



**DONCASTER  
SAFEGUARDING  
CHILDREN  
PARTNERSHIP**

## **Doncaster Safeguarding Children Partnership**

**Local Safeguarding Partnership arrangements to succeed  
Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board in response to  
Working Together 2018**

**JUNE 2019**

## Foreword

As the safeguarding partners for Doncaster, as defined by the Children and Social Work Act 2017, we are very pleased to present this overview of our local multi-agency arrangements to safeguarding children. This is our local commitment to the children of Doncaster through delivering the requirements of the Government's statutory Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2018.

These new arrangements have been implemented during 2018 and 2019 in anticipation of publication and notification to the Secretary of State in June 2019: they are built on and replace the arrangements put in place by Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board. We wish to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of all those involved in keeping children in Doncaster safe since local safeguarding children boards were established in 2006

The world is changing fast for children, families and communities, and with it the pressures and the risks that must be safeguarded against. The safeguarding of children continues to evolve at local, national, and even international levels, so we must continue to meet the challenges with an open attitude of learning. This of course extends across the partnership of all agencies and organisations working together to safeguard children, and we also need to be learning from the children, families and communities we work with.

Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group, South Yorkshire Police and Doncaster Council with Doncaster Children's Services Trust are designated by the Children and Social Work Act 2017 as 'safeguarding partners' for Doncaster borough, and as such we are accountable for the effectiveness of the local arrangements to keep children safe. Safeguarding is, however, **everyone's** responsibility, and through the Doncaster Safeguarding Children Partnership we are working together with a wide range of other agencies including health services, schools, early years settings, social care, and voluntary, community and faith organisations.

Our vision is clear:

***We work together to help Doncaster children and young people to be safe!***



**Jo Miller**  
Chief Executive  
Doncaster Council



**Paul Moffat**  
Chief Executive  
Doncaster Children's  
Services Trust



**Shaun Morley**  
Chief Superintendent  
South Yorkshire  
Police



**Jackie Pederson**  
Chief Officer  
Doncaster Clinical  
Commissioning  
Group



## Contents

- Introduction
- Local Context for safeguarding in Doncaster
- Arrangements for the safeguarding partners to work together to identify and respond to the needs of children in the area
- Arrangements for commissioning and publishing local child safeguarding practice reviews
- Arrangements for independent scrutiny of the effectiveness of the arrangements
- The three local safeguarding partners
- Geographical boundaries
- The relevant agencies the safeguarding partners will work with; why these organisations and agencies have been chosen; and how they will collaborate and work together to improve outcomes for children and families
- How all early years settings, schools (including independent schools, academies and free schools) and other educational establishments will be included in the safeguarding arrangements
- How any youth custody and residential homes for children will be included in the safeguarding arrangements
- How the safeguarding partners will use data and intelligence to assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help
- How inter-agency training will be commissioned, delivered and monitored for impact and how they will undertake any multiagency and interagency audits
- How the arrangements will be funded
- The process for undertaking local child safeguarding practice reviews, setting out the arrangements for embedding learning across organisations and agencies,
- How the arrangements will include the voice of children and families
- How the threshold document setting out the local criteria for action aligns with the arrangements

## Introduction

1. **Working Together to Safeguard Children: A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children (2018)**, the statutory guidance for the **Children and Social Work Act 2017**, requires the safeguarding partners – Local Authority, Clinical Commissioning Group, and Police – to publish local safeguarding children arrangements.
2. The summary below of the local arrangements follows the format of Working Together 2018 (WT2018) chapter 3 paragraphs 38 and 39, with additional sections of WT2018 referenced in brackets. Further detail on the Safeguarding Partnership is available through the [website](#), in particular the Annual Report.
3. Partners in Doncaster recognise that arrangements must be purpose-driven and therefore responsive to the local community and the organisational environment, and also to national priorities and policy developments. Further, our local arrangements need to learn from experience, and develop towards greater effectiveness on the basis of that learning. We expect therefore that our local safeguarding arrangements will evolve over time, whilst remaining compliant with statutory duties; this document will be updated from time to time in order to reflect developments.
4. It should also be noted that there is significant business continuity between the arrangements of Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) and the new Safeguarding Partnership. For example, all policies, procedures and training delivery remain the same, the DSCB Chairperson continues into the new arrangement to provide independent scrutiny (see paragraphs 49-54 below), and the DSCB business unit and web resources remain in place. This was in recognition that much in the DSCB arrangements was working well locally, and also to minimise any disruption and confusion arising in changing arrangements. However, the new arrangements are also seen as an opportunity to develop and innovate.
5. The new arrangements were anticipated and debated at DSCB Board meetings in 2018, and signed off in July 2018. The key structural elements have been incrementally put in place from September 2018 onwards and are described in this document.

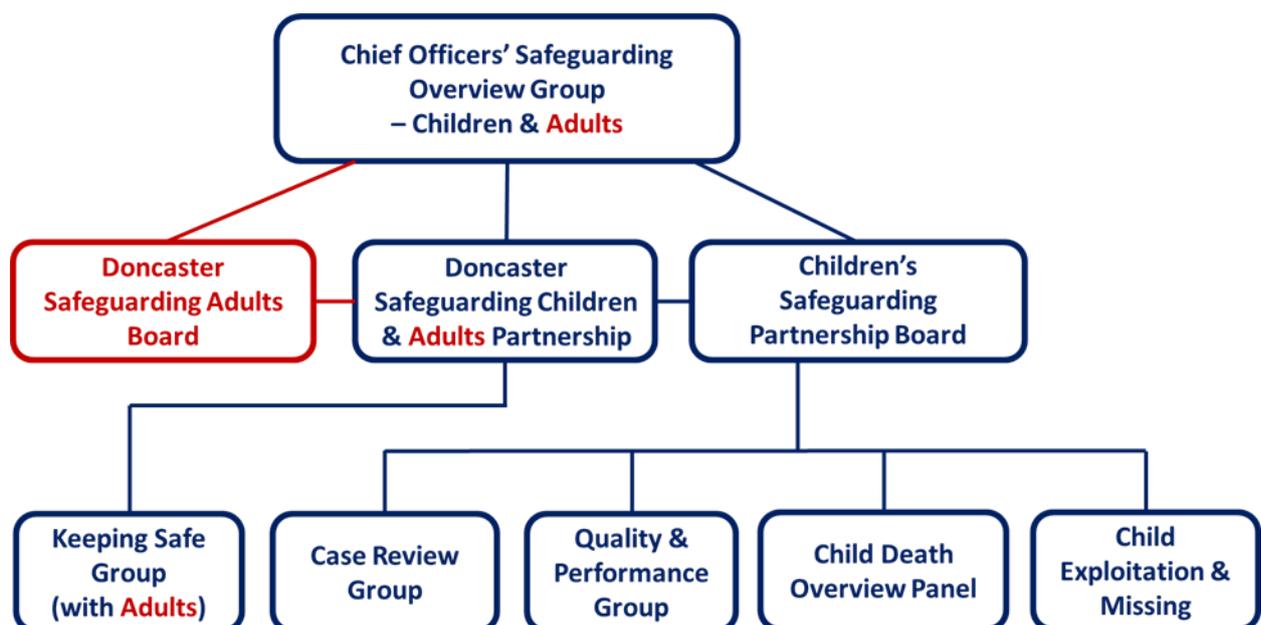
## Local Context for safeguarding in Doncaster

6. Doncaster is a metropolitan borough in South Yorkshire, approximately 568 Km<sup>2</sup>. It has an estimated population of 308,900, of which 72,000 (23%) are aged 0 – 19 years (Office of National Statistics estimate 2017).
7. Doncaster has 128 schools – 99 primary, infants and junior, 19 secondary, 6 special schools, 2 pupil referral units, a sixth form college, and an alternative provision. 76 schools are academies, of which 64 are part of multi-academy trusts.
8. 6.2% of Doncaster residents were born outside the UK. The main group outside of white British is 'white other' which equates to 3.1% of the population aged 0-24. The main language in Doncaster, for people aged 3-15, if not English, is Polish.
9. Indices of Deprivation 2015 indicated that Doncaster was the 48th most deprived out of 326 local authority areas in England, with 1 in 5 Lower Super Output Areas in Doncaster is within the most deprived 10% of the UK.
10. The number of children in poverty in Doncaster is 21.0%, which is higher than the national average of 16.6%. This equates to around 13,930 children and young people aged 19 and under. Poverty is not distributed equally across the borough with some lower super output areas (LSOA) having over 50% of children in poverty compared to other areas only having 5%.
11. The numbers of primary and secondary school pupils that are eligible for free school meals and the Pupil Premium are higher than regional and national averages.

12. Doncaster Children’s Services data reported an average of 435 Child in Need cases open during 2017 – 2018, 381 Child Protection cases open at the end of March 2018 (approximately 90% categorised as Neglect or Emotional Abuse), and 570 Looked After Children at the end of March 2018. These are also above national and regional comparators.
13. Therefore, the data suggests that the challenges Doncaster and its services for children face are greater than those found nationally. Further analysis on demographic and safeguarding children data is published annually in the Annual Report.
14. Doncaster’s Local Strategic Partnership is called "Team Doncaster". It is a non-statutory, non-executive organisation which brings together organisations and individuals from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors to take shared ownership and responsibility for Doncaster's vision, leadership and direction. Its strategy, Doncaster Growing Together, has as one of its themes Doncaster Caring, supporting our most vulnerable residents, whether children, adults, disabled people, families, older people. The emphasis is on joining up social and health care and support and on shifting our focus to prevention and support that enables people to enjoy life with their families and communities.

***Arrangements for the safeguarding partners to work together to identify and respond to the needs of children in the area***

15. The structure of the Safeguarding Partnership is illustrated in figure 1.



### **Chief Officers' Safeguarding Overview Group for Children and Adults**

16. Developed from an existing Chief Officers' group, this has been developed to be the location at which the lead representatives of the safeguarding partners (the local authority Chief Executive, the Children's Trust Chief Executive, the accountable officer of the Clinical Commissioning Group, and the police divisional commander for Doncaster, 3:11) meet to agree safeguarding arrangements and act as a strategic leadership group (3:6). This is therefore the principal site of accountability for the Safeguarding Partners.
17. They are supported also in doing this through the attendance also of Chief Executives of Doncaster Children's Services Trust, Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust, and Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.
18. The Chief Officers' Safeguarding Overview Group also has oversight for Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Board, and also has strong links through its members to other strategic partnership work happening locally to support children and their families (3:10) such as the Children & Young People's Partnership, the Community Safety Partnership, Health & Wellbeing Board, and Team Doncaster.
19. The Chief Officers' Safeguarding Overview Group is convened by an Independent Convenor (who also chairs the Children's Safeguarding Partnership Board and the Safeguarding Adults Board) as part of a role to provide independent scrutiny and challenge to the Safeguarding Partnership.
20. The Independent Convenor/Scrutineer is a transition from the role of Independent Chair under safeguarding arrangements in Working Together 2015, thus helping business continuity at a time of change.

### **Children's Safeguarding Partnership Board**

21. To complement the high-level strategic nature of the Chief Officers' Group, the Children's Safeguarding Partnership Board has a more operational and tactical focus.
22. Members of the Partnership Board are senior officers who hold operational and tactical safeguarding responsibilities that have been delegated to them by the Chief Officers of their agencies. The agencies represented on the Safeguarding Partnership Board include those represented in the Chief Officers' Group and some other key relevant agencies. They are:
  - Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
  - DMBC Lead Member for Children
  - DMBC Director of Public Health
  - Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group
  - South Yorkshire Police
  - Doncaster Children's Services Trust
  - Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust
  - Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
  - NHS England
  - Healthwatch Doncaster
  - St Leger Homes
  - Representatives of primary, secondary, and special schools.
  - South Yorkshire Community Rehabilitation Company Ltd (SYCRC)
  - South Yorkshire National Probation Service (NPS)

23. As well as the agencies set out above the Partnership are seeking to recruit at least one lay member of the Children's Partnership Board, who will have relevant knowledge and experience of safeguarding in Doncaster.
24. The purpose of the Children's Safeguarding Partnership Board is to develop policy and procedures for safeguarding and scrutinise the work and performance of the safeguarding partner agencies and other relevant agencies in delivering their statutory safeguarding responsibilities and in addressing any local safeguarding priorities identified.
25. The Partnership Board will also receive assurance that relevant agencies have 'appropriate, robust safeguarding policies and procedures in place' (WT2018 3:22), that they are compliant with Children Act 2004 s.11 duties as laid out in Working Together 2018 chapter 2, and are working within the Safeguarding Children's Partnership strategic plan.
26. The Partnership Board is deliberately a smaller core than the previous DSCB Board so as to allow the development of better dynamics of collaboration and partnership working. Further members of the Partnership Board may be co-opted, invited, or may choose to attend in relation to specific issues. Other partners who had less to contribute to DSCB Board meetings are now engaged in the safeguarding arrangements more appropriately through the wider Doncaster Safeguarding Children & Adults Partnership events, Practitioner Forum, Annual Conference, and the Safeguarding Week with the Adults Board.
27. The Partnership Board is chaired by the same person that convenes the Chief Officers Group, the Safeguarding Adults Board, and the Doncaster Safeguarding Children & Adults Partnership, thus allowing for scrutiny of safeguarding responsibilities and activities and of the governance arrangements from different perspectives and at each level of the partnership.

### **Business Unit**

28. The work of the Chief Officers' Group and the Partnership Board is supported by a joint-funded business unit who provide expert guidance, administration, quality assurance, development work, communications, and training. This is hosted within the Doncaster Children's Services Trust.

### **Close links with Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Board**

29. Doncaster has recognised the strong linkages between issues for children and adults and has the intention through a number of its strategic partnerships to work in a more integrated 'whole family' all-age approach. To further this ambition, the Safeguarding Partnership has developed close structural relationships with the Safeguarding Adults Board, as illustrated in figure 1 above.
30. The Independent Convenor of the Safeguarding Children's Partnership is also the Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Adults Board and therefore is able to identify linkages and cross-cutting themes and areas of business.
31. The Children's Partnership Board and Adults Board now meet on the same day in one meeting that has separate children and adults agendas with a joint agenda in between. This model has been very effective to date. As Team Doncaster continues to develop its wider vision for whole family working, the Safeguarding Children's Partnership and Safeguarding Adults Board will continue to explore opportunities to work ever closer together to promote safeguarding practice across the life stages in Doncaster.
32. The workforce development, learning communications and service users/children's voice sub-group "Keeping Safe" is now a joint sub-group between adults and children. Opportunities to merge other sub-group activities, for example case review, are being considered.

33. Business Units for both Children and Adults Boards are now co-located so that they may begin to develop joint and shared practices to board administration and support.

### **Doncaster Safeguarding Children & Adults Partnership**

34. It is noted that WT2018 is not prescriptive about the specific meetings and attendees. Doncaster has developed a structure of meetings and forums that engage all relevant agencies at all levels and in the most appropriate manner.

35. In order to allow the Partnership Board to have a core working membership, and at the same time to engage with a much wider pool of relevant agencies including those in the voluntary and community sector, the Children's Partnership and Adults Boards are developing biannual Safeguarding Children & Adults Partnership events. This has a mixed agenda of joint Boards business, presentations, workshops, consultations, etc.

### **Sub-Groups and Task Groups**

36. The Partnership Board delegates functions to a set of standing Sub-Groups, and also from time to time to Task Groups.

37. Currently there are the following sub-groups

- Quality & Performance - use audit, performance data and intelligence to assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help (3:39)
- Case Review - undertaking local child safeguarding practice reviews (3:39) see below
- Keeping Safe – as described above this is a joint sub group with the Adult Safeguarding Board with a focus on workforce development, learning, communications and wider community engagement, including promotion of the voice of children and family service users.
- Child Exploitation and Missing Sub Group – this includes child sexual exploitation, child criminal exploitation and county lines, trafficked children and children missing from home and care. This sub-group also links into the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (community safety).
- Child Death Overview Panel – Currently sits under the Safeguarding Children's Partnership, however the new statutory guidance in Working Together 2018 chapter 5 has provided an opportunity to review future administration and governance arrangements including developing existing sub-regional arrangements to further develop thematic learning.

### **Annual Business cycle**

38. An annual one-page Strategic Plan is developed to translate the safeguarding vision into strategic priorities and more detailed objectives that will guide the work of sub-groups and task groups. These plans are published on the Safeguarding Partnership's website.

### **Procedures**

39. The Safeguarding Partnership will continue to use [Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board Online Procedures](#) which are regularly updated and widely disseminated to partner agencies and form the basis for the multi-agency training programme.

40. The Partnership Board is the location for the multi-agency agreement of local strategy and policy, and for the delegation of actions to sub-groups and task groups.

## **Communications**

41. The Safeguarding Partnership also uses a range of communications with partners such as its website resources, the biannual Doncaster Safeguarding Children and Adults Partnership (DSCAP) events, an annual safeguarding week, annual conference, and other publicity, including use of social media and email communications.

## ***Arrangements for commissioning and publishing local child safeguarding practice reviews***

42. The Safeguarding Partnership Case Review Group deliver the local responsibilities for Child Safeguarding Practice Review as set out in WT2018 (4:7 and 4:15), Terms of reference have been updated and a process map and procedures setting out the new processes have been produced.
43. On being informed of a notifiable incident, this group will initiate the DSCP Rapid Review in respect of the incident in accordance with the statutory guidance set out in Working Together 2018. The Rapid Review will be collated and finalised by the Case Review Group and form the basis of advice to the Safeguarding Partners about their recommendation to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel. Independent advice in respect of each Rapid Review will be available to the partners through the Independent convenor of the Partnership.
44. Where a local safeguarding practice review is required, commissioning the review will be the responsibility of the Case Review Group.
45. Where incidents do not meet the criteria for notification to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel, the Case Review Group will make decisions as to whether to commission a Local Learning Lessons Review. In such instances the Case Review Group will commission this review from suitably trained and experienced practitioners from within the partnership. These reviews will be conducted using the methodology approved by the Welsh Government, which has been adopted and embedded in Doncaster for a number of years.
46. Reviews will be published on the DSCP website in accordance with guidance set out in Chapter 4 Working Together 2018.
47. The Case Review Group is responsible for agreeing and reviewing progress of action plans arising from reviews and for publication and dissemination of practice briefings.
48. The Case Review Group is chaired by a member of the Children's Safeguarding Partnership Board, the chair providing a highlight report to the quarterly Partnership Board Meeting.

***Arrangements for independent scrutiny of the effectiveness of the arrangements, how the arrangements are reviewed; how any recommendations are taken forward (3:34): and independent scrutiny of the report Safeguarding Partners must publish at least once a year (3:35)***

49. Consultation during 2018 revealed that safeguarding partners were appreciative of the role played by the Independent Chair of the DSCB (and Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Board – DSAB) and saw advantages in this role going forward into the new safeguarding arrangements.
50. The Independent Chair operates at all levels of the Safeguarding Partnership organisation, convening the Chief Officer’s Group, chairing the Partnership Board, the Doncaster Children and Adults Safeguarding Forum and the Practitioners’ Forum. The regular contact with the business of the Safeguarding Partnership, the development of professional working relationships with key partners, and the resulting depth of local knowledge and understanding means that the independent scrutiny of the effectiveness of the arrangements is ongoing and fully informed.
51. We understand ‘the independent scrutiny of the effectiveness of the arrangements’ (3:31-35) to be a high-level overview of safeguarding governance structures, business processes, and in particular safeguarding outcomes achieved. This will be supported by the more detailed scrutiny of the effectiveness of operational safeguarding performance that is delegated from the Partnership Board to the Quality & Performance Sub-group, as well as scrutiny of individual agency’s compliance with their WT2018 chapter 2 duties.
52. Independent scrutiny is achieved through a variety of mechanisms and arrangements. The Independent convenor of the partnership provides scrutiny and critique at each level of the partnership, from practitioners up to chief officers. Service user involvement, and the engagement of service users through the Keeping Safe Group provides an element of community engagement and scrutiny.
53. Safeguarding partners will be publishing, with the assistance of the business unit, an annual report summarising what has been done as a result of the safeguarding arrangements, including child safeguarding practice reviews, and how effective these arrangements have been in practice (3:41). This will include a critical appraisal by the Independent Convenor, setting out the challenges that the safeguarding partnership should consider. The work of the partnership is also scrutinised through this annual report presented to various scrutiny bodies including the Local Authority Children and Families Scrutiny Committee, the Police and Crime Commissioner and the CCG Board.
54. In line with its own learning and development ethos, the Safeguarding Partnership will develop further options for independent scrutiny such as peer review, and will keep a watch on how independent scrutiny develops within the region and across the country under the new arrangements.

### ***The local Safeguarding Partners***

55. Working Together 2018 (3:11) defines the 'lead representatives' of the 'safeguarding partners' as being at chief officer level. In Doncaster they are:
- Chief Executive of Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
  - Chief Officer of Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group
  - Chief Superintendent of South Yorkshire Police
56. Doncaster Council delivers children's social care services through Doncaster Children's Services Trust (DCST), now an arms-length management organisation. Though this arrangement is not addressed in statutory guidance, DCST are regarded as of the 'safeguarding partners' as described in the statutory guidance.
57. The safeguarding partners are ultimately accountability for the local safeguarding arrangements, and discharge this duty through the Chief Officers' Safeguarding Overview Partnership.

### ***Geographical boundaries***

58. The geographical area covered by the Safeguarding Partnership is the Metropolitan Borough of Doncaster in South Yorkshire.

### ***The relevant agencies that the safeguarding partners work with; why these organisations and agencies have been chosen; and how they collaborate and work together to improve outcomes for children and families***

59. Relevant agencies are those organisations and agencies whose involvement the safeguarding partners consider is required to safeguard and promote the welfare of local children, organisations and agencies that can work in a collaborative way to provide targeted support to children and families (3:17).
60. In Doncaster the relevant agencies are
- Doncaster Children's Services Trust (providing safeguarding and youth justice on behalf of Doncaster Council)
  - Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust
  - Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
  - St. Leger Homes of Doncaster Limited
  - Healthwatch Doncaster
  - CAFCASS
  - South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service
  - NHS England
  - Yorkshire Ambulance Service
  - South Yorkshire National Probation Service
  - South Yorkshire Community Rehabilitation Company Ltd
  - Primary Care
  - Expect Youth
  - HMP & YOI Doncaster
  - In Safe Hands Care Ltd - Acorn House children's home, Armthorpe.
  - Friends Together Children's Care Home, Denaby
  - First 4 Care children's homes - Liberty House, Heather Lodge, Hollies, The Beeches, Abbey House)
  - Blue Mountain, Orchard House children's home

- Hesley Group Residential schools - Fullerton House and Wilsic Hall
  - Doncaster Deaf Trust- Doncaster School for the Deaf and Communication Specialist College
61. All Early Years providers are regarded as relevant agencies – see appendix 1. Early years providers have a duty under section 40 of the Childcare Act 2006 to comply with the welfare requirements of the early years foundation stage (EYFS).
  62. We also regard all educational providers in Doncaster, including schools, multi academy trusts and colleges as relevant agencies – see appendix 2. Working Together 2018 is clear that *this guidance applies in its entirety to all schools* (2:12), and schools also have safeguarding children duties given in the statutory guidance ‘Keeping Children Safe in Education.’
  63. Doncaster has noted that WT2018 is not prescriptive on how relevant agencies should be involved, and indeed what meetings there should be and who should attend: being identified as a ‘relevant agency’ (3:17) does not necessarily mean a requirement to attend a board meeting or partnership meeting (although it may).
  64. Following previous experience of a large Safeguarding Children Board with very limited contributions from members, it was decided that the Safeguarding Partnership Board would have a smaller membership of key partners, with the option of co-opting further members or inviting attendance in relation to specific items of business. This is intended to allow the Partnership Board to develop much more effective working dynamics around collaboration and partnership working. At the same time, other relevant agencies would be engaged in different ways including attendance at the Doncaster Children & Adults Partnership events, and regular meetings of the Health Safeguarding Assurance Group.
  65. It is also expected that relevant agencies will be active in the Safeguarding Partnership’s Sub-groups, although sub-group membership will be decided in relation to the group’s purpose rather than requiring every relevant agency to provide a representative for every group.
  66. Overall the Safeguarding Partnership will be promoting and reinforcing the message that relevant agencies must act in accordance with the local safeguarding arrangements (3:19).
  67. Doncaster Safeguarding Children’s Partnership have taken the opportunity of recent website development work to establish a secure “Partners and Relevant Agencies” area. This will allow for the on-line submission of papers, reports and agendas, including for example agency assurance reports. It will also enable the online storage of meeting minutes. In this way those agencies who do not attend the regular partnership board or sub-group meetings will have ‘virtual membership’. By virtue of this facility ‘virtual members’ will have access to papers, and upcoming agendas. They will be able to comment and where they deem it appropriate make representations or arrangements to attend or table items for discussion. ‘Virtual membership’ has been introduced to ensure that those agencies who no longer attend regular meetings remain informed and engaged and have opportunities to attend or table items by exception where they have a specific interest or contribution to make, or where they are presenting an Agency Assurance Report or if there is a specific challenge.

***How all Early Years settings, schools (including independent schools, academies and free schools) and other educational establishments are included in the safeguarding arrangements***

68. Early Years settings are represented at the Partnership Board by Doncaster Council, principally through an Assistant Director for Partnerships and Operational Delivery in the Learning and Opportunities: Children & Young People Directorate. The Head of Service for Early Years sits within this Directorate, and two Early Years Safeguarding Officers who provide training support and guidance to settings.

69. The local authority Early Years Service actively promotes the Early Years sector's compliance with the Early Years foundation stage statutory framework (EYFS) which includes policies and procedures in line with local arrangements (EYFS 3:4), and also with Ofsted's inspection framework.
70. Early Years providers are also targeted for attendance at the Doncaster Children & Adults Safeguarding Partnership events.
71. A list of Early Years providers, regarded as 'relevant agencies' (WT2018 3:17) is provided in Appendix 1 (Doncaster Council funded, other than sole traders).
72. Doncaster schools have a standing representative at the Partnership Board Meeting, reporting back to local Head Teachers' meetings. This representation is being further developed to ensure the inclusion at the Partnership of Secondary, Primary and Special Schools through their respective Head Teachers' networks.
73. In addition, the Safeguarding Partnership's business unit is seeking regular attendance at schools' forums in order to ensure that safeguarding is a consistent agenda item and that partnership information is regularly shared.
74. Doncaster Council's Learning and Opportunities: Children & Young People (LOCYP) Directorate has a Safeguarding Team that provides training, guidance and support to schools Designated Safeguarding Leads and to other LOCYP children's services. The manager of the LOCYP Safeguarding Team is active on the Safeguarding Partnership's Sub-Groups, hence for schools, this is a key line of communication and information with the Safeguarding Partnership.
75. A list of education providers and schools, regarded as 'relevant agencies' for the local safeguarding arrangements, is provided in Appendix 2.

***How any youth custody and residential homes for children are included in the safeguarding arrangements.***

76. HMP & YOI Doncaster is named above as a relevant agency (3:17) and are subject to s.11 duties as set out in Working Together 2018 chapter 2. They will be expected to comply with the local safeguarding requirements, provide information and assurance reports as requested and will be invited to attend the Doncaster Safeguarding Children & Adults Partnership. For each children's residential home in Doncaster, it is the Registered Person's duty to prepare and implement a safeguarding policy (2:44) Where children's homes are owned and run by Doncaster Children's Services Trust, it is expected that the relevant service manager is able to provide assurance on this to the Partnership Board. Where children's homes are from an independent provider (named above as a relevant agency) we will continue to develop robust arrangements built on the existing engagement arrangements led by South Yorkshire Police.
77. The following children's residential services (other than Doncaster Children's Services Trust) operate in Doncaster Borough and are named in this publication as relevant agencies for the local safeguarding arrangements:-
  - In Safe Hands Care Ltd - Acorn House children's home, Armthorpe.
  - Friends Together Children's Care Home, Denaby.
  - First 4 Care Children's Homes - Liberty House, Heather Lodge, Hollies, The Beeches, Abbey House)
  - Blue Mountain, Orchard House children's home
  - Hesley Group Residential schools - Fullerton House and Wilsic Hall

- Doncaster Deaf Trust- Doncaster School for the Deaf and Communication Specialist College

78. The Corporate Parenting Board receives a quarterly summary of regulation 44 Independent Person visits to residential children's homes and also an Annual Report from the Independent Reviewing Officers Service. The DCST Principal Social Worker also attends the Corporate Parenting Board to provide safeguarding advice and produce an annual safeguarding report.

79. Individual children's homes managers and staff, or their provider organisations are invited to the Doncaster Safeguarding Children & Adults Partnership events.

80. Additionally we see the Service Commissioner role as key to maintaining effective safeguarding systems of provider services such as children's homes.

### ***How the safeguarding partners use data and intelligence to assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help***

81. The Quality & Performance Sub-group receives a performance scorecard principally on the operational safeguarding arrangements described in WT2018 chapter 1.

82. The Group's objectives in its Terms of Reference include

- Collating and reviewing business intelligence/performance data on behalf of the Partnership Board, in order to provide hypotheses, analysis, and themes for further scrutiny through audit, case review or other methods (Other Safeguarding Partnership sub-groups will be reviewing their own scorecards). The Quality & Performance scorecard will be used as a dynamic tool, developed and amended in response to the DSCP changing priorities and areas of focus.
- Designing quality assurance and audit methodologies, processes and formats
- Conducting audits and identifying themes for learning and development
- Routing audit findings and learning to the appropriate sub-group for dissemination and tracking of actions
- Developing Quality Assurance practices and promoting consistency of approaches to single agency safeguarding Quality Assurance across the partnership.

83. The Quality & Performance Sub-group provide the Safeguarding Partnership Board with a highlight report summarising themes, concerns, risks, action to be taken or being taken, and proposals of auditing of case reviews.

### ***How inter-agency training are commissioned, delivered and monitored for impact***

84. The Safeguarding Partnership has continued to deliver the DSCB's [multi-agency training programme](#), co-ordinated by the Business Unit Training and Development Manager. This is based on a Training Strategy developed through a training needs analysis with partners, overseen on behalf of the Partnership Board by the Keeping Safe Group. The training needs analysis takes into account training that is already provided by partners and targets specific interagency, emerging issues or persons who do not otherwise have access to safeguarding training.

85. Places on DSCP Safeguarding Training sessions are free to attendees from partner agencies, though the overall cost of the training programme (£24,200 in 2017/18) is covered within

partners' financial contribution to the Safeguarding Partnership's business function. The cost of the DSCP training programme in 2017/18 was £24,200. This includes e-learning and external trainers, however a significant amount of training is provided through an in-kind contribution in the form of a training pool of partner and relevant agency staff.

86. Evaluations of training delivery and of post-training impact on practice are collated and reported on in the Annual Report, and will subsequently feed in to the development of the next Training Strategy.
87. Training take-up by partners is also monitored and reported upon in quarterly and Annual Reports.

### ***How Safeguarding Partners will undertake any multi-agency and interagency audits***

88. The Quality and Performance Sub-Group receives a performance scorecard principally on the operational safeguarding arrangements described in WT2018 chapter 1. Themes for further enquiry are identified through the analysis of performance data and intelligence, along with issues raised by the Partnership Board or other sub-groups. From these themes, an annual programme of multi-agency case audits is developed.
89. For each theme, a random sample of cases are selected, and agencies who have been actively involved are requested to audit their casefile records using a standard template and with discussion with the practitioner. Auditors and/or practitioners' then meet together to review their audit findings and learn from each other, identifying learning that will be useful to develop practice across the partnership agencies.
90. The child's voice captured in each case record informs all multi-agency auditing.
91. Consideration is given to the most appropriate and sensitive way of further gaining the views of children and families involved in the audited cases, for example, who might be best to contact the family, whether such contact would have an impact on on-going child protection or court issues, etc.

***How the arrangements are funded, and contributions agreed with relevant agencies, including funding, accommodation, services and any resources connected with the arrangements (3:21)***

92. The joint costs of the safeguarding arrangements are met by Doncaster Council, Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group, and South Yorkshire Police, with smaller contributions made by the National Probation Service and CAFCASS. Other partners such as Doncaster Children's Trust, Doncaster College, and Doncaster & Bassetlaw Hospitals Trust have made contributions in kind by providing accommodation for meetings and allowing staff to join the multi-agency safeguarding training pool.
93. The detail of partners' contributions is agreed annually and is published in the Annual Report.
94. Safeguarding Partnership joint-funding principally covers the cost of the Independent Chair/independent scrutiny, the business unit, training programme, events, communications, including website, and any case reviews requiring external support.

***The process for undertaking local child safeguarding practice reviews, setting out the arrangements for embedding learning across organisations and agencies***

95. The Case Review Sub-group has delegated responsibility for delivering on behalf of the Safeguarding Partnership the local processes set out in WT2018 chapter 4. It is chaired by a senior member of the Safeguarding Partnership Board.
96. Any safeguarding partner agency who becomes aware of a Serious child safeguarding case - where abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected and the child has died or been seriously harmed – must provide details to the Safeguarding Partnership's Business Unit. Information will be gathered sufficient to inform a decision regarding a possible review, and the case will be referred to the next Case Review Group Meeting or a specially convened meeting.
97. DSCB will undertake Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews using the methodology approved by the Welsh Government.
98. Lessons from local and national Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews are disseminated through the training programme, the Doncaster Safeguarding Children & Adults Partnership, and general Safeguarding Partnership communications to relevant agencies.
99. Where there is learning that is of particular importance or relevance to the local context, there may be briefing events for practitioners, or partner agencies will be given specific actions for which they will be expected to report on when complete.

***How the arrangements include the voice of children and families***

100. The multi-agency safeguarding procedures contains a chapter [1.2.6 Good Practice Supporting the Voice of the Child](#) which sets the standard that the Partnership aspires to. There is a strong commitment across the Safeguarding Partnership to developing this area of practice.
101. With the endorsement of the DSCB, Doncaster Children's Services Trust (DCST) and the wider children's workforce, have implemented the Signs of Safety practice model, to which the engagement of children and families around their views and wishes is essential. This is in line with the WT2018 1:51 requirement that high quality assessments should be child-centred, ensuring that their voice is heard. DCST includes this requirement in their own casefile audits.

102. Annual Reports to the Safeguarding Partnership from the Independent Reviewing Officers and the Child Protection Review Service includes views gathered from children on Child Protection Plans and Looked After Children, and their families.
103. Young people's participation in Child Protection Conferences is high; in 2017/18 70% of young people who had been invited attended their case conferences. There are two advocates who will support children and young people being heard in Child Protection Conferences and Looked After Reviews.
104. The Keeping Safe Group, shared with the Adult Safeguarding Board, has responsibility for accessing and promoting the voice of children, families and adult service user and supporting their participation in safeguarding services.
105. Multi-agency audits include questions regarding the voice of the child, their wishes and feelings, and where these are not available, evidence to shed light on the daily lived experience of the child.
106. WT2018 2:3 contains a duty for the agencies designated under S.11 of the Children Act 2004 to develop a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings, both in individual decisions and the development of services. Section 11 designated agencies report on their WT2018 Chapter 2 compliance to their own governing body and providing these reports to the Safeguarding Partnership Board for scrutiny.
107. Doncaster Children's Services Trust has made extensive use of young advisors since its inception, with involvement for example in Trust recruitment, set-up of children's homes and providing training on the experience of children in care. In addition, there is a Children in Care Council, and a Speak Out Aloud activity group for children in need and on Child Protection Plans, both of which provide good opportunities for consultation and involvement in the development of safeguarding practice.
108. Doncaster Council's Local Office of the Children's Commissioner has also recently employed 10 young advisors to consult with other children and young people – particularly those considered 'harder to reach' - on service and practice developments.
109. As this is such a key theme for the Safeguarding Partnership, the participation of children and young people is summarised in the Annual Report

***How the threshold document setting out the local criteria for action aligns with the arrangements***

110. The Multi-Agency Levels of Need guidance is embedded within Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board Online Procedures, a document that is agreed by all Safeguarding partner agencies.
111. The Quality & Performance Sub-group receives data that includes the volume of early help assessment, the pattern of referrals including whether they have or have not previously had early help involvement, and of referral outcomes. The Sub-group will analyse this data to identify where further information should be sought or multi-agency audits conducted to investigate practices around thresholds and whether they are understood.
112. The Quality & Performance Sub-group also expects to receive the outcomes of single agency safeguarding audits, in particular those undertaken by the Doncaster Children's Services Trust on their 'front door' multi-agency safeguarding hub operations.

***Appendix 1 – Early Years providers in Doncaster regarded as relevant agencies for local safeguarding arrangements – funded providers other than sole traders.***

A & J Childcare Ltd  
Armthorpe Day Care Nursery Ltd  
Auckley Pre-School Ltd  
B J Bright Day Nurseries Limited  
Bright Beginnings Childcare Ltd  
Building Blocks Montessori Ltd  
Buttons Day Nursery Ltd  
Cavendish House Private Nursery Ltd  
Cavendish House Private Nursery Ltd (Mallard Primary)  
Clever Clogs Day Nursery Ltd  
Cygnets of Bawtry Ltd  
Danum Daisies Daycare Limited  
Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council (Seedlings)  
Fledglings Day Nursery Ltd  
Flying Start Day Nursery (Finningley) Ltd  
Highwoods Early Years Centre  
Hill House School Ltd  
Honey Bees Pre-School CIC  
Indicate Ltd  
Jumpin Jacks Nursery Limited  
Kinderkare Private Day Nursery Limited  
Little Corkers Ltd  
Little Rascals (Doncaster) Ltd  
Loversall Farm Day Nursery Limited  
Mexborough Day Nursery Ltd  
North Bridge Enterprise College  
Northgate Pre-School and Toddlers Ltd  
Paskals Day Nursery Limited  
Pollywoggle Day Nursery Ltd (Adwick, Highfields, Mexborough)  
Red Balloon Nurseries Limited (Bawtry, Thorne)  
Rossington Early Learners Ltd  
Rossington Miners Welfare Scheme  
Smiley Faces Nursery Ltd  
St Aidans Day Nursery Ltd  
Sycamore Hall Preparatory School  
Teddies (Scawsby) Committee  
Tiddlywinks Pre-School (Bessacarr) Ltd  
Townrow Tiny Tots Day Nursery Ltd  
Warmsworth Community Pre-School (CIC)  
Vineyard Childcare Plus Ltd  
Racing Start Pre School Ltd

***Appendix 2 – schools and education providers in Doncaster regarded as relevant agencies for local safeguarding arrangements***

Armthorpe Shaw Wood Academy Ltd

Astrea Academy Trust

- Atlas Academy Doncaster
- Astrea Academy Woodfields
- Castle Academy
- Denaby Main Primary Academy
- Edenthorpe Hall Primary Academy
- Hexthorpe Primary School
- Hillside Academy
- Intake Primary Academy
- Kingfisher Primary Academy

Auckley School - junior, infant and nursery

Barnby Dun Primary Academy

Conisbrough Ivanhoe Primary Academy

Consilium Academies - Armthorpe Academy

Delta Academies Trust

- Ash Hill Academy
- Crookesbroom Primary Academy
- De Warenne Academy
- Don Valley Academy
- Grange Lane Infant Academy
- Hatfield Woodhouse Primary School
- Highfields Primary Academy
- The Laurel Academy
- Montagu Academy
- Morley Place Academy
- Pheasant Bank Academy
- Rossington All Saints Academy
- Rowena Academy
- St Wilfrid's Academy, Doncaster
- Waverley Academy

Dunsville Primary Academy Trust

Empowering Minds Academy Trust

- Bessacarr Primary School
- Highwoods Primary
- Southfield Primary
- Tranmoor Primary

Exceed Learning Partnership

- Carr Lodge Academy
- Edlington Victoria Academy
- Hill Top Academy
- Sandringham Primary School

Hungerhill Academy Trust - Hungerhill School

Inspiring Futures Academy Trust

- Bentley High Street Primary School
- Rosedale Primary School
- Willow Primary School

James Montgomery Trust

- Hooton Pagnell All Saints Church of England Primary School
- Mexborough St John the Baptist Church of England Primary School

Kirk Sandall Academy Trust

- Kirk Sandall Infant School
- Kirk Sandall Junior School

Maltby Learning Trust - Sir Thomas Wharton Academy

New Collaborative Learning Trust - New College Doncaster

Nexus Multi Academy Trust - Pennine View School

Our Lady of Doncaster Umbrella Trust

- Holy Family Catholic Primary School
- The McAuley Catholic High School

Outwood Grange Academies Trust

- Outwood Academy Adwick
- Outwood Academy Danum

The Academy @ Ridgewood Trust - Ridgewood School

The Consortium of Community Trusts, Hall Cross Academy Trust the Diocese of Sheffield Academies Trust

- Canon Popham CofE Primary Academy
- Rossington St Michael's CofE Primary School
- St Oswald's Church of England Academy

The Diocese of Sheffield Academies Trust

- Canon Popham CofE Primary Academy
- Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Voluntary Academy
- Rossington St Michael's CofE Primary School

The Hallam Schools' Partnership Academy Trust

- St Joseph's School Catholic Voluntary Academy

The Hayfield School

The Leger Education Trust - Campsmount Academy

The Rose Learning Trust

- Balby Central Primary School
- Hatchell Wood Primary Academy
- Richmond Hill Primary Academy
- Woodfield Primary School

Trinity Academy

XP School (Doncaster) Ltd

- Green Top
- XP East
- XP School

Adwick Primary School

Arksey Primary School

Askern Moss Road Infant School

Askern Spa Junior School

Barnburgh Primary School

Bawtry Mayflower Primary School

Bentley New Village Primary School

Branton St Wilfrid's Church of England Primary School

Carcroft Primary School

Copley Junior School

Coppice School

Doncaster Deaf Trust - Doncaster School for the Deaf and Communication Specialist College

Hatfield Sheep Dip Lane Primary School

Hawthorn Primary School

Hayfield Lane Primary School

Heatherwood School

Hesley Group Residential schools - Fullerton House and Wilsic Hall

Kirkby Avenue Primary School  
Lakeside Primary School  
Littlemoor Children's Centre and School  
Long Toft Primary School  
Mallard Primary School  
Maple Medical PRU  
Marshland Primary School  
Nexus C&I (Proposed)  
New Pastures Primary School  
North Ridge Community School  
Norton Infant School  
Norton Junior School  
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Primary School  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Primary School  
Owston Park Primary  
Park Primary School  
Plover Primary School  
Rossington Tordale Infant School  
Scawsby Saltersgate Infant School  
Scawsby Saltersgate Junior School  
Scawthorpe Castle Hills Primary School  
Scawthorpe Sunnyfields Primary School  
Sprotbrough Orchard Infant School  
St Alban's Catholic Primary School  
St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School  
St Joseph and St Teresa's Catholic Primary School  
St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Edlington  
St Peter's Catholic Primary School  
Stainforth Kirton Lane Primary School

Stone Hill School

The Levett School

Thorne Brooke Primary School

Thorne King Edward Primary School

Thorne Moorends West Road Primary School

Tickhill Estfeld Primary School

Tickhill St Mary's Church of England Primary and Nursery School

Toll Bar Primary School

Town Field Primary School

Travis St Lawrence CofE Primary School

Wadworth Primary School

Warmsworth Primary School

Windhill Primary School

Woodlands Primary School