



NOTTINGHAM CITY  
Safeguarding  
**Children**  
PARTNERSHIP

## Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Partnership Business Plan 2019-22

These are the three priorities identified and agreed by the NCSCP

- I. That children and young people are safe from harm, inside their home, outside their home and online
- II. That children and young people have access to the right help at the right time
- III. To ensure there is effective partnership working to improve safeguarding outcomes for children, young people and their families

## **Welcome and Introduction**

Welcome to the Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Partnership (NCSCP) Business Plan for 2019/20. The NCSCP is a partnership formed as per the guidance set out in *Working Together 2018* represented by lead officers who work together to safeguard children.

The NCSCP Business Plan is intentionally brief and focused on strategic priorities that form the basis of the work of the partnership over the next three years. These priorities support the statutory functions of the NCSCP and the partnership response to protecting vulnerable children and young people, preventing harm and promoting their welfare.

For this plan, the NCSCP is enhancing its focus on responding to the priorities of children and young people that live in Nottingham, what they have specifically told us matters most to them and what needs to happen to make them feel safer and be safer.

These priorities will remain flexible for the duration of this Business Plan and will be sharpened through the NCSCP's ongoing engagement with children and young people. Annually, the NCSCP will identify the specific actions required against each of these priorities with the detail being set out in the specific work plans of the Partnerships' sub groups and working groups.

The NCSCP has the responsibility of ensuring that all agencies have a focus on safeguarding children and ensuring that effective safeguarding arrangements are in place. This involves safeguarding children at all levels of our partner organisations and identifying those children who need early help, as well those in need of statutory intervention and protection.

The Family Support Pathway (Threshold Document 2018/20) is set within the context of this Business Plan.

Our vision is that children and young people are safe from harm, inside their home, outside their home and online. This is about providing help to all children and families by access to strong universal services which are available to everyone. The aim is to provide help at the earliest point so that help is provided quickly and children and families receive the support they need to become independent of services.

The Family Support Pathway relies upon a partnership where staff members from all agencies share the core values, knowledge, skills and abilities to engage well with children and families by building relationships which are based on the strengths within a family. They also need to be focussed on solutions, are able to motivate to achieve positive change and be aware of risk and protective factors.

The legislative changes for the NCSCP are contained within the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and subsequently Working Together 2018. This guidance has introduced significant changes in the way that safeguarding partnership work takes place. The statutory requirement for each local authority area to have a Local Safeguarding Children Board has been removed, as has the requirement for the NCSCP to have an Independent Chair, however it must show that it is subject to independent scrutiny. The NCSCP will review this position for 2020/21.

The three 'key partners' the Local Authority, the Clinical Commissioning Group and the Police will be responsible for ensuring the safeguarding arrangements in an area. They will have to identify which are the 'relevant partners' in children's safeguarding. The child death process including the Child Death Overview Panel will transfer to the Department of Health.

This Business Plan provides the NCSCP with a clear direction in terms of business.

**Priority 1: That children and young people are safe from harm, inside their home, outside their home and online.**

**Priority 2: That children and young people have access to the right help at the right time.**

**Priority 3: To ensure there is effective partnership working to improve safeguarding outcomes for children, young people and their families.**

The NCSCP will ensure it focuses its attention on the following groups during the timeframe of this business plan:

- Children at risk of Neglect
- Children at risk of exploitation and abuse in all forms including knife crime and county lines
- Children at risk of domestic abuse
- Children in Care
- Young adults leaving Care
- Child at risk of exclusion from education and those that have been excluded
- Privately fostered children
- Children with emotional health and wellbeing needs
- Children with disabilities
- Unaccompanied children
- Children in custody
- Children at risk of radicalisation
- Children at risk of Female Genital Mutilation
- Children at risk of Forced Marriage/ Honour Based Violence

The NCSCP shall, through a variety of means including self-assessment, management of the performance framework, audit, peer review and external inspection progress these priorities. The NCSCP recognizes that continual improvement is required so that it fulfils its statutory functions as set out in Working Together 2018.

The NCSCP shall ensure that it is effective in discharging its responsibility by:

- Use of performance data to regularly and effectively monitor front line practice
- Listening to, hearing and acting on the voice of the child
- Use of multi-agency audit to improve safeguarding practice
- Ensuring that learning from child deaths and significant incidents is central to the NCSCP work
- Evidence of challenge including section 11 audits to improve safeguarding practice
- Embedding learning and improvement activity so that impact may be captured
- Monitoring the application of locally agreed thresholds.
- Engagement with children, parents/carers and front line staff as well as the wider community

### **Implementation and Monitoring**

- The NCSCP subgroups are accountable for ensuring that work of the NCSCP is progressed.
- Each sub group will develop a detailed work plan which identifies the specific activity that will be carried out by the sub group.
- Responsibility for delivering the work plans rests with the relevant sub group chairs, members and is subject to agreement through the Business Management Group.
- Each statutory partner is responsible for ensuring the NCSCP work is properly implemented and delivered within their own agency.

- NCSCP Annual Business Plan along with the NCSCP Risk Register will be monitored three times per year by the NCSCP Business Management Group and progress will be routinely reported to the NCSCP strategic board.
- NCSCP will publish an annual report on the work it has carried out each year.
- Self-assessment, external peer review and future inspections will assist the NCSCP to evaluate and evidence the progress made in terms of delivering its statutory functions in accordance with the requirements of statutory guidance. An important aspect of the NCSCP annual report will be to provide a rigorous assessment of the performance and effectiveness of local services. This will allow the NCSCP to evaluate and analyse the impact of its work in relation to its priorities. The findings of the NCSCP Annual Report will be used to inform future activity.

PROPOSAL

Priority One: That children and young people are safe from harm, inside their home, outside their home and online

Priority Two: That children and young people have access to the right help at the right time

Priority Three: To ensure there is effective partnership working to improve safeguarding outcomes for children, young people and their families.

No.	What do we want to achieve?	How are we going to do it?	Who will lead?	How will we know we have achieved our goal?	When are we going to achieve this?	Comment on Progress	RAG rating
1	Children in Care and those leaving Care are safeguarded, supported and enabled to reach their potential	Through audit, QA, learning and Improvement, engagement with Children and Young People.	NCSCP	Report to BMG			
2	Thresholds across the spectrum of children's services are being applied in line	❖ Request a report from Vulnerable Children and Families Services evaluating the impact of the Early Help Assessment process	Children's QA subgroup	Quarterly EHA report received by Children's QA subgroup	<b>June 2019</b>  <b>Oct 2019</b>  <b>Feb 2020</b>		

	with the Family Support Pathway by all agencies across the partnership.	against the four quadrants of the Quality Assurance Framework. This report should provide a comparative analysis of EHAs undertaken by all partner agencies.		Children's QA subgroup report to BMG	<b>June 2019</b> <b>Oct 2019</b> <b>Feb 2020</b>		
	❖ Monitor and evaluate the application of thresholds across the child's journey through the QA and PM framework	Children's QA subgroup	Children's QA subgroup report to OMG	<b>June 2019</b> <b>Oct 2019</b> <b>Feb 2020</b>			
	❖ Review the standard Board audit tool ensuring that this consistently captures information regarding the use of the Family Support Pathway in order to enable this to be fed back to the Partnership.	Children's QA subgroup	Use of standard tool in multi-agency audits	<b>June 2019</b>			



3	Single agency whistle blowing arrangements and escalation procedures reflect the escalation process set out in the Family Support Pathway	❖ Ensure that all partner agencies have whistle blowing and escalation processes that reflects the principles of the Family Support Pathway and that there is a mechanism for ensuring compliance	NCSCB Strategic Partnership Members	Assurance reports received by BMG from individual agencies	<b>October 2019</b>		
		❖ Evaluate impact through the multi-agency audit programme	Children's QA subgroup	Children's QA subgroup report to OMG	<b>June 2019</b> <b>Oct 2019</b> <b>Feb 2020</b>		
4	The needs of children who are privately fostered are recognised and that they receive	❖ Analyse numbers of private fostering arrangements and referral sources in order to develop a more informed hypothesis	Children's QA subgroup	Report received by Children's QA subgroup	<b>Oct 2019</b>		

	appropriate and timely support	regarding professional and community understanding.		Children's QA subgroup report to BMG	<b>Feb 2020</b>		
	❖ Scrutinise local practice to ensure that national indicator targets are met in relation to assessments and visiting timescales.		Children's QA subgroup	Report received by Children's QA subgroup	<b>Oct 2019</b>		
				Children's QA subgroup report to BMG	<b>Feb 2019</b>		
	❖ Support the work of childrens Integrated Services in ensuring that the partnership is fully informed of the criteria for private fostering.		Learning and improvement sub group	Comms and engagement report to BMG	<b>Feb 2020</b>		

5	The needs of children who are, or are at risk of becoming, sexually/ abused exploited are proactively recognised and that they receive appropriate and timely support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Through the delivery of the cross authority CSECAG subgroup work plan and securing the targets set out in relation to:</li> <li>❖ Prevention and response</li> <li>❖ Safeguarding and Protection</li> <li>❖ Bringing offenders to justice</li> <li>❖ Public confidence</li> </ul>	CSECAG group	CSECAG group will provide regular updates to BMG on the delivery of their plan.	<b>June 2019</b>  <b>Feb 2020</b>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ NCSCB will provide an analysis of local performance in addressing CSE</li> </ul>	BMG	Annual Report	<b>April 2020</b>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Delivery of Missing workplan</li> </ul>	Missing work group	Missing group will provide regular updates to BMG on the delivery of the plan.	<b>Oct 2019</b>  <b>Feb 2020</b>		

6	The needs of children who are, or are at risk of criminal exploitation and knife crime are proactively recognised and that they receive appropriate and timely support	❖ Knife crime strategic group and the newly formed criminal exploitation panel.	NCSCP	Reports 3 times per year to the BMG	<b>June 2019</b> <b>Oct 2019</b> <b>Feb 2020</b>		
7	Signs of safety is understood and used where appropriate across the partnership.	❖ Implement the multi-agency plan in order to ensure all partner agencies are engaged with this model	NCSCB	Report to receive by BMG from lead officer	<b>June 2020</b>		
		❖ Delivery of SOS training programme.	Learning and improvement subgroup	Training subgroup report to BMG	<b>Oct 2019</b>		
		❖ Audit work will consider the extent to which SOS is rolled out across the child's journey and that there is consistency of application	Children's QA subgroup	Children's QA subgroup to BMG	<b>Feb 2020</b>		

8	Lessons from child deaths are understood and consistently acted upon	❖ Delivery of CDOP subgroup's workplan.	CDOP	CDOP will provide regular updates to BMG on the	June 2019 Feb 2020		
10	The learning and improvement framework is having a positive impact on local practice.	Develop plans of action to address the outcomes of learning and improvement undertaken in 2019-20.	Learning and Improvement SCR Chair subgroup	delivery of their plan	June 2019		
		Audit programme to be designed to evaluate impact of learning and improvement framework.	Training subgroup	SCR will provide regular updates to BMG on the delivery of their plan.	June 2019 Feb 2020		
		❖ Work with Tri-X to update		Report to OMG	Oct 2019		
9	Local procedures			Report to BMG	June 2019		
	statutory guidance	changes to Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018		Safeguarding partnership newsletter.	Feb 2020		

11	The challenge and scrutiny function of the board leads to improved outcomes for vulnerable children and families	Ensure the QA subgroup provides information that enhances the NCSCP's capacity to scrutinise and challenge performance of both individual agencies and multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.	Children's QA subgroup	Children's QA subgroup report to OMG	June 2019 Oct 2019 Feb 2020		
		Delivery of the core functions of the QA subgroup - section 11, staff survey and audit programme	Children's QA subgroup	Children's QA subgroup report to BMG	June 2019 Oct 2019 Feb 2020		
		Develop Annual programme for the QA subgroup in order that all agencies are clear what is required to be submitted, when and what will happen if we do not comply with this.	Children's QA subgroup	Children's QA subgroup report to BMG	April 2019		

12	Voice of the child is heard and acted upon.	Identify evidence that the views and opinions of children and young people have impacted on business plan priorities and actions.	Learning and improvement sub group	Subgroup to BMG	<b>Oct 2019</b>		
		Audit work will consider the extent to which the voice of the child is heard and acted upon.	Children's QA subgroup	Children's QA subgroup report to BMG	<b>June 2019</b> <b>Oct 2019</b> <b>Feb 2020</b>		
13	Improved engagement with schools ensures that this critical sector is fully engaged in work to safeguard children and young people	Continued running of the DSL Network 3 times a year. Attendance at Partnership Board, BMG and other appropriate board meetings.	Partnerships manager	Report to NCSCP	<b>June 2019</b> <b>Oct 2019</b> <b>Feb 2020</b>		
		Engagement in the multi-agency audit process.	Education Safeguarding Coordinator	Children's QA subgroup report to BMG	<b>June 2019</b> <b>Oct 2019</b> <b>Feb 2020</b>		
		Embed the DSL network as a subgroup of the NCSCP	Partnerships manager	Report to BMG	<b>June 2019</b> <b>Oct 2019</b> <b>Feb 2020</b>		

		Review and update the compliance checklist and process.	Education Safeguarding Coordinator	Children's QA subgroup report to BMG	<b>June 2019</b>		
		Undertake further work with schools to embed the principles of escalation.	Children's Board Officer	DSL Network to report to BMG	<b>July 2019</b>		

PROPOSED





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### NCSCP Strategic Board

Independent Chair, NCC, CCG, Police

Meet three times per year

### Business Management Group

Independent Chair

Meet three times per year

Policy, Procedure  
Learning and  
Improvement

Significant  
Incident Review  
Group

DSL Network/  
Education Sub  
Group

Child Death  
Overview panel  
(CDOP) to transfer to  
DH

Child Exploitation

Quality Assurance  
and Performance

Domestic Abuse

Contextualised Safeguarding

Cross Authority  
Partnership  
Development  
Session

Meet twice per year

PROPOSED

Notes

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