

Sheffield Safeguarding Children Board
ANNUAL REPORT
2018 – 2019

www.safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org

Essential Information

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This document is freely available from Sheffield Safeguarding Children Partnership website:



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Introduction from the Independent Chair



I am delighted to introduce this Annual Report, which summarises a busy and important year for partnership working across Sheffield. My thanks to all those individuals and partner agencies who have contributed to the work of the Board and Partnership in 2018-19.

As the Annual Report highlights, a core principle continues to be the engagement and involvement of children and young people in safeguarding and promoting the well-being and success of all young citizens in our City.

The significant changes in how partners work together to protect children have been prepared with a great deal of consultation and involvement. How we will deliver these new arrangements is now set out in our Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements Plan, published in June 2019. This reflects the strong spirit of cooperation and common purpose that we have built up over the past five years.

The Annual Report sets out the scrutiny and challenge that form part of our way of working in Sheffield and it shows how we continue to learn and improve. The way in which we learn from what we do is essential to making a difference and will incorporate lessons from all recent inspections for all our major partners. This year we have particularly identified the areas where further work is required or where our ambitions have still to be fully realised. This provides a strong basis for the new Safeguarding Arrangements to assess progress over the coming year.

Sheffield has a robust framework to make sure that we consolidate what we learn and apply it to improve services. We continue to innovate in our approaches to undertaking audits, assuring practice and encouraging strong collaborative working. I am sure that these will continue to be important features of effective safeguarding in Sheffield.

My thanks to Jane Haywood, Independent Chair until March 2019, and to all the Board officers and colleagues who have contributed to the work of safeguarding in Sheffield.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Ashcroft".

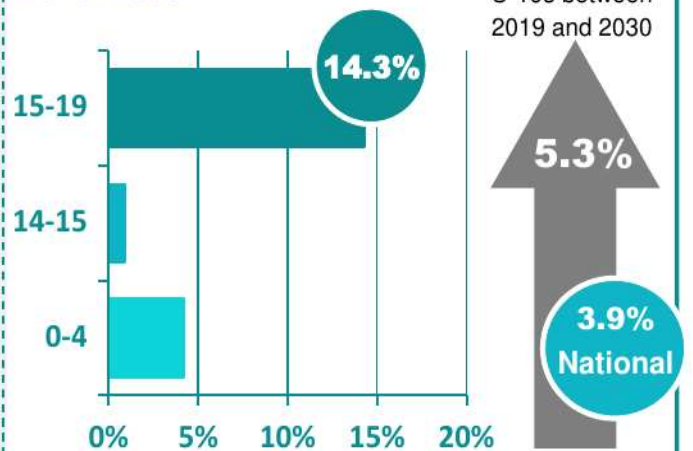
David Ashcroft
Independent Chair
Sheffield Safeguarding Children Partnership

An Outline of Sheffield

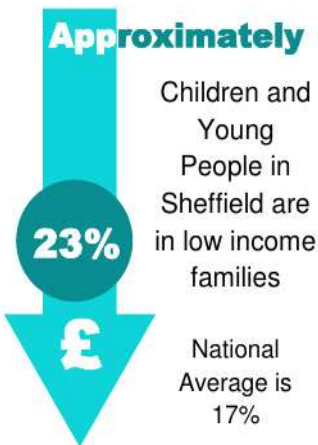
Population



Population Growth 2019-2030



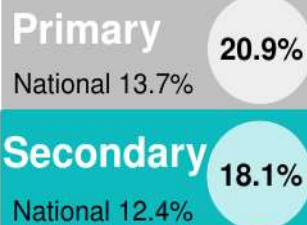
Deprivation



Children in Sheffield entitled to claim

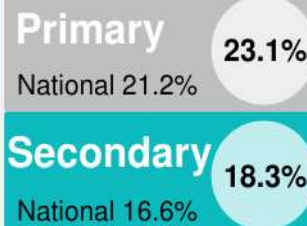


Free School Meals

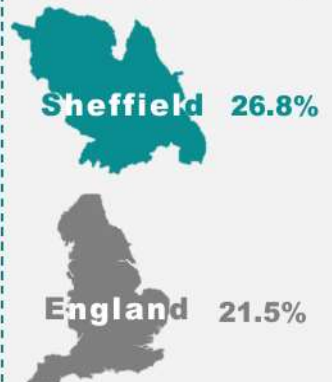


Diversity

Children and young people with English as an additional language



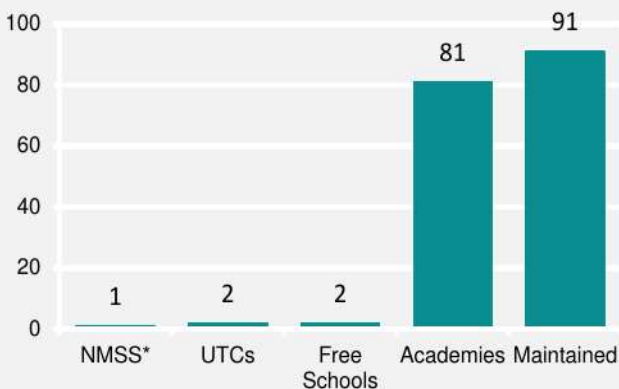
Children and young people from minority ethnic groups (excluding white other)



The largest minority ethnic groups of U18s in Sheffield are Asian

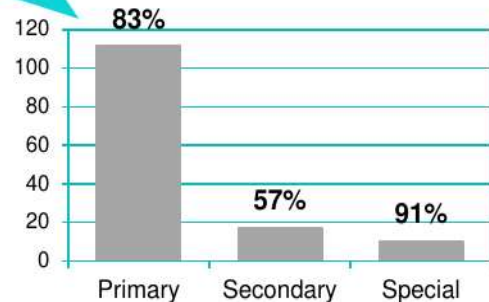
Education

177 Schools in Sheffield



*Non-Maintained Special School

79% of schools in Sheffield are rated good or outstanding by Ofsted



2.5% of pupils in Sheffield have an Education Health Care Plan or Statement

National Average is 2.9%

Children and Young People's Involvement

Children and young people have some of the sharpest minds about and have some incredible ideas.

Children and young people can have an understanding of 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 children and young people'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)

CIT is commissioned by Sheffield Children's Social Care with the primary focus of seeking the views and opinions of children and young people and ensuring that their views are listened to and taken into account by decision makers, both on an individual and collective level.

During the financial year 2018-19, the CIT delivered the following:

- 346 children advocated for at initial child protection conference.
- 135 children advocated for at first review child protection conference.
- 60 looked after children, care leavers and disabled children advocated for.
- 18 children involved in Children in Care Council activities.
- 9 young people involved in Care Leaver Union activities.
- 52 matches were supported between a child in care and an Independent Visitor.
- 70 children and young people spoken to about their experiences of Social Care.

Advocacy for Children in Child Protection Conferences

The Children's Involvement Team provide independent advocacy for children aged 5 to 17 years at the Initial Child Protection Conference (ICPC). Where it is considered beneficial for the child, they will be offered advocacy support for the 1st Review Child Protection Conference (RCPC).



Once parental consent has been obtained, the advocate meets with the child before the conference on their own, preferably away from the family home, to hear what they want the advocate to say during the conference on their behalf. The advocate will then attend the conference, in the majority of cases without the child though the advocate can support the child to self-advocate in conference if the child requests this, to represent the child's views and feelings, ask questions on their behalf and ensure that the child's views are incorporated into the Plan, where appropriate. Following the conference, the advocate will meet with the child to feed back to them about the meeting, talk to them about the outcome of the conference and explain the Plan to them.

During 2018-19, 589 referrals were received to the service. Of these, 346 (59%) children were advocated for at Initial CPC and 135 children were advocated for at First Review CPC. The main reasons for a child not receiving advocacy support were parents not giving consent (106 at Initial CPC and 31 children at First Review CPC) and the child opting out of advocacy (71 at initial CPC and 17 children at First Review CPC).

What We Will Do Next

The Children's Involvement Team will:

- Continue to provide advocacy for all children 5-17 years at Initial CPC and will work with children and professionals to identify those cases where it would be beneficial to continue advocacy to First Review.
- Adapt their resources and approach to reflect the Signs of Safety Framework, including feedback to children in a 'words and pictures' format.
- Continue to seek feedback from children and professionals about their experience of the advocacy service and make changes to the service as a result of any recommendations.

What did children and young people say about advocacy?

Children complete an evaluation of the advocacy service they received, which demonstrates the impact:

"It was good because I could find out things that happen in the meetings, [my advocate] could tell me everything I wanted to know and say what I wanted to say in the meeting. [My advocate] was nice and told people what I wanted to say"

"It's been really helpful as I have had school and didn't want to miss out or fall out as I'm in year 10 and there's a lot of work that I have to do for GCSE and a lot to remember or catch up on. It was also helpful due to me not having to go to the meetings or feel uncomfortable but it has also helped others be honest with me. It's been really helpful for me to talk to someone I don't know and it's helpful for me to open up honestly because in the meetings I may have held things back"

"I was important for me to have my own advocate because everyone else has their own support worker that believes what they are saying but no one believes me normally"

"It's been good because it's good for everyone to have someone to talk to about what's going on and listen. An advocate is always there for you to talk to"

Children in Care Council (CiCC)

The Children's Involvement Team have facilitated the Sheffield Children in Care Council (CiCC) since January 2015. The CiCC are a group of energetic and enthusiastic 12-18 year olds who meet every fortnight to work on projects to improve the care experiences of children in the care of Sheffield local authority. By the end of March 2019, the group had 18 members who attend group sessions regularly; 4 new members joined the group during the year and 1 transferred to the Sheffield Care Leavers' Union.

The group's main areas of focus during the year have been placements, mental health, social workers and information for leaving care, as voted for by CiCC members during a planning session in April 2018.

The group attended the 'Bag a Book Day' event for children looked after where they consulted with younger children to capture their views on their topic of 'placements' to feed into their work. During the year, they completed their film, 'The Placement Game' and training package and the focus of this year was to deliver training to professionals, including foster carers and children's home staff.

The young people have delivered the training themselves and have developed a range of skills through this. During the year, over 200 foster carers and children's home staff have received training, as well as Corporate Parenting Board members and Independent Reviewing Officers. The young people won the Children & Young People Now award, in the Children in Care category, for 'The Placement Game' and attended a ceremony in December 2018 to collect their award.

On 30th May 2018 three members of our Children in Care Council presented at a regional conference in Leeds held on behalf of the Children's Commissioner. There were representatives from other Care Councils across Yorkshire and Humber and key decision makers from each area. After showing their new film "The Placement Game" they talked about the inequalities they believe there are among residential and foster placements.



What did CiCC members say?

“I wanted to see if I could do anything to help children in care and to think if there was anything I could do to make a massive impact on their lives. I wanted to give this a try and hear other people’s views and opinions and become more vocal and confident myself when talking to people in care.”

“I think the CiCC is important because if it wasn’t here we wouldn’t be able to change how things are for children or teens in care, and if not we can’t change the bad aspects of everything. We come to Care Council to make friends and become closer to new people or friends we have lost touch with.”

“I enjoy delivering training and speaking at events as I know what we are doing is having an impact. I also enjoy the sessions as I have made friends that I enjoy seeing in and out of the group. The CiCC has also massively helped with my confidence as when I first started coming I was very shy and found it hard to make friends and speak out, but now I find it easy to talk in front of my peers, adults and important people.”

“I found out about the CiCC from my advocate and I came because I wanted to try and improve things for children in care. I feel that my self-confidence and self-esteem have really improved from coming to the group and being involved in group projects. I love speaking out and debating. I would say if you want a career in broadcasting this is a good place to start!”

Members said they come to CiCC...

“to help make a difference to the world and Sheffield. It’s fun.”

“to make lives for young children in foster care and residential homes better.”

“to encourage foster carers to foster children.”

“to help people in foster care to understand what it’s like for children in foster care and residential.”

“because it’s a place I can express my thoughts and feelings.”

“as it helps us and other children in care have our own say. It gives everyone the same “rights.”

“to voice my opinions on important topics surrounding children in care.”

Sheffield Care Leavers' Union (SCLU)

SCLU meet on a fortnightly basis, with additional sessions to work on particular projects or tasks. There are currently 9 core members of the group, with an expanding database of care leavers who are happy to be contacted and consulted with, rather than attend a regular group in person



The main focus of the year was to establish an identity for the group, secure regular attendees and recruit new members, devise a work plan for the year and accomplish some short term goals to encourage the young people's engagement.

In August 2018, a new member of the Children's Involvement Team was recruited to lead on SCLU.

During 2018-19 the group have:

- Developed a website, www.sclu.life to engage other care leavers in service evaluation and change
- Consulted other care leavers about communication with the Leaving Care Service. The feedback was presented to members of the Service and agreed improvements are being made
- Contributed ideas and artwork for the Care Leavers Art Show Sheffield (CLASS), which took place in November 2018. Over 70 young people attended the event. Feedback from care leavers included that they "felt really welcome" and that they enjoyed the event as it "was great to socialise with other people". One care leaver also stated that she had been struggling with her mental health but came to CLASS and "felt better for it".



What did SCLU members say?

"I joined SCLU to make a difference and at SCLU we talk about passionate stuff that's close to my heart and debate about stuff. I feel like we're making things better"

"Coming to the group helps you to meet new people and talk to them. It's good to make a difference."

"It's good fun. It's good to make a change in the care system, I feel like our voices are being heard now. Without us care leavers' wouldn't have a voice"

"I go to SCLU to make a difference in care leavers' lives and make our voices heard. It is important as it is a way to channel the ignored concerns that we have and influence decision makers to improve services. Successful changes that have been made through the care system was because of groups like this. It's an engaging group and you feel more in power, knowing that you can make a difference, take away that frustration that you have when you feel victimised, disrespected and powerless."

"My favourite thing about SCLU is the atmosphere is fun and we have a laugh"

Section 1

The Sheffield Safeguarding Children Board

Sheffield Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) 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 children and young people 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 SSCB provides the strategic and operational direction of safeguarding and continuous monitoring of performance in Sheffield. The Board 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. From July 2019 the SSCB became the Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership (see page 16 for more information)

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 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.

Key roles and relationship

The Independent Chair

During 2018/19 our Independent Chair was Jane Haywood. Jane was supported in her role by a Senior Professional Advisor and a dedicated team of Board Officers. The Chair is tasked with ensuring the Board 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.



Partner agencies

All partner agencies in the city are committed to ensuring the effective operation of the SSCB. This is supported by a Constitution that defines the fundamental principles through which the SSCB is governed. Members of the Executive Board hold a strategic role within their organisation and are able to speak with authority, commit to matters of policy and hold their organisation to account.

Safeguarding leads/designated professionals

The safeguarding leads and designated professionals in the city provide a valuable source of professional advice and support for practitioners across their agencies and have continued to demonstrate their value during this year.

Relationship with other Boards

There is an expectation that LSCBs 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 2018/19, engagement continued with:

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

The connection between the Children's and Adults' Safeguarding Boards is strengthened by having the same Independent Chair and the same Safeguarding Partnership Manager. The Professional Adviser to the SSCB also maintains a key partnership role by membership of the Domestic Abuse Strategic Group, the Vulnerable Young Peoples Risk Panel, The Youth Justice Partnership, the Sexual Exploitation Strategic Board and the Hidden Harm Implementation

Group. The Chair of the Community Safety Partnership is a member of the Executive Board. All of this enables clear communication and a good flow of information.

Lay Members

The SSCB encourages independent oversight and this is enhanced by the inclusion of two Lay Members who in 2018/19 sat on the Executive Board. The Lay Members provide a valuable contribution by being active participants who provide effective challenge and an objective viewpoint.

Board Performance

The Board 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
- The quarterly data dashboard that provides information on progress against section 11 compliance, SCR/Learning Lesson Review action plans and 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 children and young people
- Oversight of work plans and action plans for the board sub-groups to ensure progress is being made.

New Safeguarding Arrangements

Following on from the recommendations of the Wood Review 2017, the change in legislation to the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and the subsequent revised government guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) will be replaced in 2019/20 with new local multi-agency safeguarding partnership arrangements.

Therefore, in July 2019 the Sheffield Safeguarding Children Board changed to become the Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership (SCSP).

Safeguarding partners in Sheffield will continue to work together in order to identify and respond to the needs of children and young people through the new Partnership. The Partnership is led jointly by South Yorkshire Police, Sheffield City Council and the Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group.

The Partnership will operate in line with the requirements of the statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018' and will cover the geographical area of Sheffield, as defined by the local authority boundaries. The geographical footprint corresponds with that of the Sheffield CCG footprint and the Sheffield District of South Yorkshire Police. The safeguarding partners and other organisations and agencies included in these arrangements will 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.

What We Achieved

In July 2018 we launched the Team Up initiative in partnership with SWFC and others to promote inclusion and equality for children and vulnerable adults in stadiums and sports venues. The club is developing an inhouse training package on how to recognise and respond to people with invisible disabilities such as mental ill health or autistic traits.



This year work to address harmful gambling has resulted in

- Sharing Sheffield's good practise at regional events
- Work with the Gambling Commission and others to develop and promote a training resource for the gambling trade
- A proposal for a Strategy to tackle harmful gambling, which includes the commissioning of YGAM to provide awareness training to staff in secondary schools

In addition to the training for Taxi drivers, safeguarding training and awareness has also been delivered to hotels and managers at takeaways and fast food restaurants with a view to exploring their role in raising Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) awareness across the fast food trade. We are represented on the UK Advisory and Implementation Panel for Contextual Safeguarding as well as at a national level for Licensing Enforcement Officers giving us opportunities to influence national policy in relation to contextual safeguarding.

Unannounced night time inspections with partners to Shisha venues have resulted in a number of premises being disrupted for unsafe operational standards and prosecuted by Sheffield City Council (SCC) for illegal smoking

Considerable amounts of work have been undertaken to raise awareness of the impact of substance misuse on children including:

- 5 Safeguarding refresher events with Substance Misuse, Domestic Abuse and Mental Health Services
- A Parental Mental Health workshop to help develop a strategy and joint working agreement between Adult Mental Health Services and Children Services
- Increasing awareness of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder via a hidden harm masterclass, a Team Talk and training for targeted services

As well as regular development sessions, Workforce Development activity during 2018/19 has included:

- Closer working with the Adult Safeguarding Partnership on joint programmes including a new course for those transitioning from Childrens to Adult services
- Further online courses including ones on Prevent & Radicalisation, Child Sexual Exploitation, Trafficking and Modern Slavery and Children with Disabilities
- Two well attended SSCB Conferences focusing on Safeguarding Adolescents: Issues and challenges when working with children and young people aged 13+

Team Talks on emerging issues have continued to be produced for use in team meetings. See the latest on [Bullying and Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder](#).

Following a Multiagency Audit of Contacts and Referrals to the Sheffield Safeguarding Hub, the SSCB has worked closely with Children’s Social Care to develop guidance regarding the completion of MACFs.

This year the SSCB has undertaken work to monitor and improve professional’s attendance at, and report submissions to Child Protection Conferences. This was discussed at the annual challenge meetings held with agencies at the end of 2018.

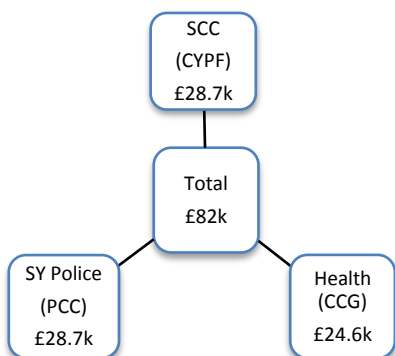
Funding Arrangements

Sheffield Safeguarding Children Board

The Partners that make up the SSCB 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 2017/18	£
Carried Forward	44 k
Contributions:	
Sheffield City Council	91.2 k
Health: CCG	91.2 k
SY Police: PCC	36.6 k
National Probation Service	2.7 k
CDOP	68.0 k
Total	364.2 k

SSCB Funding of the Sheffield Exploitation Service



The SSCB provides additional partnership funding to the Sexual Exploitation Service to cover the costs of the Manager and Business Support. Consistent with the rest of the SSCB budget, a standstill position has been in place since 2014/15.

Section 2

How We Learn From What We Do

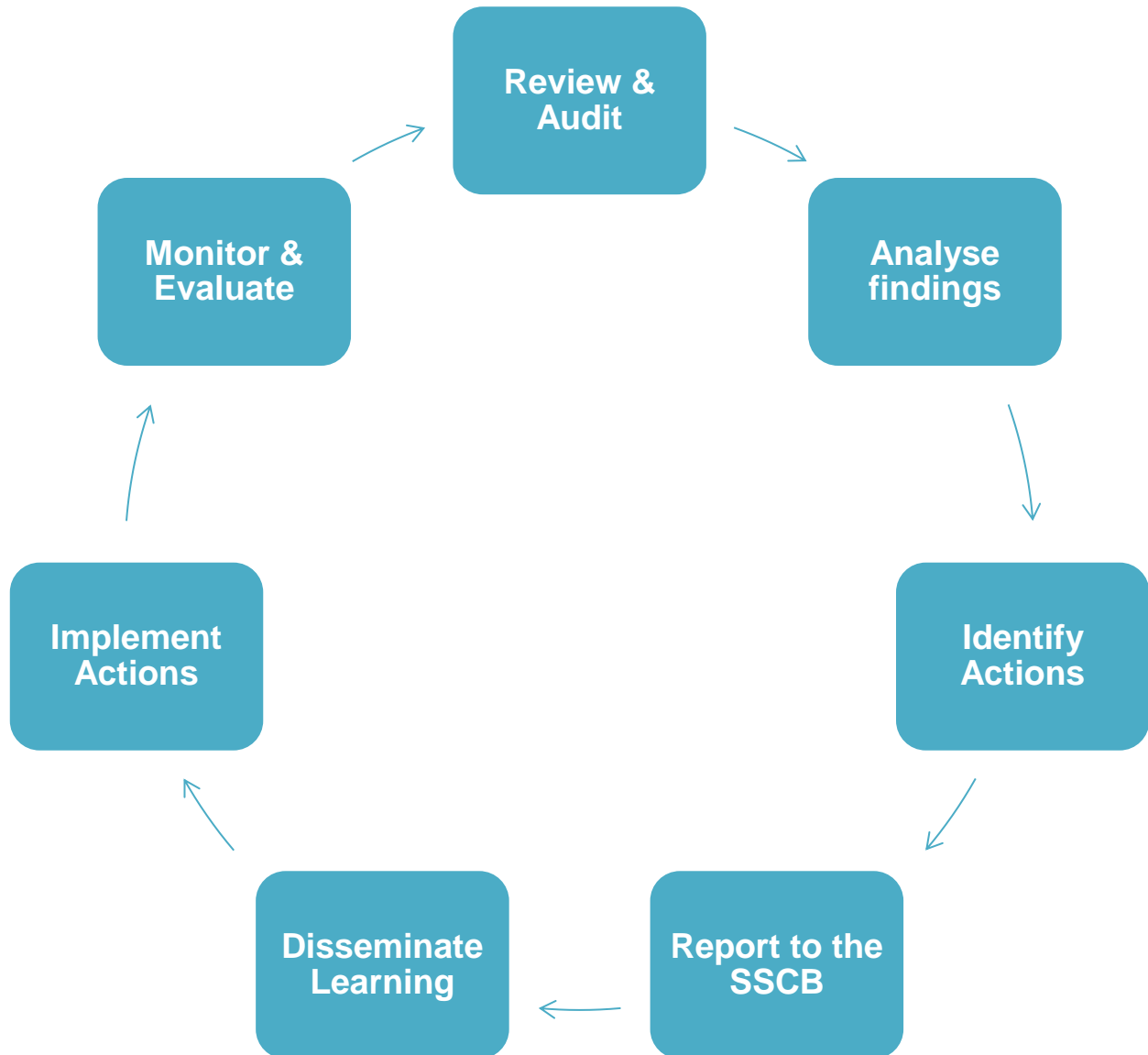


*Includes: Serious Case Reviews, Learning Lessons Reviews and Child Death Overview Panel.

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

Quality Assurance, Learning & Improvement Framework

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



Multi-Agency Data Suite

The Data Suite has developed the Boards understanding of safeguarding performance across the city and provided evidence of impact of the Boards work. The multiagency data suite continues to focus on 5 priority areas:

- Neglect
- Sexual Exploitation
- Thresholds
- Transitions
- Substance and Alcohol Misuse (Hidden Harm)

Each quarter the data is collected and reviewed. A report of the data suite is presented to the Learning Practice and Improvement Group and Executive Board for scrutiny.



The impact of the data suite can be evidenced through:

Hidden Harm

Data relating to Child Protection and the Multi-agency Pregnancy Liaison and Assessment Group (MAPLAG) indicated that a significant number of parents and pregnant women were misusing cannabis, but not accessing the Sheffield Health and Social Care (SHSC) Non-Opiate Service. It appeared that Cannabis was not considered to be as dangerous or damaging as other drug misuse (e.g. heroin, cocaine). This resulted in the development of Hidden Harm master classes relating to Understanding Cannabis to ensure increased awareness. These masterclasses are due to run in 2019/20.

Hidden harm data also showed that few referrals were being made into the What About Me (WAM) service, which aims to support children affected by someone else's drug or alcohol use. Consequently, information was provided to partner agencies and who were encouraged to refer cases resulting. The data now shows there has been an increase in referrals to this service.

Child Protection Conferences (CPC)

Attendance of professionals at CPCs and the submission of reports in the event of non attendance was monitored to enable a better understanding of attendance and the CPC invitation letter was amended to highlight the priority of attendance. It is reported that the quality of GP reports received has increased and South Yorkshire Police have a dedicated resource to attend child protection conferences. Attendance and report submissions continues to be monitored to ensure that the most effective CP Plans can be written and implemented.

Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)

It was identified that wider work was needed around CCE and so it was agreed that the business plan would be updated to ensure this was a priority for 2018/19. The CCE Team became more established through the city and links between the CCE Team and Sexual Exploitation team were strengthened, seeing both teams become co-located. This enables effective work with the most at risk and vulnerable children and young people in the city. Additionally, the training delivered to the taxi and hotel trade has been revised to include CCE awareness and a programme of advice visits and refresher training was delivered to staff working in 18 hotels across the city.

Section 11 & 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. LSCBs have a responsibility to ensure that Board 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 2018/19 Board partner agencies updated their Section 11 self-assessments. The action plans arising from this continued to be monitored during the year through regular review and scrutiny at the Executive Board. Following the Section 11 self-assessments, the annual single agency quality assurance and challenge meetings were undertaken. Each Board partner agency had a separate meeting with the Independent Chair, Professional Adviser to the Board and the Research Officer.

The objective of the meetings was to seek assurance from partners that they had effective and coordinated safeguarding arrangements in place. This involved scrutiny and discussion of each agency's section 11 return and any ongoing actions, alongside other relevant areas highlighted through SSCB evaluation and audit work, SCR/LLR action plans and inspection reports.

The meetings included some areas that were discussed with all agencies, however the majority of questions were developed to be specific to the agency in attendance. Actions were developed for agencies from these meetings that continue to be monitored.

Serious Case Reviews and Lessons Learned Reviews

LSCBs are required to undertake serious case reviews (SCRs) in specific circumstances. Where the criteria for a SCR is not met, but there are concerns relating to multi-agency safeguarding practice, a 'Lessons Learned' review may be undertaken to ensure partners learn from what happened. The aim of both SCR's and Lessons Learned Reviews is to improve practice by learning from what has happened across agencies and by involving staff and families in the process.



In 2018/19 two Serious Case Reviews were undertaken by the SSCB, which were signed off at the Executive Board meeting in June 2018. Both reports include recommendations and actions for the partnership as a whole and for individual agencies.

Following discussion with the families involved, the reports will be published alongside a one page Learning Brief to ensure learning is shared and implemented.

The emerging learning points from the first review, which are included in an action plan, are:

- Ensuring that agencies give appropriate attention to males who have contact with children and demonstrate sufficient professional curiosity about these males.
- Ensuring sufficient liaison and sharing of information between agencies and robust arrangements that enable staff to communicate promptly with colleagues from their own and other agencies, including knowing how to escalate the situation if they are unable to contact a specific individual.

Changes have started to be implemented following the second review, which include:

- The development of a multi-agency response to Contextual Safeguarding and Exploitation including the formation of a multi-agency co-located Child Criminal Exploitation Team.
- Improvements within Education Services around how the Local Authority responds to children not in education, including for preschool children missing Free Early Learning. For example, better monitoring of persistent absence and welfare visits for families who have been known to the Elective Home Education service and not seen for over one year
- Return Home Interviews transferred to a bespoke team within Sheffield Futures making it independent from any other statutory provision
- Work carried out at licensed premises to respond to issues of knife crime including test purchase operations, with traders failing these tests expected to attend safeguarding training. Door staff at music venues/clubs provided with guidance about how to carry out security checks using bespoke guidance produced by the Safeguarding Children's Board, Security Industry Authority and South Yorkshire Police.
- Proposal agreed for an alternative pathway for children and young people at risk of contextual safeguarding that does not take them through the traditional child protection routes.

A Learning Lessons Review was commenced in February 2018, which was published in March 2019. A key message from this case was the importance of tackling bullying and the impact that it has on a young person. As such, procedures and resources were added to the SSCB online procedures. Other recommendations involved issues around children transitioning into Adult Services and the need to remember that a 16/17 year old is not an adult and that their needs should be considered under the Children Act 1989 with parents involved and seen as part of the solution

Recommendations to improve practice have been made in all 3 reviews and action plans, which are being progressed by either single agencies or the partnership, are monitored by the Board.

The findings are also considered by the Learning & Practice Improvement Group and training is being up-dated to reflect any relevant findings.

Multi-Agency Audit Group

The aim of the multi-agency audit group is to monitor and evaluate local practice in delivering services to children and families, determining the quality of practice, level of agency involvement, partnership working and related outcomes. 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 in key partner organisations. A case is selected randomly and each agency is asked to self-audit using the audit tool.

As well as good engagement by agencies, in an open and honest way, the audit process has also highlighted evidence of good practice, including:

- Evidence of good communication between agencies on cases that enabled a consistent message to families and reduced the risk of disguised compliance
- Good and early identification of domestic abuse
- Evidence that practitioners are now getting better at considering fathers and significant others in their work
- Evidence of improved use of the MACF and understanding of thresholds
- Evidence of effective challenge on cases that led to better outcomes for the child/young person

Impact

- The SSCB conference this year focussed on mental health and whole family working as a result of the learning from audit and provided resources for practitioners to use
- The Team Talks continued to be rolled out and utilised across partner agencies
- Evidence of Signs of Safety being used across partner agencies

Learning

- The audit tool uses Signs of Safety to ensure consistency of practice
- Through the audits in the last 12 months we have begun to develop a greater understanding of these cases involving contextual safeguarding

What We Will Do Next

- Review and refresh the process and ensure it is aligned with the Workforce Development Strategy

Themed Audit Day – Parental Mental Health

SSCB Themed Audit Day (TAD): Parental Mental Health (June 2018)



What happened?

The TAD reviewed the work with children / young people from 5 families that were receiving a service from early intervention or social care and there were parental mental health issues that were having a negative impact on their parenting.

What did this tell us?

Some of the parents were engaging with AMH (Adult Mental Health) services. However, others were refusing support or did not meet the current threshold. In these cases professionals were still seeking guidance and information from AMH services to inform their work with the family. Alongside this, the review highlighted that professionals were also working to address other areas of concern including issues of neglect and domestic abuse (including control).

The audit evidenced the positive support provided to parents/carers by workers including those from universal services, early intervention and children's social care. Examples were through supporting parents/carers in attending appointments, discussing parenting strategies with parents/carers, helping them to understand

the impact of their behaviours on their parenting and liaising with MH workers to identify the most appropriate approach to take.

There was a strong focus on children/young people in all cases, and there was evidence of the positive impact of this (despite, at times, parents/carers trying to focus the attention/resources to their own needs). There were positive examples of how professionals focused on the child's wishes and feelings and ensured these were clearly heard and working with the young person to help them to understand more about the mental health issues their parents were experiencing.

Some of the children were struggling with their own emotional health and wellbeing and in these cases professionals were supporting them with this: *'Things have been done with the child around emotional wellbeing, coping strategies and things they can do to look after themselves'*

The audit highlighted the importance of communication between adult and children's services and the impact on cases where this was not in place.

What can we do now?

Adult Services must:

- Ask all clients if they are parents
- Record information relating to children
- Communicate with children's services regularly

Children's services must:

- Ask parents about their emotional health and wellbeing (mental health)
 - Consider how the professional team can support the parent/carer with their emotional wellbeing.
 - Communicate with AMH services regularly
 - Have conversations with children/young people regarding their own emotional wellbeing
- Consider how the professional group can support the child/young person with their emotional health and/or in understanding their parents

Both adult services and children's services are encouraged to attend the **SSCB Crossing Bridges Training** to build confidence and multiagency working in this area

<https://www.safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org/sscb/training/multi-agency-training>

If in doubt ask for advice from your manager or safeguarding lead

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

Local Safeguarding Children Boards must make arrangements 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 2015). 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 has a responsibility to support and engage bereaved parents and carers after their child's death.



Facts and Figures

This year CDOP met 6 times, reviewing and signing off 48 deaths, 2/48 were represented (discussed twice) and 5 additional cases were discussed but not signed off (inquest cases). The aim is to review all deaths where appropriate within 12 months, this year 94% were within this time frame (77% the previous year). This year 22 deaths occurred in where children were under 1 year.

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. These were assessed to be present in 25% of these cases. The most commonly identified modifiable factors in Sheffield are smoking by the mother or in the household, and mother's high BMI in pregnancy. The long term average of deaths reviewed in Sheffield since 2008/09 where modifiable factors were identified is 27% which is equal to the latest available national figure from 2016/17.

CDOP has supported actions taken in 2018/19 to help reduce risk factors and improve how services respond following a child death. Preventing risks associated with child death bring the additional benefit of reducing the (much greater) risk of disability, and the long term consequences that this can have for both families and services.

Activities have included:

- Commitment to previous years plan for annual development day for panel members; development session was held in October providing an opportunity for panel members to extend their knowledge around suicide and to include closer scrutiny of the local Suicide Pathway for C&YP.
- Changes have been made to local processes and multi-agency working to include better links with the LeDeR programme, enhancing the quality of information being shared
- Infant Mortality Stakeholder Event was held with a focus on child poverty and sudden infant deaths
- Presentation of SUDI Audit investigating the inequalities in child deaths linked to geography and ethnicity

- Raised awareness of local services available to support those most vulnerable eg Fresh Start, consanguinity (belonging to an identical kinship or blood line)
- Development of local training package in relation to Safer Sleep
- Review of Child death arrangements both locally and across the region resulting in a more robust commitment to the SY CDOP.
- Procurement of eCDOP
- Establishment of bereavement task group to review and ensure a consistent response following a death for all bereaved families

What We Will Do Next

In accordance with Child Death Review Statutory and Operational Guidance (England) 2018 and Working Together 2018 new [statutory requirements](#) will take effect from 2019.

The National Child Mortality Database is used to systematically capture information following a child death; this will enable local learning, but will also identify learning at a national level and inform changes in policy and practice.

We will continue to review and embed changes to local processes and multi-agency working following the changes in legislation and guidance, working in collaboration with others to develop processes, which better support bereaved families

The 2018-19 CDOP Annual Report is available at:

<https://safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org/sscb/safeguarding-board-information/child-death-processes-1>

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Training

The SSCB Workforce Development Team develops and delivers a wide range of multi-agency safeguarding training and learning events, available to any practitioner working with children and families in Sheffield.

Between April 2018 and March 2019 there were a total of 14,266 training contacts, which included attendance at conferences, seminars, masterclasses, taught courses and e-learning programmes. The Learning and Practice Improvement Framework informs topics for delivery, and the programme is subject to review in order to remain responsive to emerging safeguarding issues. Young People were invited to the joint SSCB and SASP Board Development Day where their views and concerns have been used to inform the multi-agency training offer.



Key events this year include:

- Collaborative work with local and regional partners – working with the Adult Safeguarding Partnership to develop and deliver joint training events and the ‘Safe in Sheffield’ Safeguarding Week programme. Also worked with colleagues from across Yorkshire and Humber to develop and deliver a regional conference – ‘Safeguarding Children in a Digital World’
- Engagement with 70+ Voluntary, Community and Faith sector organisations that have accessed training, advice and guidance to support their safeguarding practice.
- Continued to work with Sheffield Futures Young Advisers to develop the Young People’s page on the SSCB website, and to ensure their Voice is evident in - and influences - the multi-agency training programme.
- Our annual conference this year addressed ‘Safeguarding in Adolescence’ and the issues and challenges when working with children and young people aged 13+. This included child criminal and sexual exploitation, gangs and youth violence, emotional well-being and Transitions for vulnerable young people who may need ongoing support from Children’s and Adult Services post 18.
- Follow up Masterclass event on meeting the needs of children in transition to adult services.
- Mental Health lunchtime seminars offered and involvement in future CAMHS training offer
- ‘Team Talks’, a bi-monthly safeguarding briefing for all staff, are now well established and consider key current and emerging issues e.g. concerns around Zanax, Foetal Alcohol Syndrome, Cyber Bullying.
- Offered learning events specifically aimed at managers and team leaders around Domestic Abuse, Substance Misuse and Mental Health.

Children’s Workforce report that they are more knowledgeable, skilled and confident to work with a variety of safeguarding issues on, which training was offered, and are more likely to spot e.g. Neglect in all its forms as identified in the SSCB Neglect Strategy.

What We Will Do Next

- Continue to offer specific training for managers – identified need around systems of abuse and cultural issues in relation to safeguarding.
- Develop training on Neglect following refresh of the Neglect Strategy and use of the Graded Care Profile when it becomes available
- Offer further training opportunities around mental health and promote the new CAMHS training offer
- Contextual Safeguarding training offered based on case studies and expertise developed

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

LSCBs 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 annual update from the LADO ensures that relevant parties are fully sighted of all such allegations and can monitor the support, advice and

guidance provided to ensure appropriate cases are resolved as quickly as possible and the process is a robust safeguarding measure.

This year has seen an increase in recorded activity for the LADO. The referral pathway has been established and the majority of cases are referred using the correct channels.

The LADO has delivered training to Sheffield Safeguarding Hub (SSH) to assist them in recognising cases, which meet the LADO criteria. There are strong links to colleagues in the SSH, including South Yorkshire Police's Protecting Vulnerable People Unit. Relevant partner agencies attend the LADO meetings and share relevant information in a timely manner.

There continues to be positive links with the regional LADO network with regular meetings and liaison and support for problematic cases.

Number of allegations

2018-19	Q.1 Apr-Jun	Q.2 Jul-Sep	Q.3 Oct-Dec	Q.4 Jan-Mar	Total referrals
Preliminary number of allegations received	43	43	65	80	231

What We Will Do Next

Sheffield has a full time LADO and Prevent Single Point Of Contact. The next year will be a chance to develop the LADO role into a bespoke support system that is adaptable to the needs of Sheffield. This will include:

- Extending training to partner agencies including community and voluntary sector agencies, private employers and religious organisations.
- Work with the Mosque and Madrassas' community adviser to consider bespoke training to meet the specific needs of Mosque and Madrassa staff to help build their confidence in addressing safeguarding concerns.
- Moving the LADO allegation database into the Liquid Logic system.
- Incorporating Signs of Safety into LADO consideration meetings .



Section 3

Safeguarding Children in Sheffield

There is a wealth of activity that occurs within the Sheffield area across the Safeguarding Board partners 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 last two years and continues to make strong progress in relation to screening, recognising and responding to child protection.

There are numerous projects working within 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.



Sheffield Safeguarding Overview 2018 – 2019

10,755	Referrals to children's social care
3,428	Children were identified as Children in Need
779	Children became subject to a Child Protection Plan (CPP) over the year
568	Children were subject to a CPP at the end of the year
143	Children became subject to a CPP for a second or subsequent time
632	Children were Looked After by the Local Authority at the end of the year
5,375	Requests for a service from the Multi-Agency Support Teams (MAST)
8,878	Children received MAST support
589	Referrals to the Children's Involvement Team received
346 (59%)	Children were advocated for at their Initial Child Protection Conference
135	Children were advocated for at First Review Child Protection Conference
148	Referrals were made to the Sexual Exploitation Service (SES)
66	Referrals to the SES were allocated to the team
36	Referrals to the SES deemed as low risk and referred to the Community Youth Teams
727	Referrals to Community Youth Teams (CYT)
40	Young People were supported by CYT
231	LADO referrals
274	Young people were supported by Door 43
534*	Young people were referred into the Youth Justice Service
53	Young people were referred to the What About Me Service
52	Matches were created between a child in care and an Independent Visitor
60	Looked After Children, care leavers and disabled children received an advocacy service
1,167	People received bespoke Safeguarding and Licensing training
1,302	Requests for advice on the impact on of familial substance & alcohol misuse on children

*This number has increased from 233: due to a change in process regarding Out of Court all cases are assessed by a multi-agency panel and counted as YJS referrals.



Signs of Safety

Signs of Safety implementation across Sheffield children's services is now 22 months into a recommended 60 month journey. Until recently, the focus has been on implementation and we now move onto a clear focus on embedding the model across the service with emphasis on quality of Signs of Safety practice.



To date 930 participants have completed the introductory Signs of Safety training with 225 champions who have completed a 5 day advanced training course. This includes 14 partners who are SoS champions in education, substance misuse support, early years, housing and midwifery.

881 partners have attended formal briefings with additional briefings being facilitated by the practice leads. Participants have included safeguarding leads from primary, secondary and further education, midwifery, health visiting, specialist nursing, housing, police, legal team, mental health and substance misuse services.

Each area has at least 2 dedicated practice leads who are active in delivering additional support, training and briefings into service. Since this role has been formalised the practice lead group has delivered 29 workshops internally and 14 workshops to partner agencies with a rolling plan in place for this to continue. In addition to this 24 bespoke workshops have been delivered by external Signs of Safety trainers including training for managers, CDT, IRO's, CP chairs, CLA, LC and fieldwork.

Sheffield have been recognised for the implementation of SoS within the fostering service having offered bespoke Signs of Safety training to all foster carers alongside the fostering team.

Bespoke training has also been offered to staff within our internal residential settings with a focus on building relationships with children and young people using the Signs of Safety framework.

Liquidlogic incorporating Signs of Safety paperwork has been live for social care since July 2018 and now for early help since 29th April 2019. The paperwork has a clear priority of understanding the child's experience, the risks and the safety plan in place to mitigate these, which involve the family network. This means that Signs of Safety is integral to daily practice and is captured in key documentation across the children's services. Other organisational alignment has taken place in terms of paperwork such as audits, referrals and meeting records to ensure that Signs of Safety is entrenched in all that we do in children's services. Auditing work that is being completed has seen an increased awareness of Signs of Safety, further evidenced and explored in the audit conversation.

A project has been developed to measure the impact of this framework on children and their families/ networks in conjunction with the children's involvement team. This will involve consultations with families in regards to their experience of social care intervention, with a particular focus on those families who received a service prior to implementation of the practice model in order to form a comparison. Perspectives and views will be gained from the adults as well as the children. This work is due to commence in September 2019 with a 8 week completion period.

Early intervention

Early help services provide support for families with additional needs, with a focus on intervention at the earliest opportunity. Early Help services are provided within local areas (locality model). The Early Help Framework sets out how agencies work together to identify, assess and support families to meet their needs. Communities alongside universal services including schools and health services provide lots of support. A family can receive help from a number of agencies working together.

Families are referred for a variety of reasons including:

- Children who are missing school
- Children at risk of entering or re-entering children's social care
- Children and adults with emotional and mental health issues
- Children with challenging behaviour
- Families affected by domestic abuse
- Families affected by substance misuse
- Families experiencing poverty, at risk of homelessness or long term unemployment
- Families with needs around parenting



In the financial year 2018/19 MAST received 5375 requests for a service to meet the needs of 8878 children. This figure is less than last year due to the formation of the Commissioning, Inclusion & Learning Service, which transferred some of the provision & performance reporting

out of MAST (including Early Years Prevention workers, Senior Learning Mentors, Parenting specialists and other specialists).

During the last year we have;

- Introduced “Early Help Response” work, which gives an offer of advice and brief support to families whose needs are otherwise at Threshold of Need 3.
- Continued to implement the Signs of Wellbeing approach, with particular emphasis on safe networks, worry & wellbeing goals, and encouraging multiple perspectives through scaling questions at Team Around the Family meetings
- Revised and improved our Early Help training offer available to any professional working with children and families, with good feedback from evaluations

Every quarter, the Children & Young People’s Involvement team interview a sample of children and young people that we have supported, to find out their views on whether our support has helped them and their family. The feedback has been very positive.

Next year we plan to widen this participation work by introducing “Listening Events” for parents and carers, and by introducing a web-based customer satisfaction survey, to give families a variety of ways to comment on and give feedback about our service.

This year we have trialled working with Sheffield Futures Young Advisors, to co-deliver our “Voice of the Child” multi-agency training, which has received excellent evaluations.

What We Will Do Next

In 2019/20 we will create an improved Emotional Health & Wellbeing provision within MAST with greater links with CAMHS, Healthy Minds, the 0-19 service and schools.

We will also create a team with more training and knowledge of contextual safeguarding, to build on the learning in an ongoing pilot in the North of the city. We will improve referral pathways between the MAST contextual safeguarding team and the Edge of Care services to ensure that families get the right service to meet their needs and keep their children as safe as possible.

We will continue to have good links with schools and other partner agencies to identify children and families with additional support needs, and will work creatively to find ways to meet these needs. We are also tailoring our training offer to be able to offer single-agency Early Help training as well as multi-agency Early Help training, to enable as many partner agencies as possible to attend.

Children in Need

Sheffield Safeguarding Hub

The Sheffield Safeguarding Hub (SSH) has been in place since April 2017. The SSH provides a single point of access in the city for concerns about vulnerable children, young people and young adults who have complex needs or might be, or are, at risk of harm. It is a team of co-located safeguarding partners, with access to information and case recording systems, which work

together to screen the concerns and make judgements, within twenty four hours, of the appropriate pathway or outcome for the concerns presented.

In April 2018 OFSTED undertook a focused visit on the Front Door under the ILACS framework. The feedback from inspectors was positive and provided a supportive reflection on the progress made during the previous twelve months. Inspectors identified the front door (contacts, referrals and assessments) works well to keep children safe. They saw the impact of good management oversight, signs of safety and the enhanced performance culture. In almost all cases threshold decisions are appropriate and the Threshold of Need guidance is being used consistently to inform decision making.

A detailed action plan is now in place to address recommendations, with progress being reported to the SSCB.

What We Will Do Next

- Develop the multi-agency response to Section 47 (Joint Investigations)
- Identify and address issues to ensure the prompt availability of emergency beds out of hours
- Develop the skills of our social workers to enable them to hold meaningful conversations with Partners to clarify and embed effective threshold application to reduce the inappropriate demand into Social Care.
- Develop a full and effective screening pathway to respond to children at lower risk of exploitation
- Develop the screening and allocation pathway for early help to ensure consistent threshold application and timely allocation of new referrals including those which step-up or step down.

Sheffield Social Care Assessments and Section 47 (S47)

There were 6836 Sheffield Social Care Assessments (SSCA) completed in the year. There has been a clear increase in the number of Section 47 investigations which have been completed within Sheffield (an increase of 78 per 10,000). This figure is now higher than Statistical neighbours and the Yorkshire and Humber region but the increase is reflective of the increase in Core Cities.

SSCA completed – rates per 10,000		S47s initiated– rates per 10,000	
Sheffield	586	Sheffield	199
Statistical neighbours	646	Statistical neighbours	213
Yorkshire & Humber	607	Yorkshire and Humber	175
Core Cities	684	Core Cities	208

There has been an increase in the number of SSCA completed this year, this figure still remains lower than statistical neighbours, the Yorkshire and Humber regions and Core Cities. The

increase in the number of completed SSCA is reflected in the Core Cities and Yorkshire and Humber region with the core cities showing an 8% rise in completed SSCA.

The implementation of the Liquid Logic Electronic recording system has had a significant impact on the recording of data, supporting the child protection processes, with increased management oversight. This was noted by ofsted in a focused visit in October 2018 where they saw “strengthened formal decision-making processes”

What We Will Do Next

- Further embed the quality assurance and audit process to ensure that the application of thresholds and decision making is correct.
- Support the workforce to confidently work with families using the Signs of Safety Framework
- Continue to engage partners to ensure that all agencies are involved in the Child Protection process to secure the best outcomes for children.
- Continue to develop Edge of Care Service to ensure that families are receiving the right support at the right time.

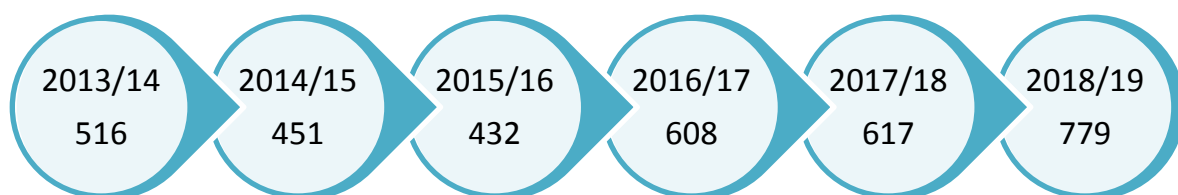
Children Subject to Child Protection Plans

An Initial Child Protection Conference (ICPC) is organised when there are concerns that a child is at risk of significant harm due to neglect, emotional, physical or sexual abuse. The conference brings together family members and professionals. If the conference decides that there is a continuing risk of significant harm to the child then they will become subject to a Child Protection Plan. This plan sets out what professionals and family members must do to keep the child safe and well. Once a child has a Child Protection Plan, this is reviewed within 3 months of the plan being made and then at no more than 6 month intervals.

Please note that national data is released a year in arrears, and so all local 2018/19 data is compared with nation data from 2017/18.

ICPC’s should take place within 15 working days of the strategy meeting that started the Section 47 Enquiry to determine whether the concern regarding risk of harm is corroborated. Sheffield’s performance improved significantly from 2017/18 to 87% and compares favourably with statistical Neighbours 84%, Core cities 69%, Yorks and Humber 7%¹ and England 77%.

779 children became subject to a Child Protection Plan over the year. Although this has increased (when compared to previous years), Sheffield sits in line with the rate for England and that for Yorkshire and Humber.



At the end of the year, 465 children were subject to a Child Protection Plan, an increase of 23% on the previous year. Accordingly Sheffield's rate of 48 per 10,000 will be in the middle of all comparators that for England is (45 per 10,000) and statistical neighbours (51 per 10,000).

The most common reason for a plan being made was emotional abuse (47%), followed by neglect (41%). Nationally the most common reason was neglect (48%) followed by emotional abuse (35%). In Yorkshire and Humber region (including Sheffield) although the most common reason is neglect, the difference between neglect and emotional abuse is much narrower than that found nationally and in major urban areas, for example Bradford, Leeds, Calderdale and Kirklees report higher figures for Emotional Abuse compared with Neglect

Of those subject to a Child Protection Plan at the end of the year:

- 10% were under 1 year old
- 23% between 1 – 4 years
- 26% between 5 – 9 years
- 33% were 10 – 15 years
- 8% were above 15 years

The ethnicity of those subject to a Child Protection Plan were:

- 61% - White
- 12% - Dual/Multiple heritage
- 11% - Asian/Asian British
- 4% - Black/Black British
- 7% - Other ethnicity
- 4% - Not stated

Plans ending

671 Child Protection Plans ended during 2018/19, of these 2 (0.3%) had been subject to a Child Protection Plan for over 2 years. Nationally 1.8% of plans ending in the year had been in place for 2 years or more.

Subsequent plans

143 children became subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time, which is lower than Yorkshire and Humber, Statistical Neighbours, and Core Cities

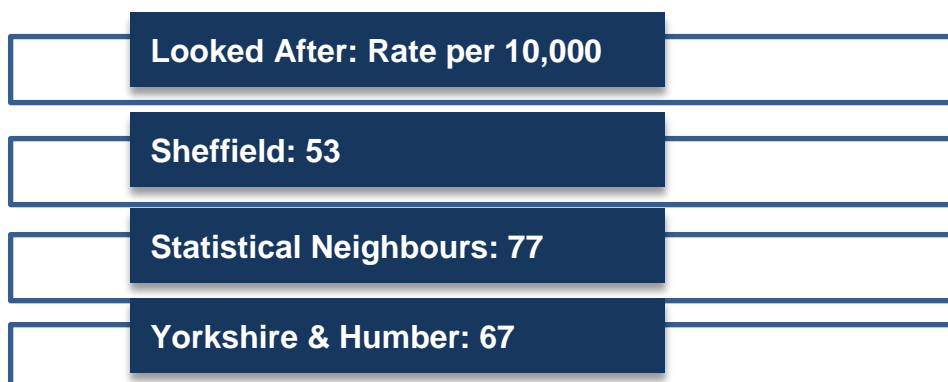
Subsequent plans as a % of all Child Protection Plans	
Sheffield	18%
England	20%
Core Cities	21%
Statistical neighbours	22%
Yorkshire & Humber	20%

Children Looked After and Adoption

Please note that national data is released a year in arrears, and so all local 2018/19 data is compared with national data from 2017/18.

Number of Looked After Children

This year, there were 263 children and young people that became looked after and 267 that ceased to be looked after during the year. At the end of the year, there were 626 children looked after by the Local Authority. This is lower (by 2) than the previous year (628). This equates to a rate of 53 per 10,000 of the under 18 population in Sheffield, significantly lower than in comparator groups:



Sheffield has historically had lower numbers of looked after children per 10,000 than both its statistical neighbours and core cities. Other than the slight decrease of 2 children over 2018/19 there has otherwise been a steady increase in looked after children in Sheffield since 2015/16.

At the end of March 2019, 64% of children admitted to care were taken into care (i.e. not accommodated under s20).



Looked After Children Reviews

When children are looked after for more than 20 days they have regular review meetings. There were 605 reviews, of which 91% were in timescale, up from 87% in the previous year. This means that 9% of looked after children had a late review. When we report late reviews as single events, the data tells us that there were 139 late reviews out of 1878 over the year, giving a percentage of reviews held on time at 93%. During the year, there were 96% of children aged 4 or over that were able to contribute to their review either through a consultation booklet or by

attending the meeting. The involvement of children within their reviews is a priority for Sheffield and has consistently remained around 90% (for over 5 years).

Placement Stability

Of those that were looked after at the end of the year, 10% had had 3 or more placements during the year. This is an increase from last year's 9% but is the same as the national average and in statistical neighbours and slightly below the regional average. There were 74% of looked after children remaining in the same placement for the last 2 years or more. This compares favourably to the national average of 70% and statistical neighbour performance of 66%.

Permanence

There were 40 children placed for adoption in 2018/19. This equates to 15% of looked after children who left care via adoption. This is slightly higher than the latest national average performance of 13.7%. Performance on timeliness of adoption is good. For the 40 children adopted in 2018/19, on average, we moved them from admission to care to placement for adoption in 351 days, 75 days quicker than the Government target of 426 days. There were 28 children that left care due to a Special Guardianship Order (10%) and 41 that ceased care due to the granting of a Child Arrangement Order (CAO).

Children Feeling Safe

In partnership with Coram Voice, the service carried out the Bright Spots wellbeing survey of looked after children in 2018/19. We had a 26% response rate and one of the key findings was that **95% of looked after children felt safe in their placements**. This was said to be a 'Bright Spot' of practice in that it was a higher score than in other local authorities and amongst non-looked after children in similar surveys.

Training Priorities for 2019/20

Staff and foster carers working with looked after children receive a wide range of training. During 2019/20 we will be specifically focussing on ensuring that all staff and foster carers access training on criminal exploitation, radicalisation, and county lines.

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). The Local Authority must be notified of these arrangements and are responsible for ensuring these are provided to the required National Minimum Standards and regulatory requirements. 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. Under the Act there is a legal requirement for the Local Authority to satisfy themselves that such a child is being safeguarded and their welfare is promoted. This is undertaken by offering support and guidance, undertaking assessments and checks and regular visits to the children and their carers. All private foster carers and children in private fostering arrangements are seen at least every six weeks in the first year and every twelve weeks thereafter, and reviewed if the arrangements have continued for 12 months to ensure management oversight, quality and compliance.

In 2018 the 'Connected Carers' team was set up and took over responsibility of managing private fostering arrangements from the former fostering, adopters and carer's team, (FACT). As part of this process, the team revised local policy and practice in this area, to promote better timely assessments and joined up work with fieldwork from the point of referral.

At the end of the financial year there were 6 private fostering arrangements that the local authority was aware of. All of them had been assessed as suitable and as appropriately safeguarding and promoting the child's welfare. During the year, 2018/19, a number of arrangements had come to an end, for a variety of reasons, including young people turning 16 years of age, alternative legal orders being granted, or school academic year ending with children returning home to their parents.

The majority of referrals being made to the team continue to come from professionals working within the Local Authority children's services. This is common to many Local Authorities (<http://cfab.org.uk>). However, referrals have also been received from private schools that host students from overseas.

The team continue to publicise the need to increase awareness of private fostering across Sheffield and to identify and report any potential private fostering arrangements. Activity has included:

- **Publicity campaigns** - posters and information leaflets have been sent directly targeting schools, health services, council buildings and the Department for Work and Pensions. In addition there is a series of social media campaigns, which are run throughout the year.
- **Events** - Private fostering was promoted as part of 'fostering fortnight' in Sheffield and information stands across the city were used as an outlet for leaflets and information regarding private fostering.
- **Schools** - All designated safeguarding leads and deputies in schools have been contacted through social media to raise awareness about private fostering and their legal responsibility to notify the local authority if they become aware of any new private fostering arrangements. They also have access to further information located on the safeguarding website, and there is also a private fostering scenario in the schools mandatory basic safeguarding training to further promote awareness.

What We Will Do Next

- Continue efforts to engage and raise the profile of Private Fostering with professional bodies throughout the council and their partners.



Community Youth Teams

Community Youth Teams (CYT) are a multi-agency specialist service for vulnerable young people. CYTs are a targeted, early help service, which aims to support young people aged 10 - 18 into positive destinations and reduce the likely-hood of them entering the criminal justice system.



Referrals

CYT received 727 referrals for one-to-one support in 2018/19 and over 85% of those were allocated to a case worker to complete an assessment and individual support plan focusing on the needs identified in the referral form and assessment. In addition, CYT supported over 40 young people through group work referrals received mainly from schools.

The main reasons for referrals include Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), violent/aggressive behaviour, sexual exploitation, online safety, gang association, theft, with the highest numbers of referrals received for 'ASB in community - Peer Group involved in ASB/Criminal Behaviour' and 'School exclusions - violent/aggressive behaviour' with over 40% of the total. The main referrers are schools, MAST, Social Care, Police and Sexual Exploitation Service with over 70% of the total referrals received.

Impact

The Out of Court Disposal (OCD) model is now firmly embedded within CYT and Youth Justice Service (YJS) and continues to impact on the reduction of First Time Entrants into the Criminal Justice System, 2018/19 achieved an all-time low of 128, a reduction on last year of 32.3%. The total per 100,000 youth population of 10-17 year olds equates to 262, and equates to just 0.262% of the 10-17 youth population in Sheffield.

What did children, young people and parents/carers say about CYT?

CYT received over 90% positive feedback from young people who received individual support and over 90% positive feedback from their parent/carers.

"X has been spending more time with appropriate people and less with people who are a bad influence"

Parent Feedback

"[CYT] helped me stop hanging around with bad people and not to do bad things that people tell me to do"

Young Person feedback

What We Will Do Next

- The Community Youth Teams will continue to work closely with the Youth Justice Service and partner agencies in preventing young people entering the criminal justice system.
- Continue to focus on supporting vulnerable young people into education, employment and training

Public Health

Suicide Prevention Pathway update

- An all age suicide prevention pathway has been developed through the suicide prevention stakeholder group. This will support staff in contact with children and young people to assess the level of need, respond and signpost to services or emergency referral if needed. The pathway includes information on safety planning and access to local services.
- Government funding has been used to provide online counselling support to all children up to 18 and care leavers up to 25 years old through the kooth platform. Hundreds of young people have accessed information and support since March 2019.
- A programme has been developed with voluntary sector partners to help prevent self-harm and a pilot is due to start in September 2019 in the north of the city including a school, a college and a youth centre where the wellbeing café model will be introduced with therapeutic support for young people and skills development for staff supporting them.
- The Vulnerable Children and Young People's Commissioning Manager in Public Health did a presentation on the Suicide Prevention Pathway at the SSCB's Annual Conferences in January 2018 and provided an update at the conferences in January and February 2019.

What We Will Do Next

- CCG and Public Health are working together to sustain the online counselling offer. The self-harm prevention pilot will be evaluated through the University of Sheffield and further funding sought to deliver this to more settings if it is effective.



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.

Door 43 includes 3 different levels of support:

Wellbeing Café – Tuesdays 5-7pm at Star House, providing signposting, open forum to discuss emotional wellbeing, and activities to build resilience for low level mental health issues

Wellbeing Wednesday – Drop in at Star House 11am-4pm every Wednesday. Informal 1:1 support around emotional wellbeing, bridging and signposting to additional services, Open Doors sexual health interventions

Targeted 1:1 Support – Evidence based structured 1:1 sessions, low level CBT and support into counselling services

To complement our existing service offer, we also offer Social Prescribing, which helps young people with a range of issues by working to understand how they are feeling and prescribing activities, services and practical support to help. This can vary from sports, to visiting libraries, to meeting new people.

In the last year (2018-2019), approximately 274 young people signed up to use the service, of which the majority of young people self-referred. However, Door43 regularly receives request for support from a range of professionals including schools, GPs, voluntary organisations and statutory services, which continues to build our network or relationships across the city. The Wellbeing Café continues to be popular, with an average of 22 people attending every week, and this number continues to grow. Due the growth in numbers, the session has been split into two, with one session focused on over 18s, and the other under 18s. The popularity of the service is evidence that the service is meeting a large need in Sheffield.

Female Genital Mutilation

The Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Task and Finish Group met to finalise the updated version of the FGM Strategy and the referral pathways. In September 2018 the FGM Risk Assessment Panels commenced. These are monthly multi-agency meetings with attendance from the three partner organisations and chaired by Health. Phase 1 on the implementation of these panels has focussed on referrals from midwifery and extending to all cases identified in Sheffield Teaching Hospital NHS Trust. The risk assessments are reviewed and any further information from the police or social care considered. This then leads to an agreed outcome which could include flagging a record, escalation in to the Safeguarding Hub or no further action. On average 12 cases are discussed each month.

NHS England/NHS Improvement has implemented an automatic FGM Information Sharing system known as FGM-IS. Sheffield Teaching Hospital NHS Trust went live on this system in September 2018 and now all female infants born to mothers who have been victims of FGM have their Primary Care health records automatically flagged at birth as being at risk of FGM. This will help identify potential future issues and opportunities to educate the girls on the illegalities of FGM. The updated pathway now includes guidance on risk assessing adult women due to the potential risk of further abuse by partners especially post-delivery of infants.

NHS Sheffield CCG and Sheffield Teaching Hospital NHS Trust have worked in partnership to produce a leaflet for midwives to give to victims when they are seen in the hospital. This tells them about the Risk Assessment process and advises them on where they can get additional support.

What We Will Do Next

During 2019/2020 we plan to engage GP's in the roll out of Phase 2 of the FGM Risk Assessment panels. Reduction in the incidence of FGM can only have a positive physical and mental health outcome for victims.

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.



The YJS has developed the following value statements which are adopted throughout the service and underpin the work we do;

- Everyone at Sheffield YJS wants to be part of an innovative and supportive service that is successful in its work with young people and their families.
- Staff are skilled, knowledgeable, effective and accountable.
- Ultimately this will enable us to help the people we work with feel safe, motivated and hopeful for their future.

Responding to Child Criminal Exploitation - a multi-agency response Known as 'Operation Fortify' has been developed between South Yorkshire Police, Sheffield City Council Children's Services, YJSs, Sheffield Health Services and Sheffield Futures. This multi-agency team will co-ordinate and monitor activities to take steps to Prevent, Divert, Disrupt and Enforce measures against those responsible for organised criminality, child criminal exploitation and violent crime across Sheffield.

A Focus on Education - The YJS has worked tirelessly to improve the educational outcomes for the most disadvantaged young people in Sheffield through innovation, creativity, tenacity and focussing on the needs and aspirations of our young people. The education team works collaboratively with case managers and specialists to provide personal support to improve the educational outcomes for young people. The Education Team in the YJS won the Children and Families Team of the Year Award in 2018.

Youth Outcome Panel - Following a South Yorkshire wide review of the whole Out Of Court Disposals, the process in Sheffield changed with the implementation of the new Youth Outcome Panel. The new process has had a really positive impact and has gained local and national recognition as an example of good and effective practice.

Care Experienced Young People - The YJS has implemented the 'Sheffield Strategy to Keep Care Experienced Young People Out of Trouble', which established guidelines for services working with children in care, including universal services, to act expediently and creatively to promote non-offending lifestyles for young people in care.

Resettlement - Although our custody and remand figures are comparatively low it is still vitally important that our resettlement processes are robust. The YJS has also played a significant leading role in developing systems and processes to improve the experience for those placed in custody and also to enhance effective rehabilitation and resettlement at the end of their sentence or period on remand on behalf of the South and West Yorkshire Resettlement Consortium.

Knife Crime - We are proud of our collaboration with the Street Doctors, which is a national network of medical students and junior doctors working to reduce incidents of youth violence occurring. They teach young people at high risk of violence, emergency life-saving skills and the true potential medical consequences of violent injury and they challenge young people's attitudes to violence. Street Doctors intervention forms the final session of our very successful "No Point" Knife Crime Programme, which is showing very positive results relating to the feedback from young people and impact on re-offending rates, especially relating to knife crime.

Involvement of Children and Young People

In direct response to the feedback received from young people we have relaunched the Junior Attendance Centre as Join, Achieve, Change giving a desistance focus through young people's power and participation. Also based on feedback and local analysis we offer a Voluntary Intervention Programme (VIP) to support young people at the end of statutory intervention where they require time to complete work with specialists or require support through change or upheaval.

What We Will Do Next

Sheffield YJS will adopt the principles of desistance by supporting children and young people to move away from offending by;

- Recognising that all young people have the capacity to change and providing the opportunities to inform that change.
- Providing young people with appropriate guidance and support
- Recognising diversity by adopting a flexible, needs-based approach
- Acknowledging the wider social context of children and young people's behaviour
- Supporting other services to understand and implement desistance based and restorative practice
- Providing personalised interventions to each young person to remove barriers
- Supporting young people to develop skills to maximise opportunities

- Promoting engagement with the wider social context especially families but also peers, schools, colleges and work
- Providing support to access general health, mental health and substance misuse services
- Creating opportunities to enhance social inclusion and promote individual change
- Supporting young people to participate in new and varied experiences and activities to broaden their scope for social and community integration.

Use of Restraint in the Secure Estate

Aldine House is a Secure Children’s Home, licensed by the Department of Education to provide care, education and intervention to eight young people who display significant behavioural problems, are awaiting trial, or are sentenced by the courts for criminal offences. Aldine House has gained credibility by accepting young people who are nationally difficult to place. The Department for Education are aware of this and are supportive of what this means for Aldine House and the number of restraints.



The method of restraint used is the “Management of Actual or Potential Aggression” (MAPA). MAPA is accredited by the British Institute of Learning Disabilities (BILD) and approved by the Royal College of Nursing Institute (RCNI). MAPA remains a crucial behaviour management tool at Aldine House.

Five members of staff are now Certified MAPA Instructors. These staff can deliver MAPA training to all employees within the service to Advanced and Emergency level. Being qualified to train to this level means that they can also authorise specific adaptations of the techniques to suit individual children and young people.

Aldine House has two comprehensive policy and practice guidelines entitled, ‘Restraint Minimisation’ and ‘The Use of Physical Restraint and Control within Aldine House’, which outline how the home works to reduce the use of restraint.

There is a clear ethos within the staff group that restraint is considered only as a last resort. Restraint minimisation remains a primary focus and begins with a thorough recruitment and vetting process for staff. An important part of Aldine House’s restraint minimisation strategy is to ensure that these are kept as short as possible to keep young people and staff safe. Staff are trained in de-escalation techniques to prevent restraints from being needed and also in disengagement – how to safely release from restraint as quickly as is safe.

Staff use distraction techniques, guides and blocks extremely effectively to minimise the use of restraint. Staff will put an arm around the young person’s shoulders to guide them away, without restriction, from a potentially escalating situation. Staff use play imaginatively and effectively to deflect and distract. Very low level restraints have moved swiftly into dance moves on occasion, demonstrating excellent childcare and skill from our staff team.

All incidents that involve a restraint are reviewed on CCTV and reviewed by at least one Certified MAPA Instructor. When reviewing restraints on CCTV, we also witness the nurture given to

young people following restraints. Young people are not left alone and staff spend time sitting with them and comforting them, making sure to start restoring relationships straight away.

As young people leave, Aldine House works closely with partner agencies, sharing information about interventions used and strategies to keep those young people safe.

Aldine continues to have strong links with a representative from the Safeguarding Service, who visits regularly to review practice and behaviour management. This representative also receives MAPA training.

Aldine House implements a number of systems for data recording, allowing for detailed analysis of restraints. This enables detailed and up-to-date information to be provided about incidents and restraints to partners and stake-holders, including the SSCB. Young people are actively involved in their own behaviour management plans and are consulted about how they would like staff to work with them. Specific, bespoke strategies for young people are implemented to ensure that their individual needs are met throughout their care within the home.

Experience of the Child

Aldine House works with a number of young people who present challenging behaviour and improvements continue to be seen in the outcomes for young people, improving their life chances and opportunities once they return to the community.

In order to prepare her for a more independent life, Child H was given the opportunity to work in Aldine House's kitchen, preparing and serving food with the chef. Child H had previously worked in a restaurant and is applying for work again in this area. The work experience in the kitchen allowed her to practise these skills again and prepare for working life.

Child H visited her placement several times with staff. Staff had also helped Child H decorate her room and had taken her on several mobility trips to buy new items for her room and clothes that she will be able to wear to work. Child H has since been in touch with Aldine House and is so far doing very well.

What We Will Do Next

Aldine House seeks to align with the Sheffield Corporate Parenting Strategy to provide an outstanding service for the young people who reside at Aldine House.

In 2019/20 we aim to further define the young person's journey through secure accommodation, focusing on safe and successful resettlement. We will also further develop the expertise, skills and knowledge of the whole staff team to ensure the highest standard of care for young people.

Furthermore, we will continue the effective, aspirational and innovative management of an expanding service. This will include investigating opportunities as we grow to ensure that the excellent and individualised childcare we provide develops in line with the expansion.

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.



SCC eLearning Service based at Learn Sheffield is commissioned as the preferred Online Safety consultancy for SSCB. The commission covers the development of policy and the delivery of central training for schools and a programme of activity including an annual lunchtime seminar and an “expert knowledge base” for the children’s workforce. All activity evaluates very well and schools report positive feedback from Ofsted.

Additional consultancy for schools and children’s services is provided on a traded service model. The cost to services have over the last year been supplemented by collaborative grant applications e.g. SSCB funding in conjunction with Prevent allowed for training for residential children’s settings and foster carers and staff. This funding also allowed for online safety training for safeguarding leads in local madrassas and a programme of practical work in a madrasa working directly with young people and their teachers.

The lead consultant has this year been commissioned by The Royal Society to speak at events; this has further enhanced Sheffield’s national profile and has resulted in other opportunities which provide further income to ensure the sustainability of the service.

External to the SSCB commission the eLearning Service has this year, with help from young people, redesigned the Sheffield Online Safety Curriculum. The curriculum which covers ages (4-14) will be purchased by Learn Sheffield in April 2019 so that it can be distributed to all its subscriber schools benefitting the vast majority of Sheffield children. Consultants regularly ask children about their online activity to ascertain what works well, what concerns them and what help they need to be safe and this influences what they are taught e.g. this year work is planned with young people about the “Dark Web” and online security. The Online Safety Curriculum will be developed to cover the Relationships and Sex Education Curriculum for 2020 as the online world influences all aspects of young people’s mental and physical wellbeing.

Our most vulnerable young people online are those with SEND whose parents do not actively support their online lives. The eLearning service is currently seeking funding for 19/20 to develop SEND online safety resources which can be shared with mainstream and special schools, parents and members of the children’s works force.

Section 4

Safeguarding Priority Areas

The SSCB, 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 SSCB has had oversight of the following key priority areas;

- Sexual Exploitation
- Children who live in households with Drug and Alcohol Misuse
- Domestic Abuse
- Children and Young People that Go Missing
- Safeguarding and Licensing
- Mosque and Madrassas Project



Sexual Exploitation

Sheffield Sexual Exploitation Service (SSES) is a co-located, multi-agency service responsible for tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) in Sheffield. The service is based at Star House and comprises of a manager, youth workers, administrative support staff, South Yorkshire Police and Missing Person's Officers, Children's Social Care, a specialist CSE Nurse and a CSE Trainer.

The effective identification, referral and support for vulnerable young people who have been victims of exploitation, or those identified at risk, is achieved by a robust training strategy aimed at all professionals across Sheffield alongside close working with the Sheffield Safeguarding Hub and other services dealing with complex vulnerabilities.

Training was given to 1215 professionals across Sheffield ranging from teachers to GP's, fast food outlets to Sexual Health Advisors. The training comprised of a basic Introduction to CSE and an Advanced CSE package.

Based on the successful 6 month trial of a Transitions Worker in 2017 – 2018, the Adult Safeguarding Board have provided funding for a 12 month pilot project, which sees an Adult Exploitation Worker attached to the SES supporting 18 – 25 year olds. The funding also includes provision for awareness raising and we are working closely with the NWG throughout.

After a successful Evaluation Project funded by the Centre of Excellence for CSE and CSA, the SES have been working closely with neighbouring service Safe and Sound in Derby, piloting evaluation tools to ensure outcome and impact are captured accurately. This pilot has ended, however the evaluation forms are now embedded as part of standard practice and monitoring will be taken over by our Quality and Impact Coordinator.

The CSE Strategy Board was reconfigured to include other linked vulnerabilities (missing, HSB, CCE etc) and changed its name to the Vulnerable Young Peoples Strategy Board. The new Vulnerable Young Persons Operations Group has reviewed the terms of reference and a new action plan was drawn up to reflect the broadened remit and the continued collaborative partnership working of the agencies represented.

148 referrals were made to the SES last year with 66 being allocated and 36 deemed as low risk and being referred to the CYT's. The remainder were directed to the more relevant service (HSB, CCE and Domestic Abuse), already had other professionals working closely with them or had left Sheffield (onward referrals made.) Referral pathways and processes were reviewed throughout the year and there is now a clearer route into the service, which ensures CSE, CCE and HSB are captured, collated and directed to the relevant area.

The Missing Young Persons Service is now managed alongside the SES, see Children and Young People that go Missing on page 55.

Social workers in the SES began to case hold threshold 5 cases and complete assessments for these young people. This has meant a tight overview of the most vulnerable young people where the highest social care threshold is met. Wrap around support continues as normal with the allocation of a CSE case worker, nurse and family support worker. The health offer the SES provides has been recognised by the Sheffield Children's Hospital. They have recognised the work of the CSE nurse with an award for 'Best Delivery of Direct Patient Care.' All young people

supported by the service receive a health assessment tailored to their needs. They are then helped and encouraged to access the support that has been identified.

Experience of the Child

This year our Parent Support Worker, assisted by a Parenting Specialist from Strengthening Families, collaborated on a group programme, which aimed to deliver tailored support to parents / carers of young people supported by the SES. The sessions were adaptive to the needs of the group and as a direct result, a SSCB Lunchtime Seminar was formulated called 'Listen to us: Communicate with us: Work with us.' Parents urged professionals to listen and not judge, reminding them that they are part of the solution and a resilience factor. The session was well received with 100% of attendees saying it had increased their knowledge around this area.

What We Will Do Next

We have developed a new training package on Contextual Safeguarding, which is being delivered to professionals across Sheffield. This helps professionals understand and respond 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.

In addition to this a Trauma Informed Practice Awareness Raising resource has been written and will be rolled out over the coming year. This covers Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and how they can have a lifelong impact on health and behaviour. By upskilling professionals in this area we hope to increase resilience in young people and adults who have experienced adversity in early life.



Children Living in Households with Drug and Alcohol Misuse

This year, in response to demand, the Hidden Harm Masterclass programme was expanded to include masterclasses focusing on: Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD); Substance misuse treatment and the impact on the family; Drug and alcohol misuse during pregnancy; New psychoactive substances; The changing face of drug misuse in Sheffield; Support for children affected by someone else's substance misuse (WAM service). All masterclasses included tips for identification, harm reduction advice and information relating to the support that can be offered. They have all been extremely well attended and positively evaluated. Evaluations have requested that understanding cannabis and dual diagnosis masterclasses be developed and delivered. These will both be added to the programme for next year.

Through training, briefings, and supervision, workers from both children and adult services in Sheffield have increased their understanding regarding the impact on children of substance and alcohol misuse within their households, by parent, carer or sibling. The increased awareness is demonstrated through requests by workers from all services for checks and advice regarding either substance misuse or safeguarding children. During 2018-19 there have been 1,302 requests for advice. Out of the 1,302 clients discussed 1,003 had children living with them, many of them had had no previous contact with children's social care illustrating that substance misuse support is being offered to parents at an earlier stage, which evidence shows leads to better outcomes for children and their families.

During 2018/19, 128 babies were born to mothers who met the criteria to be discussed in the Multi Agency Pregnancy Liaison and Assessment Group (MAPLAG), which is:

- Currently in treatment for drug or alcohol misuse;
- Ongoing problematic or dependent drug use during current pregnancy, including ongoing problematic or dependent cannabis use;
- Ongoing problematic or dependent drinking during current pregnancy;
- Suspicion of drug use where indicators of use are evident but no disclosure e.g. Street sex work, criminal activity known to be associated with drug use.

Of these 128 babies, 15 went into local authority care, 113 went home with their mother, 41 were subject to a child protection plan, 38 had a CIN plan in place and 33 had support from universal services.

What We Will Do Next

- Develop and deliver Hidden Harm masterclasses about cannabis, ensuring that professionals understand why they shouldn't minimise the impact of cannabis use on the individual, parenting and children and dual diagnosis, – to aid understanding about how drug and alcohol misuse interact with mental health and the impact on the family.
- Raise awareness about the dangers of drinking during pregnancy, how to identify Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) () and support that can be accessed. A public awareness campaign will be held in September 2019 to coincide with International FASD awareness day.
- Continue to promote and monitor the use of the alcohol and drug screening tool to ensure early identification of families where there is drug and alcohol misuse within the household.

Parental Mental III Health

This year saw the development and establishment of a Parental Mental III Health task group involving all the key partner agencies. Its purpose was to:

- Lead on the development and implementation of a Parental Mental Health Strategy and Action Plan for Sheffield;
- Undertake joint multi-agency case reviews to identify areas of good practice, areas for development and areas that require improvement with a clear focus of what works for families;
- Develop a joint working protocol between adult mental health services and children services; and
- Improve multi-agency working using a whole family approach.

A Parental Mental Health workshop was delivered and attended by 110 workers from Sheffield services including adult mental health, children's social care, health visiting, housing, domestic abuse, substance misuse, CAMHS, MAST, early years, midwifery, police, hospitals (adult and children) and young carers. The main points presented, and for discussion, were the benefits and barriers to whole family working; the think family agenda; adult and child thresholds for intervention; and how the life of a child and life of an adult fit together and impact on each other. In response to positive evaluations further multi-agency workshops to discuss parental mental health are planned.

What We Will Do Next

Undertake a joint multi-agency case review to help identify what worked well and what could be improved in terms of supporting the whole family. The outcome will then be fed into the next parental mental health workshop.

Develop and implement a Joint Working Protocol between adult mental health services and children services.

Develop a multi-agency training programme (level 3) to support adult mental health workers in developing good working relationships with their counterparts in other agencies to support information sharing and joint assessments. This will also enable a greater mutual understanding of roles and thresholds and how and when to contact each other.

Domestic Abuse

A new Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy for Sheffield was published this year¹ after extensive consultation. The five priorities are to:

- bring about culture change so that preventing domestic and sexual abuse is understood to be everyone's business
- work towards eliminating violence against women and girls
- ensure our services are of a good quality, promote safety and support recovery from abuse, so that people affected by abuse can achieve their full potential



¹ <http://sheffielddact.org.uk/domestic-abuse/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2013/05/Domestic-And-Sexual-Abuse-Strategy-2018-2022-FINAL.pdf>

- develop whole family working that supports victims and holds perpetrators to account
- tailor services to ensure support for the most vulnerable and those with complex needs

The strategy commits Sheffield to continuing to develop whole family working in response to domestic abuse and this year has seen the further development of the Strengthening Families Domestic Abuse Project, which offers intensive key working to families whose children are at risk of being taken into care as a result of domestic abuse. The **Caring Dads** group work programme has been delivered as part of this work and there were three programmes during the year – findings are that men who complete the course are reporting that they have improved relationships with their children and improved wellbeing overall, and some cases have since closed to social care.

‘The programme helped me understand my children’s emotions and how my actions affected them’. quote from a father who completed Caring Dads.

You and Me Mum is also offered as a parenting programme for women who have experienced domestic abuse (three programmes last year) and **Haven**² is supporting children with therapeutic activities and interventions. Workforce development is a key strand of the project with training and consultancy being offered to Children’s Social Care and MAST (with a particular emphasis on foster carers and social workers this year) and others on: completing the DASH assessment with parents; understanding coercive control and working with perpetrators. A new guidance document has also been published to give the children’s workforce more confidence in working with perpetrators³.

A new development this year has been the launch of **Inspire to Change**, which is a programme that offers support to men or women who have been abusive, controlling or violent towards a partner or family member and want to address their abusive behaviour – this is delivered by the South Yorkshire Community Rehabilitation Company (or CRC) who also deliver the court mandated groups but Inspire to Change can be accessed by anyone on a voluntary basis. Inspire to Change⁴ is a free programme and the course combines learning and support tailored to an individual’s need

What We Will Do Next

- Increase the early identification of young people affected by domestic abuse by working with our new domestic abuse support provider IDAS⁵ to develop stronger links including an embedded worker with Community Youth Teams
- Offer ‘healthy relationships’ groups to support young people causing harm in their relationships who want to address their behaviour in partnership with CRC
- Continue workforce development for the children’s workforce through piloting domestic abuse case consultation themed weeks
- Seek opportunities for scaling up the Strengthening Families domestic abuse model

² <https://havenorg.uk/>

³ <https://www.safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org/sscb/safeguarding-information-and-resources/domestic-abuse-1>

⁴ <http://www.inspiretochange.co.uk/>

⁵ <https://www.idas.org.uk/>

Children and Young People that go Missing

The co-located Missing Young People Team (MYPT) and Sheffield Sexual Exploitation Service (SSES) 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.

Outcomes for young people improve as the co-located teams ensure that pathways, systems and processes link up and communicate with each other, and ensures that the analysis of priority missing young people with key multiple vulnerabilities can be identified and addressed in a collaborative way across all agencies, and receive the support without delay.

The aim of the MYPT has always been to provide return interviews for all young people who go missing and to support them in identifying reasons, which lead to them leaving their home. Children and young people are provided with the opportunity to influence the work that the MYPT do through their participation in the Return Home Interview Process.

Data harvesting and analysis of all the available information including that provided by the young people themselves is informing screening of referrals into the SSES, the aim is to ensure there is a robust multi-agency system for monitoring children and young people who go missing from home to prevent reoccurrence, provide effective support and develop our preventative approach. This will include analysing patterns of behaviour and better sharing of information.

Social Workers in the CSE team began to case hold the high risk cases where a social care single assessment was deemed necessary. This has meant a tight overview of the most vulnerable young people where the highest social care threshold is met. Wrap around support continues as normal with the allocation of a CSE case worker, nurse and family support worker.

The Criminal Exploitation Team is based on the same floor as the SES and Missing team in Star House. Regular daily meetings have been taking place to discuss missing young people and those where there are links to CSE and CE cases. The clear links between these areas has been acknowledged for some time and the monthly CSE multi-agency meeting has adapted to include missing and criminal exploitation cases as well.

What We Will Do Next

The main aim in 2019/20 is to further develop and embed a 'vulnerable young people's service', which brings together services to manage Sexual Exploitation, Harmful Sexual Behaviour, Missing, Criminal Exploitation/ Serious Youth Violence/Gangs, Radicalisation, Risky Teenage Relationships.

Outcomes related to Missing Young People is to provide a more consistent response through:

- Every "missing" episode is given attention from the professionals involved
- Return Home Interviews are conducted with every missing young person within 72 hours of their return
- Information collated through return home interviews informs safety planning

- All partners working together to identify effective interventions through information sharing, problem solving and performance management

We will ensure:

- Awareness and training provided for all professionals that need it
- Multi agency assessment procedures, which include the risk indicators for running away are shared with provider
- Consistent implementation of Missing from Home or Care protocol and procedures across all agencies
- Monitoring of compliance with the protocol and the monitoring of outcomes through quarterly performance reports
- Data and analysis of missing episodes

Safeguarding and Licensing

This year we reached 1,167 people through bespoke training, the majority being from the taxi and hotel trades, raising awareness of child criminal and sexual exploitation and we developed a culture of safeguarding awareness and accountability across the Council's Place Portfolio, delivering toolbox talks and joining team meetings to help the workforce recognise and respond to safeguarding concerns.

Focus has been given to harmful gambling (children and adults at risk) and we have worked closely with a range of organisations contributing to local, regional and national work, developing good practice in response to harmful gambling. This resulted in the production of an innovative training resource in consultation with the gambling trade, which has been shared nationally via the Gambling Commission. As problem gambling significantly impacts on mental health and is recognised as a hidden harm in families, this work promotes our objective for responding to mental health needs. However we have an ongoing challenge in engaging the children's workforce to recognise the risk and impact of harmful gambling.

Other work on the national agenda includes our sitting on the Contextual Safeguarding UK Advisory and Implementation Panel, representing the National Association of Licensing Enforcement Officers to share good practice and find innovative ways to promote the contextual safeguarding approach nationally.



[Left: Speaking at the London Borough of Hackney Council Learning Event, 7th December 2018]

There is evidence to suggest that licensed premises in the city are overall, sustaining good safeguarding standards, making places safer environments for children and young people. We have seen a reduction in the number of licence reviews and the city has again received quality assurance awards in the Best Bar None and Purple Flag schemes, recognising Sheffield as a safer city. The training and support we provided to licensed operators contributed to these schemes.



(Below: City Centre Unight Partnership meeting]

Child and Young Person Participation

Our innovative Team Up! Scheme with Sheffield Wednesday Football Club, the voluntary sector and other organisations seeks to promote equal provision and a safeguarding response for spectators with 'hidden' disabilities such as autism and mental health needs within a sport environment. The development of our action plan involved consultation with a young man who has autistic traits who undertook a 'secret shopper' exercise at the club and gave feedback; the outcome of his participation has informed the plans for future development of facilities at the club

What We Will Do Next

- In November 2019 we will deliver with NALEO, 2 seminars on behalf of the Contextual Safeguarding UK Advisory and Implementation Panel, to support the statutory authorities and licensed operators in 2 pilot areas, to develop their contextual approach to safeguarding.
- We will continue to work with Public Health and the Gambling Commission at a local, regional and national level to tackle harmful gambling, which is associated with mental health risk.
- We will continue to promote safeguarding as everyone's business by adapting training and awareness, to increase our reach and remain approachable.

Mosque and Madrassa Project

Across Sheffield there are 54 madrassas, also known as supplementary schools or out of school settings, which provide cultural and religious teaching to a wide range of children from the Muslim community. Mosques and madrassas play a significant role in their social and educational development.

In a city with such rich cultural and religious diversity, it is important that the work of the madrassas is viewed as part of the mainstream and as such the development of effective safeguarding practice is as important. Therefore, since 2007 the SSCB and now the SCSP has worked hard to establish strong relationships and trust within the Muslim community to promote safeguarding children within mosques and madrassas. There are now a network of Designated Safeguarding Leads in Mosques and madrassas in place. Annual training sessions are held in different parts of the city to ensure easy access for all teachers from these establishments; the majority of whom are volunteers.

This year, the main achievements have included:

- Assisting the Education Safeguarding Advisors to continue development of Safeguarding of Children in Education training for approximately 60 staff employed. Work to introduce each of the 4 schools to, and support for being able to submit the Annual Safeguarding Report.
- Continued to promote the principle of the primacy of the safeguarding of children within Muslim organisations through the Sheffield Federation of Mosques and also by contributing to Community radio programmes.
- Supporting the LADO with allegations within different out of schools settings. All organisations involved were visited by the LADO and parents were contacted to raise their awareness and understanding of the multi-agency work. Outcomes of investigations were shared with parents and the young people concerned.
- Organising and delivering safeguarding training sessions for mosque and madrassa; teachers, Imams and committee members. Over 60 people attended these and they covered an understanding of safeguarding of children in Sheffield, the impact of domestic violence on children delivered from an Islamic perspective and online safety delivered by Sue Finnigan from Learn Sheffield.



Appendix 1

Board Partner Agencies

Executive Board Members

Independent Chair	SSCB
Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Quality Assurance / Professional Advisor to the SSCB	Children, Young People and Families, Sheffield City Council
Safeguarding Partnership Manager	SSCB
Chief Executive	Sheffield Futures
Chief Nurse	NHS Sheffield CCG
Detective Superintendent	South Yorkshire Police
Designated Doctor	NHS Sheffield CCG
Director of Children, Young People and Families	Sheffield City Council
Chief Nurse	Sheffield Teaching Hospitals
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	Sheffield City Council
Deputy Director	Community Rehabilitation Company
Director of Public Health	Sheffield City Council
Executive Director: People Services	Sheffield City Council
Chief Executive	Sheffield City Council
Executive Director: Chief Operating Officer/Chief Nurse	Sheffield Health & Social Care NHS FT
Head of Barnsley & Sheffield LDU	NPS South Yorkshire (Sheffield & Barnsley)
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner	South Yorkshire Police
Head of Service, Housing and Neighbourhoods	Sheffield City Council
Director of Nursing and Clinical Operations	Sheffield Children's Hospital
Group Manager for Community Safety	South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue
Chief Executive	Learn Sheffield
Principal & 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:

<http://www.safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org/sscb/safeguarding-board-information/sscb-executive>