works-to-improve-childrens-health> reinforces the evidence where impact is greatest and confirms prioritised. The process for allocation of ring fenced Public Health Grant that: - give every child the best start in life - enable all people over their lives - ensure a healthy standard of living for all - creating and developing healthy and sustainable places and of the Public Health Grant will use Marmot principles to allocate recognising our local Public Health Service Plan which identifies workforce to deliver appropriate allocation of the PH grant: and spend we currently have across the grant allocation. - review Developing a Public Health Workforce plan to build speciality city has a workforce to prioritise that the grant is allocated to gender, poverty. We will hold strong on investment into clinical logical model that ties to our health and wellbeing strategy health and wellbeing of those most disadvantaged and living importance of our local VCF sector and the NHS to deliver the Public Health Grant.

**Changes made as a result of action plan:**

**Mitigation**

**Significant risk after mitigation measures:** Yes

**Outline of impact and risks:** The allocation of PH grant is important and key to tackling inequality. There is a risk that funding is allocated and services designed/developed and provided which increase demand. There is also a risk in relation to parity and ensuring that both NHS and VCF providers funded by the ring fenced PH grant are offered parity and both workforces not differentiated. Providing both with the same inflation uplift will ensure parity however this is under consideration and further work is required to fully examine all associated risks.

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**Review Date:**

31/03/2024



## Report to Policy Committee

**Author/Lead Officer of Report:** James Henderson, Director of Policy and Democratic Engagement

**Tel:** 0114 2053126

**Report of:** *Director of Policy and Democratic Engagement*

**Report to:** *Strategy and Resources Policy Committee*

**Date of Decision:** *20 November 2023*

**Subject:** *Sheffield City Council's Consent for the Police & Crime Commissioner Powers to be Transferred to the South Yorkshire Mayor*

Type of Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) undertaken	Initial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Full <input type="checkbox"/>
Insert EIA reference number and attach EIA: EIA 2438		
Has appropriate consultation/engagement taken place?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Purpose of Report:

The Mayor of South Yorkshire has proposed that the powers of the Police and Crime Commissioner ("PCC") should be held by the Mayor following the current PCC's term of office from May 2024. This transfer of powers requires the consent of all four constituent Councils within the Mayoral Combined Authority, of which Sheffield is one.

This report seeks the consent of Sheffield City Council to the transfer of powers, which if agreed would result in the abolition of the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire from May 2024. This change would also require the alignment of the Mayoral election to take place in May 2024 (and thereby reducing the Mayoral term of office by two years,) with the Mayor holding the PCC powers.

**Recommendations:**

To give Sheffield City Council's consent to:

- the making of an order to provide for the Mayor of South Yorkshire to exercise functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner ("PCC") in relation to South Yorkshire with effect from May 2024, and
- to reduce the current Mayoral term by two years so as to align with the PCC election cycle in May 2024.

**Background Papers:**

Report to the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority relating to the transfer of PCC functions [12. Transfer of PCC Functions.pdf \(southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/12-Transfer-of-PCC-Functions.pdf)

Lead Officer to complete:-		
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed.	Finance: <i>Matthew Ardern</i>
		Legal: <i>Petra Der Man</i>
		Equalities & Consultation: <i>Ed Sexton</i>
		Climate: <i>n/a</i>
	<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>	
2	<b>SLB member who approved submission:</b>	<i>James Henderson</i>
3	<b>Committee Chair consulted:</b>	<i>Cllr Tom Hunt</i>
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the SLB member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.	
	<b>Lead Officer Name:</b> <i>James Henderson</i>	<b>Job Title:</b> <i>Director of Policy and Democratic Engagement</i>
	<b>Date:</b> <i>8 November 2023</i>	

## **1. BACKGROUND AND PROPOSAL**

### Police and Crime Commissioners

- 1.1 In common with all police force areas across England and Wales, South Yorkshire has had an elected Police and Crime Commissioner (“PCC”) in place since November 2012.
- 1.2 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 provides PCCs with the responsibility to:
- appoint and dismiss the Chief Constable
  - set a police and crime plan and with the Chief Constable agree local policing priorities
  - set a local police precept and set the annual police budget in consultation with the Chief Constable
  - receive the policing grant from the Home Office, as well as any other funding streams
  - publish an annual report at the end of the financial year, which will set out progress made by the Commissioner against the objectives set out in the Plan
  - publish annual financial accounts alongside the annual report
  - have a general duty to regularly consult and involve the public and have regard to the local authority priorities.
  - be able to require a report from the Chief Constable at any time about their functions.
- 1.3 The current Police and Crime Commissioner’s term is due to come to an end in May 2024 when elections are scheduled.

### Mayoral Combined Authorities

- 1.4 The South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (“MCA”) was established in 2014. In 2018 the first elections for a Mayor were held, a second election was held in 2022 for a mayoral term of 4 years. The Mayor has responsibility for a range of functions relating mainly to the economic development of South Yorkshire, including adult skills provision; business support; inward investment; and infrastructure development. As part of devolution agreements secured from central Government, the MCA has secured significant devolved responsibilities on these policy areas and delegated budgets (such as the £30m/year gainshare agreement).
- 1.5 The Mayor and MCA are responsible for public transport provision across South Yorkshire, and the Mayor also has growing responsibility for health and wellbeing, including chairing the South Yorkshire Integrated Care Partnership (ICP).
- 1.6 The current South Yorkshire Mayor’s term is due to come to an end in May 2026 when elections are scheduled.

## PCC powers held by Combined Authority Mayors

1.7 There is provision in legislation for those areas that have a combined authority Mayor in place (such as South Yorkshire) that the functions of the PCC may be held by the Mayor.

1.8 The Government's White Paper, 'Levelling Up the United Kingdom' contained the following commitment:

*"The UK Government will take steps to remove barriers to combined authority Mayors taking on public safety functions. Where there are existing or planned mayoral combined authorities with coterminous boundaries to PCCs and Fire and Rescue Authorities, the UK Government will look to transfer these functions to the Mayor."*

1.9 At its meetings in June and July the MCA endorsed a proposal for a transfer of PCC functions to the Mayor and amongst other recommendations agreed to:-

*"Submit a joint letter from the Mayor, MCA Leaders and PCC to the Secretaries of State for the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and the Home Office to request that Government officials work with South Yorkshire officers to draft legislation to allow decisions to be made in the Autumn"*

1.10 Discussions with the Home Office and the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities officials have confirmed government support for the transfer of PCC powers to the Mayor of South Yorkshire from 2024.

1.11 These discussions have culminated in a letter from the Home Office and the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities dated 20<sup>th</sup> September confirming that they:-

*"intend, subject to the statutorily required local consents and Parliamentary approval, to make the necessary legislation to transfer PCC functions to be exercised by the South Yorkshire Mayor from May 2024, and to reduce the current mayoral term in order to align the mayoral and PCC election cycles from May next year"*

1.12 An order is now expected to be introduced into Parliament in late November 2023, and be made in early 2024. The order will do the following:-

1. Provide for all functions presently exercised by the PCC to be functions exercisable by the Mayor for South Yorkshire with effect from May 2024;
2. Transfer all property, rights, liabilities of the PCC to the MCA, with future decisions on such matters being vested in the Mayor;
3. Provide for the continuity of the operation by substituting the MCA for the PCC in any legislation/instruments/contracts etc;

4. Deal with financial year end issues; and
  5. Reduce the current mayoral term in order to align the mayoral and PCC election cycles from May 2024.
- 1.13 The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 requires, amongst other matters, for the consent of each district in the area of the MCA to the making of the order. This will be required in writing prior to the order being laid.
- 1.14 It is proposed that Sheffield City Council should provide its consent to the making of this order through agreeing the recommendations in this report.

## 2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE ?

- 2.1 The four Local Authorities, the MCA, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and South Yorkshire Police want South Yorkshire communities to be the safest in the country. They also understand the vital importance of legitimacy to the British policing model and of ensuring that every individual in our communities can have confidence that police services will be delivered without fear or favour.
- 2.2 Across South Yorkshire there is widespread recognition of the critical role policing, criminal justice and community safety services have on the co-creation of opportunities for economic growth and thriving communities. There is also widespread appreciation for the valuable work undertaken by the PCC, South Yorkshire Police and the OPCC to build safe and strong communities.
- 2.3 South Yorkshire Police has made significant improvements in its performance in recent year, and in the 2021/22 inspection by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services, was found to be outstanding in three areas of policing, and good or adequate in all of the other areas. It was praised by the inspectorate for "its performance in keeping people safe and reducing crime". However, the inspectorate also stated that it "needs to continue to improve its initial response to incidents to provide a consistently good service".
- 2.4 The MCA have stated that by transferring PCC functions to the Mayor, they will:
- Create **one single accountable, elected politician** to represent the interests of communities on South Yorkshire wide issues, whilst also strengthening the opportunities to improve political scrutiny in line with the recently published English Devolution Accountability Framework.
  - **Deepen collaborative working** to further address issues including substance misuse, mental ill health crisis, serious violence – to include gender-based violence, economic crime, anti-social behaviour, road safety and re-offending.

- **Realise efficiencies** from shared corporate support services and joint business planning to release enhanced funding for frontline policing delivery.
- 2.5 The Mayor and MCA roles in health (including the Mayor's role as Chair of the ICP) together with responsibility for skills and training provide opportunities to co-design, with the police and other criminal justice agencies, programmes to support vulnerable people.
- 2.6 Opportunities include:
- **Better support to victims, including victims of gender-based violence and sexual assault.** For example, the opportunity for greater integration with therapeutic mental health support, both immediately after an incident and to provide continuity of care where needed.
  - **New approaches to dealing with mental ill health** that could potentially support additional investment in services for people experiencing a mental health crisis, resulting in better services targeted at those needing support and easing pressure on police services. An estimated 40% of all police calls include an issue related to mental ill health.
  - **A partnership wide focus on road safety and safety across the public transport network.** Capitalising on the Mayor's leadership and convening powers across transport, local authorities, and policing to put in place an action plan to reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured on roads across South Yorkshire. The four South Yorkshire local authorities have the highest number of people killed or seriously injured on roads across all metropolitan councils in England.
  - **Strengthening community drug and alcohol treatment services** as an alternative to custodial sentencing, for people who would otherwise have been sentenced inappropriately. Ensuring that police and other criminal justice system partners are working with local authorities and the NHS to maximise the benefit to South Yorkshire communities of the significant funding made available following Dame Carol Black's independent review of drugs.
  - Working with local authorities to examine the opportunities that may arise through UKSPF funding to **tackle anti-social behaviour and rural crime.**
  - **Provide additional support for the most vulnerable children and young people** with complex needs in contact or at risk of being in contact with the youth justice system, with complex and challenging needs. Potential improvements in the consultation, advice, assessment, treatment and transition into integrated services.
  - Work with businesses and financial institutions to seek innovative solutions to **prevent fraud** and with the VCSE sector to **support victims of fraud and prevent re-victimisation.**
- 2.7 The Mayor would be required to appoint a Deputy Mayor with responsibility for policing matters to ensure that these continued to receive sufficient attention within the wider set of responsibilities of the mayor. The Police and Crime Panel, which consists of elected councillors from



across the four constituent authorities (Barnsley, Rotherham, Doncaster and Sheffield) would continue to be in place to provide additional scrutiny and oversight of the work of the mayor and deputy mayor in relation to policing issues.

- 2.8 With respect to Sheffield City Council, the 2022-23 Corporate Delivery Plan identified community safety as a key area for development with a focus on reducing anti-social behaviour and working closely with the Police on to reduce criminal exploitation and disrupt organised crime groups, as well as joint working to address vulnerability and reduce the risk of individuals being drawn towards terrorism. The proposals contained in this report are not considered to have a significant impact on the Police's ability to work with Sheffield City Council on these issues.

### **3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?**

- 3.1 Sheffield City Council has not undertaken any consultation in relation to this matter, as the lead agency is the MCA. Consultation is not required in order for the Council to provide its consent to the order.

### **4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION**

#### **4.1 Equality Implications**

- 4.1.1 An initial equalities impact assessment has been undertaken and has identified that the equalities impacts of the proposal itself are likely to be neutral, although there is the potential for a positive impact on people who share protected characteristics as a result of the policing powers being held by the mayor.

#### **4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications**

- 4.2.1 There are no immediate financial implications of this proposal. However, the removal of the need to elect a PCC means there will be one less joint election locally. These joint elections result in some cost sharing which will be lost following the abolition of the PCC role. Work is being undertaken to assess this impact but in the medium term there is sufficient resource to ensure the delivery of local elections is unaffected.

#### **4.3 Legal Implications**

- 4.3.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the "2011 Act") established the position of PCC and specifies the core functions of a PCC. Section 107F of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, (inserted by s. 4 of the Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016) provides that a Mayor for the area of a combined authority can, by a legislative order, be conferred functions of a PCC for the area, subject to the consent of the Mayor, and the consents of each of the Districts in the MCA area. This report is seeking the consent

of Sheffield City Council, (being one of the 4 constituent Councils of the MCA) for an order to be made. The order transferring the functions of the PCC to the Mayor will also provide for the consequent reduction in the present mayoral term by two years so as to align with the PCC election cycle from May 2024.

4.3.2 This report is being considered by the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee pursuant to Part 3 of the Council's Constitution, in that this is a "...policy matter not otherwise allocated to a committee".

4.3.3 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended requires local authorities to consider the crime and disorder implications of all their activities and functions and do all that they reasonably can to reduce these problems.

#### 4.4 Climate Implications

4.4.1 There are no climate implications arising from this proposal

### 5. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 The only alternative option is for Sheffield City Council to withhold its consent. This was dismissed as it would not secure the benefits of integrating the PCC and mayoral powers as set out in paragraphs 2.4 to 2.6 above.

### 6. **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 It is recommended that Sheffield City Council provides its support for the transfer of PCC powers to the South Yorkshire Mayor as this will secure the following benefits for the people and communities of Sheffield:

- Create **one single accountable, elected politician** to represent the interests of communities on South Yorkshire wide issues, whilst also strengthening the opportunities to improve political scrutiny in line with the recently published English Devolution Accountability Framework.
- **Deepen collaborative working** to further address issues including substance misuse, mental ill health crisis, serious violence – to include gender-based violence, economic crime, anti-social behaviour, road safety and re-offending.
- **Realise efficiencies** from shared corporate support services and joint business planning to release enhanced funding for frontline policing delivery.



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## PART A - Initial Impact Assessment

**Proposal Name:** Sheffield City Council's Consent for the Police & Crime Commissioner Powers

**EIA ID:** 2438

**EIA Author:** James Henderson (CEX)

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**Proposal Outline:** The mayor of South Yorkshire has proposed that the powers of the Police and Crime Commissioner should be held by the mayor following the current PCC's term of office in May 2024. This transfer of powers requires the consent of all four constituent councils within the Mayoral Combined Authority, of which Sheffield is one. This report seeks Sheffield City Council's formal consent to this transfer, and to reducing the Mayor's term of office to coincide with the term of office for the Police and Crime Commissioner to enable a new mayoral election to take place in May 2024 with the mayor holding the police and crime commissioner powers.

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**Proposal Type:** Non-Budget

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**Year Of Proposal:** 23/24

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**Lead Director for proposal:** James Henderson (CEX)

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**Service Area:** Policy and Democratic Engagement

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**EIA Start Date:** 06/11/2023

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**Lead Equality Objective:** Leading the city in celebrating and promoting inclusion

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**Equality Lead Officer:**

## Decision Type

**Committees:**

Policy Committees

- Strategy & Resources

## Portfolio

**Primary Portfolio:**

Strategic Support Services

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**EIA is cross portfolio:**

No

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**EIA is joint with another organisation:**

No

## Overview of Impact

**Overview Summary:**

The proposal itself is a change in formal governance arrangements (moving powers from an elected Police and Crime Commissioner to the elected South Yorkshire Mayor). As such there is unlikely to be a significant impact on any particular groups of people. However, the proposal is designed to be an enabling one to support greater integration between the work of South Yorkshire Police and partner agencies, including local authorities. Through the improvements in efficiency and effectiveness outlined in the report there could be a positive impact for some specific groups (e.g. people at risk of domestic violence, people with mental health problems or others who may be vulnerable).

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**Impacted characteristics:**

- Age
- Cohesion
- Disability
- Health
- Poverty & Financial Inclusion
- Pregnancy/Maternity
- Race

Sex  
Sexual Orientation  
Voluntary/Community & Faith Sectors  
Religion/Belief  
Partners  
Gender Reassignment  
Carers

## Consultation and other engagement

## Cumulative Impact

Does the proposal have a cumulative impact: No

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Impact areas:

## Initial Sign-Off

Full impact assessment required: No

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Review Date: 06/11/2023

## Action Plan & Supporting Evidence

Outline of action plan:

Action plan evidence:

Changes made as a result of action plan:

## Mitigation

Significant risk after mitigation measures:

Outline of impact and risks:

## Review Date

Review Date:

06/11/2023