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Meeting:	Governing Body
Item Number:	Item 8.3
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Report Title:
North Lincolnshire Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report
Decisions to be made:
For information and assurance

Author: <i>(Name, Title)</i>	Clare E. Linley Director of Nursing and Quality
GB Lead: <i>(Name, Title)</i>	Clare E. Linley Director of Nursing and Quality
Director approval <i>(Name)</i>	Clare E Linley
Director Signature	<i>Clare E. Linley</i>

Link to a Strategic Objective?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Link to a Strategic Risk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vulnerable People and Prevention

Continue to improve the quality of services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Improve patient experience	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Reduced unwarranted variations in services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reduce the inequalities gap in North Lincolnshire	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Deliver the best outcomes for every patient	<input type="checkbox"/>	Statutory/Regulatory	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Purpose (tick one only)	Approval <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	To note <input type="checkbox"/>	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Assurance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Executive Summary (Question, Options, Recommendations):	
The North Lincolnshire Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report provides North Lincolnshire CCG Governing Body with a summary of the activity and impact of the Board in 2017/2018.	
Recommendations	1 Note the content of the annual report
Report history	
Equality Impact	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sustainability	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Risk	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Legal	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Finance	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
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<i>Patient, Public, Clinical and Stakeholder Engagement to date</i>									
	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Y</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Date</i>		<i>N/A</i>	<i>Y</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Date</i>
Patient:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Clinical:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Public:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	



Local Safeguarding
Children Board

2017/18

Annual Report

North Lincolnshire's Local
Safeguarding Children Board



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Welcome

In North Lincolnshire, there is a strong history of working together to improve outcomes for children, young people and families. This is demonstrated through the effective partnership arrangements under the auspices of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB), but also through cross partnership relationships with the Community Safety Partnership Board, Safeguarding Adult's Board and also the Health and Wellbeing Board.

As Independent Chair of the LSCB, I am confident to say that these arrangements enable the LSCB members to assure themselves that children, young people and families feel safe and are safe and that practice is meeting the high standards which vulnerable children deserve.

The effectiveness of the LSCB was evidenced in the June 2017 Ofsted inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers and review of the effectiveness of the LSCB. The Ofsted inspection report was published on 4 September 2017 and the North Lincolnshire LSCB was judged to be 'Outstanding'.

Specific highlights associated with the LSCB were that it was found to be outward looking and constantly striving to improve the effectiveness of its agencies in safeguarding children. The Board's partnerships are exceptionally strong, with comprehensive representation, commitment and a healthy culture of challenge.

These strong foundations stand us in good stead for the transformation journey to our new multi agency safeguarding arrangements.

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 introduced significant changes in the way that safeguarding partnership work takes place and through these changes, the LSCB will be replaced with new local flexible multi agency safeguarding arrangements led by the three safeguarding partners (local authorities, clinical commissioning groups and chief officers of police).

Working collaboratively, new local arrangements are emerging and safeguarding partners, along with other relevant partners, will be in a strong position to build on their strengths and enhance local practice in order to improve the experiences and outcomes of children, young people and families. Working Together 2018 was published on 4 July 2018, which has provided more clarity and is enabling partners to develop the local multi agency safeguarding arrangements plan.



I am delighted that North Lincolnshire has been successful in being chosen by the Government to be an 'early adopter' and to work with the National Children's Bureau to implement the new local safeguarding arrangements before they are established across the rest of the country. As one of 17 areas, North Lincolnshire will develop new and innovative approaches in setting up the multi agency safeguarding arrangements and produce clear learning which can be shared across other areas, who will have up to 29 June 2019 to publish local arrangements.

As well as fulfilling its core functions over the past year, the LSCB identified three specific priorities and there are robust arrangements in place to scrutinise and challenge local systems, processes and practice leading to improved outcomes. All LSCB members have the opportunity to hear from practitioners about their experience of multi agency working through the continuing focus on case audits and evaluations of multi agency practice which are now a routine part of the role of the LSCB.

Engagement with children, young people and families, and young voice was another area of strength highlighted in the Ofsted inspection and it is tangible in all the work that I have observed as Independent Chair. Children and young people continue to contribute actively to helping keep children and young people safe in North Lincolnshire. There are some excellent examples of collaborative working with children and young people and a strong focus on ensuring that they have opportunities to challenge and support the LSCB and to shape and influence service developments. Most recently, young people's perspectives are helping us to reshape the local approach to working with adolescents and there are further opportunities to work closely together.

These are changing times, but with change comes opportunity and local partners are committed to continuing the transformational journey to ensure North Lincolnshire remains a place where children, young people and families feel safe and are safe.

Edwina E Harrison

Edwina E Harrison
Independent Chair

1 Executive summary

The purpose of the LSCB Annual Report 2017/18 is to evaluate the effectiveness of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and its safeguarding arrangements for children and young people in North Lincolnshire. The report covers the LSCB's core business, the effectiveness of multi agency practice to safeguard and protect the welfare of children and young people, the progress made against LSCB priorities and areas of challenge made by the LSCB to make a difference to the lives and experiences of children, young people and families in North Lincolnshire. The areas of focus for 2018/19 are also outlined.

The LSCB is effective in driving and shaping how local services work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.

Leadership

In 2017/18, the LSCB continued to have strong and consistent leadership through the Independent Chair and the Director of Children and Community Resilience. Local strategic leaders and senior political leaders have a clear Line of Sight of the safeguarding agenda in North Lincolnshire and the work of the LSCB. The arrangements enable the statutory functions of the Board to be met, priorities to be managed and effectively progressed and new developments to be implemented.

Partnerships

Through the LSCB and the underpinning sub groups:

- partnership working is established at all levels
- partnerships share a clear vision and commitment for safeguarding children
- partners are engaged in the safeguarding agenda
- partners demonstrate mature relationships with respectful challenge

There are also strong linkages to other key boards and partnerships which ensures that priorities are shared and embedded to enhance ownership and commitment as well as increasing opportunities for collaborative working to keep children and young people safe in North Lincolnshire.

Responding to change

The LSCB has responded quickly and proactively to legislative and national policy changes in safeguarding children including the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and the consultation on the draft Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 statutory guidance subsequently published in June 2018. Over the next year, new multi agency safeguarding arrangements will replace LSCBs with more flexible local arrangements led by three safeguarding partners (local authorities, clinical commissioning groups and chief officers of police) with a duty on those partners to work together, also with any relevant agencies, for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area.

As part of the Government's Early Adopters programme, North Lincolnshire is in a strong position to build on our already robust arrangements and develop new innovative multi agency safeguarding arrangements as we move towards 'beyond outstanding'. Work is ongoing to develop and implement new innovative approaches to multi agency safeguarding processes from which learning can be shared across other areas.

Learning and Improvement Framework

The LSCB had an embedded learning and improvement framework in place, which includes:

LSCB training – The LSCB training programme is extensive and offers a wide range of courses associated with safeguarding at different levels using a range of training methods to ensure training is accessible to diverse groups including professionals, carers and also voluntary and community agencies (including e-learning, workbooks, face to face training and bespoke packages). Training is of a high quality, delivered by knowledgeable and engaging trainers with examples of positive impacts on practice such as, clarification of roles and enhanced knowledge and skills to engage and work with children, young people and families.

Local and national research and evidence in practice – Following the LSCB Conference on Messages from Research in Practice – A Focus on Adolescents, there are ongoing developments relating to evidence based professional practice with adolescents. The LSCB also considers research in developing strategies, action plans, policies, procedures and practice.

Joint case evaluation process and Line of Sight meetings – There are robust processes in place for LSCB members to oversee audits undertaken by case managers to have sight on frontline practice. LSCB members focus on how well the child's lived experience is at the centre of multi agency work and the quality of this work. Feedback is provided to practitioners and managers involved in the cases and opportunities for strategic learning and development are also explored. In 2017/18, there has been a focus on intra-familial child sexual abuse, child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation and there is evidence of increasing levels of contribution, competence and evaluation. Line of Sight meetings have generated a huge evidence base of effective local practice and learning which the LSCB has utilised to further develop multi agency practice.

Serious Case Reviews and learning reviews – There is a dedicated Serious Case Review (Serious Case Review) subcommittee and transparent scheme of delegation in place. In 2017/18, the LSCB did not submit any serious cases to the National Panel of Independent Experts on Serious Case Reviews for their consideration. During the year, a review of practice of health service involvement in one case was completed which resulted in enhanced early help processes and pathways within maternity and paediatric services.

Child death reviews – The Northern Lincolnshire Child Death Overview Panel is now embedded and enables shared learning across North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire. In 2017/18 there were developments in relation to premature births and the sharing of good practice for the safe sleeping of babies.

Multi Agency Audit Group – During 2017/18, representatives of the group continued to meet regularly to jointly audit cases and explore specific themes or areas of multi agency working. The range of auditing highlighted some excellent examples of how multi agency practice at different points of the safeguarding pathway is responding to children's needs in ways that are focused, timely and proportionate. The group acts as one of the information sources for the Safeguarding Pathway Lead Officers Group in relation to learning from case audit findings.



Communication and awareness raising

The LSCB is committed to communicating and engaging with professionals working with children and young people, parents/carers, children and young people themselves, the public and others interested in safeguarding and the welfare of children and young people. A communication and engagement framework has been developed and there is evidence of activity using a variety of methods to engage various audiences. A Twitter account @SafeNorthLincs is the latest communication mechanism to be developed and provides an opportunity to share messages and raise awareness to a broad audience.

Scrutiny and quality assurance

There are well embedded scrutiny and assurance arrangements in place through the Section 11 challenge process. In 2017, there was a focus on early help, and the process was also an opportunity to holistically evaluate agencies work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and to assess their preparedness as we transition to the new multi agency safeguarding arrangements.

Other opportunities for scrutiny and assurance are through the schools safeguarding audit and in 2017/18, all schools engaged in the audit, the outcomes of which highlighted consistently good practice in relation to safeguarding across schools, academies and colleges.

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) team is well established within the Independent Reviewing Service and in 2017/18, LADO activity has ensured that children are protected and provided with services where assessed as in need.

Engagement with children and young people

Voice and engagement activity and working collaboratively with children and young people's perceptions, aspirations and skills is an area of strength in North Lincolnshire, as was highlighted in the 2017 Ofsted inspection. There is a continued commitment to engaging with children and young people at an individual, service and strategic level across the safeguarding system and the LSCB continues to support the Staying Safe Conferences, to which over 200 young people attended in 2017.

There are a range of examples of engagement activity and impacts, not least that feedback is used consistently to shape priorities, service development and delivery and also to individually support children, young people and families.

Information is also developed with and by young people for young people and engagement with children and young people has promoted positive relationships and safeguarding arrangements between young people, their families, peers, practitioners and senior leaders.

Performance Management Framework

The LSCB continues to have a comprehensive performance management framework in place which supports the Board in identifying and addressing areas of good performance as well as areas that require attention and challenge.



Making a difference

The annual report provides a plethora of information and evidence of activities and impacts associated with the three priority areas of focus. Key highlights include:

Priority 1:

Reduce the harm from child sexual exploitation

- The Child Sexual Exploitation Action Plan for 2017/18 has been completed and a new Child Exploitation Action Plan has been developed for 2018/19 to encompass both child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation
- The work on child sexual exploitation is heavily influenced by the voice of children and young people, who have been actively involved in developing information for dissemination in schools and the ongoing development of the Not In Our Community campaign
- Through child sexual exploitation intervention workers, independent advocacy, outreach youth workers, the police early intervention team and a lead practice supervisor, there is dedicated support for young people who have experienced, and those at risk of, child sexual exploitation
- There is a local profile in place relating to victims, offenders and locations that enables key leaders and practitioners to understand the local picture including prevalence and to target resources appropriately
- A range of resources are available which are tailored around individual young people's experiences including for boys and young men to heighten their trust, confidence, self esteem, awareness and safety
- There is robust training in place across the workforce
- Children discussed at the at the Multi Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) meetings show reduced levels of risk, offenders are disrupted and prosecuted, and children and young people say they know how to have access to help and protection

Priority 2:

Reduce the harm from domestic abuse

- A domestic abuse self assessment was undertaken in 2017, from a child centred perspective, which provided a robust understanding of the local profile and the local offer
- A domestic abuse action plan has been developed to complement the wider domestic abuse strategy (developed under the Community Safety Partnership) which reinforces opportunities for collaborative working
- There have been improvements to the availability of online information via the safer neighbourhoods website and Life Central, which is an online information hub for young people, parents and professionals
- Good practice from the Line of Sight meeting highlighted a strong focus on the child, a greater understanding of specific areas of risk relating to domestic abuse, holistic approaches in working with the whole family, working together more creatively to manage risk; also professionals had a shared understanding of the issues and risks and maintained a healthy scepticism
- There is excellent prevention work with and in schools/colleges. All secondary schools have peer mentors or similar roles in place. Some mentors have completed additional training in healthy relationships including safe relationships online



Priority 3: Reduce the harm from neglect

- The Line of Sight meeting which focused on neglect identified effective multi agency practice in North Lincolnshire and recommended that the identification of neglect would be strengthened with the use of a specific tool
- The LSCB commissioned the Graded Care Profile 2 (GCP2) neglect assessment tool developed by the NSPCC to enhance local multi agency practice
- Twenty multi agency staff have been trained as trainers in the GCP2 tool and training is being rolled out to practitioners, along with other training to the wider workforce, to understand, identify and respond to neglect
- Children's plans demonstrate a multi agency commitment to helping parents and carers, whilst keeping the child's needs at heart and the potential for early intervention for adults and children has been improved
- Case audits and recording evidences consistent use of a menu of direct work tools to maximise the voice of the child
- Systems are being developed to evidence the impact of the GCP2 on children, young people and families

Areas of focus 2018/19

The areas of focus identified for 2018/19 are to reduce the harm from:

- child exploitation
- domestic abuse
- neglect

The key business priority for 2018/19 is to continue our preparation for transition to new multi agency safeguarding arrangements for children in the context of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.

The LSCB will continue to ensure that its statutory responsibilities are met through transition to the new multi agency safeguarding arrangements for children. Through the early adopters programme, there are opportunities to build on our already robust arrangements, to further test and develop the local approach and lead the way in developing and implementing new innovations. North Lincolnshire is aspirational for the children, young people and families and there continues to be a drive and commitment across local agencies and organisations to work collaboratively to move to 'beyond outstanding'.



2 Context and purpose

2.1 LSCB STATUTORY CONTEXT AND LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Children Act 2004 requires each local authority to establish an LSCB for their area and specifies the organisations and individuals, including the local authority, that should be represented.

The LSCB's statutory objectives are to:

- coordinate local work by those represented on the Board to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the area
- ensure the effectiveness of what is done by them for those purposes

The North Lincolnshire LSCB was established in 2006 in accordance with national guidance at the time. The LSCB membership is shown in Appendix 1 and further detail relating to LSCB roles and functions is detailed in the Memorandum of Understanding.

The Board has strong arrangements in place to support partnership at every level. In 2017/18 the LSCB continued to have strong and consistent leadership through its Independent Chair and the Local Authority's Director of Children and Community Resilience (who holds the Director of Children's Services responsibilities). The Chief Executive has a clear Line of Sight through the appraisal processes in relation to the LSCB.

Local senior political leaders have a good understanding of the safeguarding agenda in North Lincolnshire and the work and impact of the LSCB. The Cabinet Member for Children, Families, Learning and Leisure attends LSCB meetings. The Independent Chair also has two meetings per year with the Police and Crime Commissioner to discuss matters of mutual interest.

The LSCB has a good Line of Sight to the front line and quality of services and support which children and young people receive. This includes through the Joint Case Evaluation process and Line of Sight meetings, the Performance Management Framework, engagement with and feedback from children and young people.

The LSCB is effective in driving and shaping how local services work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. The LSCB has

strong linkages with other strategic groups such as the Health and Wellbeing Board, Safeguarding Adult's Board, Children and Young People's Partnership and Community Safety Partnership Board as in Appendix 2. There are joint priorities for child sexual exploitation and domestic abuse between the LSCB and Community Safety Partnership.

2.2 PURPOSE OF REPORT

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 provides clarity regarding LSCB responsibilities to prepare and publish an annual report.

This report evaluates the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements for children and young people in North Lincolnshire during 2017/18. It sets out the effectiveness of the LSCB in carrying out its core business under its statutory objectives and the effectiveness of multi agency practice to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.

This report describes the progress made against the priorities for this year, which were to:

Reduce the harm from:

- Child sexual exploitation
- Domestic abuse
- Neglect

During 2017/18 the LSCB has also sought assurance regarding ongoing work to prevent female genital mutilation and also work which is taking place to enhance children's emotional wellbeing.

Progress is also outlined regarding the LSCB preparation for transitioning to new multi agency safeguarding arrangements.

This report also identifies areas of focus for 2018/19 to orientate partnership working which will contribute to making a difference to the lives and experiences of children, young people and families in North Lincolnshire.

The LSCB Annual Report is presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board, Community Safety Partnership Board, Clinical Commissioning Group, Safeguarding Adult's Board, Children and Young People's Partnership and the Police and Crime Commissioner

for their information and to help shape and inform the commissioning of local services as a result of the priority areas identified. It is also shared and embedded across other strategic partnerships and networks to enhance shared ownership and commitment to keeping children safe in North Lincolnshire.

2.3 NEW MULTI AGENCY SAFEGUARDING ARRANGEMENTS

Both the 'Wood Report: Review of the role and functions of LSCBs' March 2016 and the government's response were published in May 2016. There was widespread agreement that the current system of local multi agency child safeguarding arrangements would benefit from a review. The report proposed a new model of collective accountability across three key agencies – local authorities, health and the police - who should determine the multi agency arrangements for protecting and safeguarding children in their area.

It also recommended a new system of local and national reviews, to replace serious case reviews and the transfer of responsibility for child death review policy from the Department for Education to the Department of Health. The review's key recommendations are now legislative changes for LSCBs, contained within the Children and Social Work Act 2017, which received royal assent on 27 April 2017 and will be implemented in full by September 2019.

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 sets out provisions which will:

- replace Local Safeguarding Children Boards with new flexible local safeguarding arrangements led by three safeguarding partners (local authorities, chief officers of police and clinical commissioning groups), and places a duty on those partners to make arrangements to work together and with any relevant agencies for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in their area
- require safeguarding partners to identify and arrange for the review of serious child safeguarding cases which they think raise issues of importance in relation to their area
- provide for the establishment of a National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel. The Panel will commission and publish reviews of serious child safeguarding cases that it thinks raise issues that are complex or of national importance

- give clinical commissioning groups and local authorities joint responsibility for child death reviews, and enable a wider geographical footprint for these partnerships in order for them to gain a better understanding of the causes of child deaths

As these reforms represent a major change to the landscape of local safeguarding, the government consulted on proposed significant revisions to the statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015' and regulations stemming from the Act between October and December 2017. The Government's response to the consultation was released in February 2018 and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 was published in June 2018.

The new national Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel was established in Spring 2018.

It is proposed that there will be a 15 month period for safeguarding partners to agree, publish and implement their new multi agency safeguarding arrangements.

Safeguarding partners must publish a report at least once in every 12 month period which details what they have done as a result of their published arrangements, and how effective those arrangements have been in responding to the needs of children in their area.

In July 2018, North Lincolnshire was chosen by the Government as an 'early adopter' to implement the new multi agency safeguarding arrangements to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in North Lincolnshire. As an outstanding local area for our LSCB, North Lincolnshire is in a strong position to further strengthen the already robust arrangements and lead the way as early adopters of the new arrangements, which is an opportunity to bring together leaders and agencies responsible for helping and protecting children as we move to 'beyond outstanding'. Work is ongoing to develop and implement new innovative approaches to multi agency safeguarding processes from which learning can be shared across other areas as part of the early adopter programme, which is in place until June 2019.

3 About North Lincolnshire

3.1 POPULATION AND PREVALENCE

North Lincolnshire covers an area of approximately **85,000 hectares** on the southern side of the Humber estuary. The authority includes a large agricultural area that encompasses small market towns and villages as well as a substantial urban area that includes the town of Scunthorpe.

The area has a **population of 170,786** (ONS 2016), which represents a **slight increase from the 2015 estimate of 169,280**. Projections indicate a continuing growth, **rising to more than 184,000 by 2037**.

Children living in North Lincolnshire

- Approximately 35,220 children and young people under the age of 18 live in North Lincolnshire. This is 21% of the total population.
- It is estimated that between 2500 and 2750 of these children are disabled.
- As at January 2017 the proportion of children eligible for and claiming free school meals:
 - ▶ in primary schools is 14.2% (the national average is 14.1%)
 - ▶ in secondary schools is 12.9% (the national average is 12.9%)
- In 2017 the percentage of pupils in primary schools whose first language is known or believed to be other than English was 11.0% compared to 20.6% nationally
- In 2017 the percentage of pupils in secondary schools whose first language is known or believed to be other than English was 8.0% compared to 16.2% nationally
- Between 2013 and 2017 the North Lincolnshire primary school ethnic minority cohort has increased from 11.97% to 14.87%, an increase of 2.9 percentage points. Nationally, 33.0% of children were in the primary school ethnic minority cohort
- From 2013 to 2017 the North Lincolnshire secondary school ethnic minority cohort has increased from 8.93% to 11.31%, an increase of 2.38 percentage points. Nationally, 29.1% of children were in the secondary school ethnic minority cohort

- The biggest growth in population can be seen in the 'any other white background' cohort of children within the primary and secondary sector

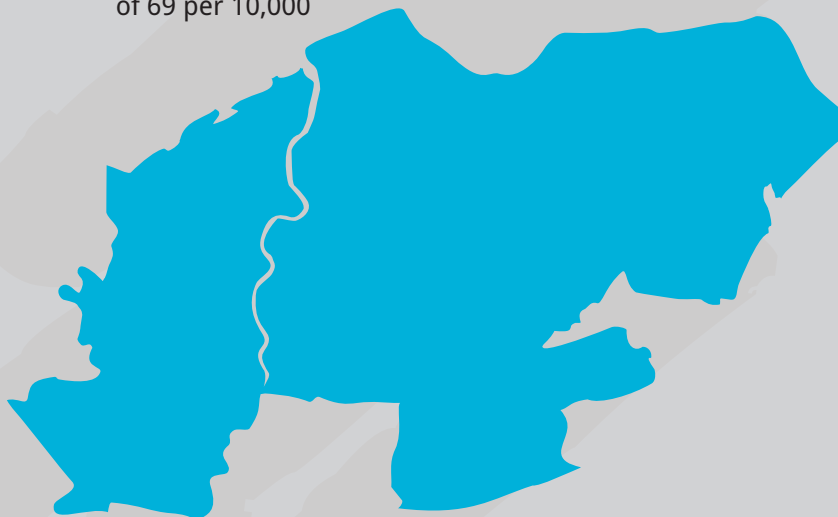
Child protection in North Lincolnshire

- At 31 March 2018, 1014 children had been identified through assessment as being formally in need of a specialist children's service. This is an increase from 903 at 31 March 2017. The rate of children in need of a specialist children's service in North Lincolnshire (293.9 per 10,000 at 31 March 2018) has remained below the England average (330.4 per 10,000) and statistical neighbours (345.3 per 10,000)
- At 31 March 2018, 129 children were the subject of a child protection plan. This is an increase from 111 at 31 March 2017. The rate of children becoming subject of a child protection plan in North Lincolnshire (49.3 per 10,000 at 31 March 2018) has remained consistent with the England average (54.2 per 10,000) and statistical neighbours (55.2 per 10,000)

At 31 March 2018, five children lived in a private fostering arrangement

Children looked after in North Lincolnshire

- At 31 March 2018, 227 children were being looked after by the local authority (a rate of 64 per 10,000 children). This is almost the same as 31 March 2017 (226 children). The current rate of 64 children per 10,000 in North Lincolnshire remains between the latest published England rate of 62 per 10,000 and statistical neighbours of 69 per 10,000



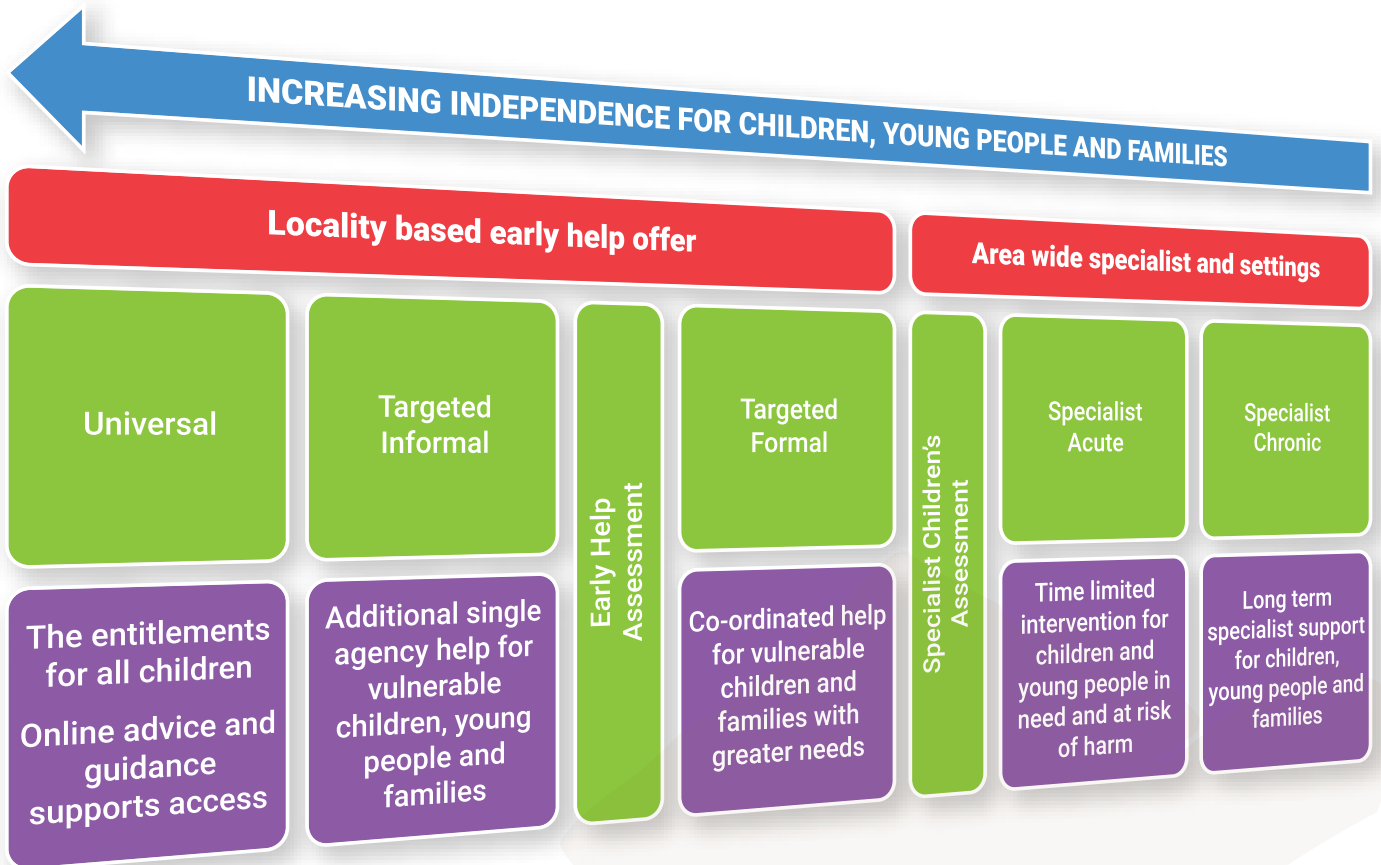
3.2 ORGANISATIONAL MODEL

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 outlined the requirement for agencies to provide early help at the earliest opportunity to families, including assessing their needs, as well as identifying and reporting suspected or identified harm to children.

The LSCB Helping Children and Families (Threshold Document 2016/20) describes the organisational

model across five levels of need in North Lincolnshire:

- Universal
- Targeted Informal
- Targeted Formal
- Specialist Acute
- Specialist Chronic



We agree to offer early help at the earliest point and lowest level of service required to improve outcomes for children.

Local principles of early help include:

- supporting children and families to find their own solutions and help them build support networks within the community
- working with the views and experience of the child and family, being solution focused and building on the strengths of the child and family so that they can be independent of services
- being clear in our work with children and families about the intended outcomes and how to achieve these
- providing a reflective approach to supervisory oversight across agencies
- understanding thresholds and applying the threshold document across all services including those which are commissioned

3.3 INSPECTION OUTCOMES

In June 2017 Ofsted undertook an 'Inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers' and 'Review of the effectiveness of the Local Safeguarding Children Board' in North Lincolnshire. The Ofsted Inspection report was published on 4 September 2017. The North Lincolnshire LSCB was judged to be Outstanding. Children's Services in North Lincolnshire were also judged to be Outstanding.

Inspection findings for the LSCB include:

'The Board is outward looking and constantly striving to improve the effectiveness of its agencies in safeguarding children. The Board's partnerships are exceptionally strong, with comprehensive representation, commitment and a healthy culture of challenge. The Board chair is highly visible and formidable in holding partners to account'.

'The significant strength of the Board is the power of the voice of the child in influencing practice, service delivery and training. This ensures a clear focus on what it is like to be a child in North Lincolnshire'.

'The Board is very good at ensuring a focus on child sexual exploitation. Mature information and intelligence sharing about child sexual exploitation, children missing from education and missing from home or care, support targeted awareness raising, prevention work, disruption and the prosecution of offenders. The Board has focused on the auditing of children's cases in which child sexual exploitation was a factor and has received detailed information through regular Line of Sight meetings'.



4 Core business and functions



4.1 POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND GUIDANCE

The Board has a full suite of procedures as required in Working Together 2015 that have been developed and updated locally on an annual basis. A range of supplementary policies, procedures, protocols and guidance have been produced locally too. All are available on the LSCB website.

The development of policies and procedures is a key function within the LSCB and through the Safeguarding Operational Managers (SOM) Group, managers advise of changes and developments and share the responsibility of updating them.

What is the impact of this work?

'The SOM group provides a valuable forum with good links between the strategic board and frontline practitioners. The group has a focus on key areas of practice, to improve the effectiveness of partners in North Lincolnshire through the development of policies, identification of training needs and dissemination of research and good practice. The SOM group is particularly good at ensuring that all professionals working with children and families are consistent in their practice and use a common language to ensure clarity for children and families' Ofsted, 2017.

4.2 LEARNING AND IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK

Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2015 sets out the specific roles and responsibilities that agencies have in relation to learning and improvement.

The components of the LSCB Learning and Improvement Framework include:

- LSCB training
- Local and national research and evidence in practice
- Joint case evaluation process and Line of Sight meetings
- Serious case reviews and learning reviews
- Child death reviews (Child Death Overview Panel)
- Multi Agency Audit Group

LSCB Training

The LSCB Training Programme 2017/18 is built around the common professional standards that professionals working with children and young people must demonstrate.

In 2017/18, the LSCB offered an extensive training programme offering a wide range of courses associated with safeguarding across the different levels. 29 courses took place at which 401 individuals attended. Of these courses, 69% were delivered by local experts and 31% by national experts commissioned by the LSCB.

Outside the formal programme, a total of 785 individuals have been trained in Safeguarding Awareness from early years, nursery workers, drivers/taxi drivers, schools/academies, Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire and other community groups. In addition, 50 staff from education, early years and nurseries were trained in Early Help and a further 25 staff were trained in E-Safety. 336 staff completed the Safeguarding Awareness workbook, 117 completed the child sexual exploitation workbook and 11 staff completed the female genital mutilation awareness workbook.

The LSCB has a range of training methods available to ensure that training is accessible to diverse groups of professionals, carers, voluntary and community agencies and the public, offering e-learning, workbooks, face to face training and bespoke packages.

Impact of LSCB training

Evaluation forms submitted consistently scored all courses as 4 or above (on a scale of 0 to 5 with 5 being excellent). Post course evaluation forms that were submitted indicated that all participants had increased levels of confidence in their knowledge following the course.

This demonstrates the quality of courses offered and that they had been delivered by knowledgeable and engaging trainers who are supporting professionals in the work they do to safeguard children and young people.

Examples of feedback:

“It was very interesting - I will go on to use these tools in my work”
Working with Challenging Families

“As a Foster Carer, we generally have teenagers so this will help loads” and “More aware of the signs, can speak to others that work in my service about child sexual exploitation”
Awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation

“Well-presented and very informative, good refresher course with added information since the last safeguarding training” and “The most useful part was clarification of radicalisation which is a new addition to previous training and honour based abuse”
Safeguarding Awareness

“Great use of case study to apply theory and AIM2 assessment”
GMAP AIM

“Very knowledgeable, engaging and got the message across really well to people with previous understanding of attachment and without”
Attachment

“Really first class, one of the best courses I have been on, will send other colleagues”
Child Development and Vulnerability in Babies

Post course evaluation highlighted that as a result of undertaking the training, there had been a positive impact on their practice, for example:

- Clarification of role and requirements
- Increased and/or refreshed knowledge
- Greater awareness and more observant
- Greater understanding of the importance of small pieces of information
- Passed information on to providers
- Able to contribute more to meetings
- The importance of effective supervision
- How to engage families

Examples of the benefits of discussing training in supervision were also highlighted as follows:

- Information sharing
- Acknowledged enhanced knowledge
- Policy updates
- Increased focus on supervision in performance management

Moving forward, the evaluation and feedback system will continue to develop in order to achieve a more evaluative assessment of impact on practice with children and families.

Neglect Graded Care Profile developments

Under the auspices of the LSCB neglect priority, it was agreed that there would be a focus on implementing the Graded Care Profile 2 (GCP2), which would be overseen by a multi agency steering group, reporting to the LSCB. The GCP2 is a nationally recognised tool developed by the NSPCC which helps professionals who work with families in their homes to identify and assess how neglect may be impacting upon children, which then supports the provision of help that can be targeted and more easily reviewed.

Training for 20 multi agency staff to be trained as trainers by the NSPCC took place in November 2017. These staff have now gone on to accredit frontline practitioners in the use of the tool and a programme of training has been devised for 2018/19 which will include the wider workforce.

Regional training

The LSCB hosted the Yorkshire and Humber Multi agency Safeguarding Trainers (YHMAST) 2017 Conference in May 2017, which focused on understanding, recognising and taking action in relation to neglect. This was led by Jan Horwarth, a national expert in neglect, and it provided opportunities for learning new approaches, validating local practice and sharing of best practice.

Future training and developments

As a means of developing the training programme for 2017/18, a consultation exercise was undertaken with LSCB members in March 2018. An overview of responses is as follows:

- Most responders indicated the three levels were appropriate (awareness, intermediate and masterclasses) as was the proposed list of training (at all levels)
- A few responders confirmed they could contribute some capacity to facilitating training
- All responders confirmed their commitment to supporting and encouraging staff to engage in evaluation processes

In addition, proposed areas for development have been agreed as follows:

- Incorporate diversity awareness into the programme
- Training need analysis to be undertaken to understand the need, the gaps and the quality of current training programmes and refresh/roll out as appropriate
- Review systems and processes to collate and evaluate multi agency training
- Enhance systems and processes to seek assurance that staff across the workforce are receiving multi agency child protection and safeguarding training and that agencies are providing single-agency training

Local and national research and evidence in practice

In promoting evidence based professional practice underpinned by research and following the LSCB Conference on Messages from Research in Practice – A Focus on Adolescents held in March 2017, the partnership has responded to the challenges raised as below:

- Does the LSCB have the right and effective toolkits in place to use with children and young people - The LSCB has reviewed child sexual exploitation toolkits and introduced these for child criminal exploitation based on government guidance and national reports so that they are evidenced based. Toolkits are part of the LSCB policies and procedures and are used to underpin and support assessment, analysis, professional judgement and decision-making.
- Is the partnership using the right language, narratives and images about adolescents? - The LSCB has embarked on work to change perceptions of adolescents through using 'risk facing' language which communicates that we are not holding young people to account for their behaviour. We have developed understanding of the concepts of 'resilience', 'self-efficacy' and 'relationship based', and developed them as real golden threads for working with young people. The Young Mayor referred to participation as a right just as protection is a right and both are part of resilience. This is an area of ongoing challenge which all agencies represented within the LSCB should take into account during their work with/on behalf of young people.

- Agencies, services or teams to consider the use of the seven principles tool by Research In Practice to audit and action plan about their approach to adolescents. Agencies need to make their work personal to young people and look for strengths and solutions that are meaningful for young people and families. Examples of being more participative include jointly writing plans with young people/families, peer mentoring and youth forums for service areas.
- In applying the seven emerging principles for effectively addressing adolescent risk as cited in 'That Difficult Age: Developing a more effective response to risks in adolescence' (2014) by Dr Elly Hanson and Dez Holmes, agencies, services and teams across the partnership are making a fundamental shift in values, perceptions and language. They are looking for strengths and solutions that are meaningful for young people and families in responding to risk facing adolescent behaviours.

Reducing the harm from neglect continues to be a significant safeguarding issue nationally. In Pathways to harm, pathways to protection: a triennial analysis of serious case reviews 2011 to 2014 final report (Sidebotham, Brandon et al, 2016) it is stated:

'A key and recurring theme throughout the previous biennial reviews has been the extent and significance of neglect in the children's lives. This is evidenced yet again in this latest review for 2011-2014. From detailed work on the available 175 Serious Case Review final reports, neglect was apparent in the lives of nearly two thirds (62%) of the children who suffered non-fatal harm, and in the lives of over half (52%) of the children who died.'

There was a very similar incidence of neglect (60%) in the previous biennial study of serious case reviews (Brandon et al, 2012), which analysed data from Serious Case Review final reports relating to incidents in 2009-11. The research also identifies that most children who die as a result of abuse or neglect are not subject of a child protection plan at the time of their death. This indicates that early intervention is critical in reducing the harm from neglect.

The LSCB considers national research in developing strategies, action plans, policies and procedures and in further developing practice.



Joint Case Evaluation process and Line of Sight meetings

The LSCB should:

- *quality assure practice, including through joint audits of case files, involving practitioners and identifying lessons to be learned*

The LSCB has a strong Joint Case Evaluation process in place which includes all board members in overseeing audits undertaken by case managers enabling members to have sight on frontline practice. This consists of three stages: single agency audits, joint case evaluation meetings by the practitioners and managers of the teams involved with the child's case and Line of Sight meetings held between Board members and practitioners and managers involved.

LSCB members consider how well the child's lived experience is at the centre of multi agency work and the quality of this work. Feedback is provided to the practitioners and managers of the teams involved.

Good practice and thematic areas of development are identified by LSCB members and a plan is put in place as to how to progress these. This is shared through communication streams such as LSCB information sessions, the SOM Group and the LSCB newsletter.

The Joint Case Evaluation process and Line of Sight meetings are an essential element of the LSCB Learning and Improvement Framework where the information gathered is shared and utilised to further improve and promote good practice due to a growing understanding of what works well.

The LSCB has evaluated 15 children's cases in total during two Line of Sight meetings across the year based on priority safeguarding areas – intra-familial child sexual abuse, child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation. This has built upon the LSCB's previous years of learning from case audit and evaluation.

Since this process was implemented there has been increasing levels of contribution, competence and confidence by agencies. Case evaluations have generated a huge evidence base of effective local practice and learning.

'The LSCB multi agency case evaluation process and Line of Sight meetings and reports enable partners to evaluate the effectiveness of safeguarding services and quality assure practice to determine the impact of interventions for children and families. The arrangements for multi agency case auditing have been further strengthened, and all Board members and practitioners have been included in the processes. Case audits have resulted in changes to strengthen frontline practice, for example in the development of domestic abuse triage systems'. Osfted 2017



What is the impact of the Joint Case Evaluation process?

Information has demonstrated that:

Referral, assessment and management of risk

- risks are identified and analysed within the context of children's circumstances
- plans are responsive to increasing/decreasing levels of risk and protective factors
- effective working relationships across partners involved

Decision making

- evidence of multi agency decision making within assessments, child protection and child in need plans
- timely decisions which matched the risks and needs – responsive to changing needs
- children and young people's views are considered
- effective management oversight

Planning, intervention and reviewing

- plans are dynamic and the pace of plans are proportionate to the needs and level of risk assessed
- agencies are clear of their expectations within plans – tasks are shared
- children, young people and families are included in planning
- creative approaches are being used across agencies to engage and build relationships with young people
- a range of methods of interventions are being used to educate and empower young people about risk from exploitation
- where change has been difficult to achieve, longer term planning is implemented
- forward thinking and contingency planning is evident

Child's individual needs and circumstances

- diversity needs are well recorded and considered throughout planning
- young people's views include their cultural experiences
- professionals knew young people well, they are appropriately inquisitive and are thinking outside of the box to help and create the right environments to promote change
- services are creative with their offers of support and intervention to engage young people

Voice of the child

- views of children, young people and families are evident within case records
- the child's voice is a strength and some young people are now in a place where they are working with agencies to help us understand child criminal exploitation
- tenacity and persistence of the practitioners and their innovative ways to engage young people has created the environment for engagement and effective intervention
- positive relationships with workers has supported children's safety and emotional wellbeing
- when practitioners talked about a child the room came to life
- professionals were 'crazy' about the young person

Partnership working

- inspiring and powerful partnership working
- good multi agency information sharing, communication and reflective discussions about case work
- appropriate and professional challenge between partners is evident
- networks of support to help and protect young people
- research and resources are used to understand young people's experiences of child criminal exploitation
- additional actions agreed in the Multi Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) meetings continue to lead to disruption and enhance protection of young people

What is the impact of the Line of Sight meetings?

Good practice identified by Board members at the Line of Sight meetings included:

Child sexual abuse within the family

- assessing and understanding family dynamics, parent's ability to protect and the factors that impact on this, for example, own relationships, past trauma and grooming
- good communication between agencies involved with children's plans across the safeguarding pathway from early help to care plans
- strong voice of the child
- maximising opportunities for children and young people to develop strong and trusting relationships with families and professionals
- wider planning and long term thinking evident across agencies involved with children and adult family members
- use of equine therapy to create conditions for therapy
- family solutions evident leading to children remaining within their own family/friends networks
- pre-trial protocol used effectively to ensure appropriate support during the police investigation

Child sexual and criminal exploitation

- stability of professional relationships promoting consistency
- long standing relationships between young people and professionals developing a sophisticated, strengths based understanding of needs and behaviours
- good decision making and effective planning
- understanding of past experiences and their impact on young people
- diverse styles of relationship based work leading to effective support for young people
- confident practice with cultural diversity and gender issues
- excellent use of research to inform practice
- MACE process has made a significant additional impact to increase young people's safety
- excellent analysis of young people's voices including through advocacy

- impressive multi agency commitment to making a difference and going the 'extra mile'
- effective communication keeping all professionals 'up to speed'
- tenacity and persistency in helping to protect young people
- learning from young people has led to development of policies and procedures regarding child criminal exploitation

Thematic areas of development identified by Board members and actions in progress include:

Child sexual abuse within the family

- To consider how agencies support children post disclosure (including when a prosecution is not going ahead or successful) as part of the workforce development strategy and
- Consideration should be given to how multi agency teams develop emotional resilience when dealing with cases of sexual abuse and whether this should be considered as part of the training offer
 - ✓ The LSCB will continue to facilitate Lucy Faithful Foundation training which will now incorporate the above
- Development of tools and resources to include how agencies can work with the impact of disclosure/identification, support the police investigation/child protection practice and support children post disclosure (including when a prosecution is not going ahead or successful) and
- Development of a different approach to working with young children who display sexualised behaviours which are not in line with ages and stages of development as opposed to that taken when dealing with harmful sexual behaviours
 - ✓ A task and finish group has been established through the Safeguarding Pathway Lead Officer Group (SPLOG) to bring together tools and resources to address the above areas of practice. The outcomes will then be disseminated across agencies for practice enhancement
- Consideration by the partnership of an offer to parents who have had children removed
 - ✓ Children's Services are leading on developing the 'Holding on' programme with partners in relation to the above

Child sexual and criminal exploitation

- Share good practice and learning from young people's voices across services to shape practice as part of the roll out of awareness raising and training on child criminal exploitation
 - ✓ An awareness raising workbook is available on the LSCB website, intermediate level training on child criminal exploitation has started to be rolled out and a sustainable approach is being taken through a train the trainer approach so that agencies can deliver it in house
 - ✓ Good practice and learning from young people's voices is included
 - ✓ A conference will be held during 2018 to further shape and enhance practice with adolescents
- Explore the effectiveness of transition to services for adults where young people are vulnerable to child exploitation and approaching 18 years old
 - ▶ A self-assessment of practice and services has been undertaken using the National Working Group Child Sexual Exploitation Response Team's benchmarking tool 'Supporting and Safeguarding 16 to 18 year olds and beyond'. Actions have been included in the Child Exploitation Action Plan 2018/19
- Further develop the MACE process and other meetings to enhance the partnership approach to tackling child criminal exploitation
 - ✓ Developments have progressed and are continuing

Serious case reviews and learning reviews

In Chapter 4 of Working Together 2015 it sets out the requirement for LSCB's to undertake reviews of serious cases in specified circumstances stated as:

- *undertaking reviews of serious cases and advising the authority and their Board partners on lessons to be learned*

A serious case is one where:

- *abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected and*
- *either the child has died or the child has been seriously harmed and there is cause for concern as to the way in which the authority, their Board partners or other relevant persons have worked together to safeguard the child*



The LSCB has a Serious Case Review (Serious Case Review) Subcommittee and there is a transparent scheme of delegation in place.

The LSCB did not submit any serious cases to the National Panel of Independent Experts on Serious Case Reviews for their consideration in 2017/18.

In October 2016, the LSCB had asked the National Panel for their view on one case where the local decision was not to initiate an Serious Case Review and to complete a review of practice within six months. The Panel referred to the thorough analysis, agreed with the decision not to initiate an Serious Case Review and acknowledged that there was an important piece of review work to be undertaken. This indicates clarity regarding the threshold for undertaking an Serious Case Review and robustness of our local decision-making. There has been a review of practice of health service involvement in this case which was completed in early 2017. The Serious Case Review Subcommittee and LSCB have signed off the review.

What is the impact of the review of practice?

Early Help processes within maternity and paediatric services have been reviewed and additional triggers for completion of an Early Help assessment include:

- identification of anomaly during pregnancy
- admission of a baby to neonatal intensive care service outside North Lincolnshire
- admission of a baby/ child to hospital

A formal pathway is in place to ensure that the North Lincolnshire based midwifery service coordinates the Early Help offer to families where medical care is provided outside North Lincolnshire.

Child death reviews

The LSCB is responsible for ensuring that a review of each death of a child living in their area is undertaken by a Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) as in Chapter 5 of Working Together 2015:

- *collecting and analysing information about each death with a view to identifying:*
 - ▶ *any case which may require a Serious Case Review*
 - ▶ *any matters of concern affecting the safety and welfare of children in the area of the authority*
 - ▶ *any wider public health or safety concerns arising from a particular death or from a pattern of deaths in that area*
- *putting in place procedures for ensuring that there is a coordinated response by the authority, their Board partners and other relevant persons to an unexpected death*

The purpose of the process is to try and reduce the number of preventable child deaths by considering:

- the cause of death
- any modifiable factors that can be identified
- whether the modifiable factors mean the death was preventable
- what recommendations need to be made to agencies, the LSCB, regionally or nationally to prevent future such deaths

There has been a CDOP in place in North Lincolnshire since 2008 in line with national guidance. A joint CDOP with North East Lincolnshire has been in place from April 2016 to enable shared learning across both areas. The joint CDOP met five times from April 2017 to March 2018.

There were nine actual child deaths in 2017/18. The CDOP reviews child deaths upon completion of the review process. This can include reviews of child deaths which occurred during the year or in previous years.

According to latest published figures by the Department for Education as at 31 March 2017 CDOPs in England reviewed 3,575 child deaths compared to 3,665 at 31 March 2016.

The local joint CDOP reviewed 16 North Lincolnshire child deaths during 2017/18.

Nationally 27% of child deaths reviewed in England during 2016/17 were identified as having modifiable factors. During 2017/18 North Lincolnshire cases reviewed had modifiable factors in a very small minority of cases.

CDOPs are required to assign each death to one of ten nationally defined categories. The highest proportion of classifications of child deaths reviewed in England during 2016/17 was 34% of deaths categorised as perinatal/neonatal events, and 25% of deaths categorised as chromosomal genetic and congenital anomalies. Between 2012/13 and 2017/18, 43% of all North Lincolnshire child deaths reviewed fell under these categories.

The majority of child death reviews for North Lincolnshire involved children under 5 years of age similar to the national average during 2016/17.

Local actions to address the joint CDOP's identification of factors which may have contributed to child deaths has included:

- Further consideration and developments in relation to premature births taking into account the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists report 'Each Baby Counts: 2015 Summary Report' published in June 2017.
- The CDOP and both areas LSCB's submitted responses to the Government's consultation on the draft Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 and new draft Child Death Review Statutory Guidance that took place during the end of 2017
- From early 2018, the CDOP and the forthcoming new child death review partners for each area (the local authority and clinical commissioning group) and both areas LSCB's have begun to prepare for the transition to new local child death review arrangements by September 2019.

What is the impact of the review of practice?

The strengths of the joint CDOP are that it:

- enables a broader cohort of child deaths to be reviewed (child deaths across both areas are not always the same)
- enables themes and commonalities to be identified which inform practice and process (ie extreme prematurity protocol)
- enabled a consistent approach across areas which is helpful to agencies such as the police who cover 4 areas
- promotes constructive challenge
- enables sharing of good practice which has taken place in relation to safe sleeping of babies

Multi Agency Audit Group

During 2017/18 representatives of Board partners continued to meet regularly to audit children's cases. Chaired by the Principal Social Worker, the Multi Agency Audit Group (MAAG) provides an opportunity for agencies to jointly audit either to explore specific themes or areas of multi agency working. This work is directed by the Safeguarding Pathway Lead Officers Group (SPLOG) or to focus on specific cases as part of the LSCB Safeguarding Arrangements for Escalation (SAFE) challenge and resolution procedure or because of the potential for learning.

The range of auditing undertaken has highlighted some excellent examples of how multi agency practice at different points of the safeguarding pathway is responding to children's needs in ways that are child-focused, timely and proportionate. The audit group has seen evidence of professionals from social care, health agencies, police, education and missing advocates providing excellent services to young people and families including those who do not always want to engage and receive help.

The MAAG acts as one of the information sources for the SPLOG in relation to learning from case audit findings. This contributes to the SPLOG's evidence of impact by identifying individual children/young people who have received intervention via the safeguarding pathway and whose experiences provide learning about the effectiveness of multi agency practice.

4.3 COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS RAISING

The LSCB is committed to effective communication and engagement with professionals working with children and young people, parents/carers, the public and others interested in the welfare of children and young people. The LSCB understands that communication and information needs to be presented to individuals at appropriate stages and in an accessible format depending on the target audience.

The LSCB undertook a range of communication and awareness raising activity in 2017/18 which targeted professionals, the community and children and young people using a variety of methods to engage the various audiences. A Twitter account @SafeNorthLincs has been established to contribute to enhancing communications and awareness raising. It is anticipated that this mechanism will continue to be available through the transition to the new multi agency safeguarding arrangements.

What is the impact of communication and awareness raising activity?

- Key leaders and staff are more aware and informed of LSCB activity, achievements and key areas of focus which can be used to help maintain standards and shape and influence practice leading to better outcomes
- Through extending our communication mechanisms (via Twitter), we are in a better position to reach more and different people

A communication and community engagement plan has been developed for 2018/19 and is available on the LSCB website.



4.4 SCRUTINY AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

The LSCB has a well-established process in place to measure the compliance of agencies with Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 outlined in Chapter 2 of Working Together 2015. Section 11 places duties on a range of agencies to ensure that they have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

In 2017, all agencies were asked to complete a Section 11 self-assessment and audit with a focus on early help, but also to more holistically re-evaluate agencies work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children across six standards as part of the preparation for moving towards a different model of safeguarding arrangements into the future given the policy and legislative direction of the government.

Agency representatives were invited to attend a challenge event held in November 2017 at which they articulated their responses to a mixed panel. The panel was chaired by the Independent Chair and included young people representation.

As part of the process, the self-assessment audits and agency action plans have been scrutinised by the Independent Chair and the LSCB Executive Board along with the agency action plans that are continuously updated by them to ensure that compliance is achieved and maintained.

Impact and outcomes of Section 11 Challenge

Feedback from the agencies Section 11 self-assessment audit demonstrated:

- ✓ Senior board level lead takes leadership responsibility for their organisation's safeguarding arrangements
- ✓ A clear line of accountability for the commissioning and/or provision of services designed to safeguard and promote the welfare of children across the safeguarding system and different levels of need
- ✓ Understanding of thresholds and evidence of the Helping Children and Families (Threshold Document 2016/20) being used as a working document to orientate decision making and front line practice
- ✓ Information, support and services are available at the right time leading to children and families being able to be independent of services (where appropriate)
- ✓ Monitoring and quality assurance systems are in place across the partnership to ensure the right services at the right time in the right place and ongoing action planning to ensure continuous improvement
- ✓ Supervision, support, training and development for staff including early help and safeguarding training
- ✓ A range of mechanisms for children and young people to have a voice about issues that matter to them
- ✓ A culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings, both in individual decisions and the development of services

Agencies work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children will be further challenged as part of the 2018 Section 11 process, the format of which is being reviewed in line with the developing multi agency safeguarding arrangements, focusing on scrutiny and quality assurance.

Schools Safeguarding Audit 2017/18

Under the auspices of section 175 of the Children Act 2004, the annual safeguarding audit for schools, which is overseen by Governors, measures compliance with the statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' 2016 and enables the LSCB to receive assurance about essential safeguarding practice across all schools, colleges and settings attended by North Lincolnshire children and young people. Schools have used the audit as evidence of good practice to share with Ofsted and as a way of identifying areas for development and to further improve their provision for keeping children safe. This ensures safeguarding children remains at the core of school developments and gives valuable information to shape training and future planning.

Outcomes of audit

100% schools completed the audit, the outcomes of which highlighted consistently good practice in respect of safeguarding across schools, academies and colleges.

The main themes identified were:

- 100% of schools who are required to have a SEND co-ordinator with qualified teacher status (QTS) have one
- when asked, all schools reported promoting a safe school ethos
- there is robust personal, health, social and economic (PHSE) education on healthy relationships and peer on peer abuse. A PHSE audit was trialled then rolled out to all schools. Resources to enhance education about Prevent and female genital mutilation have been developed and are available for use

At a school level, the audit supports governors in their duties to:

- assess their school's safeguarding practice, identify any gaps, and move on to develop an action plan to address these
- ensure that key people within the school (including governing body) know how the school is working on safeguarding
- assemble evidence of impact of practice
- contribute to the area wide intelligence on safeguarding in schools



The audit reinforces the collective responsibility across schools of all designations for safeguarding and provides a line of accountability to the LSCB. The emerging themes and areas for ongoing development have been built into plans and actions.

The safeguarding audit will be updated to reflect the new Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018.

Good practice was also reinforced through Ofsted inspections undertaken in schools. For the 2017/18 academic year, Ofsted undertook 7 full inspections and 16 short inspections of schools. Of the full inspections, six schools were found to be at least good for personal development, behaviour and welfare. In all of the short inspections, safeguarding was judged effective. Ofsted inspections demonstrated that children and young people feel safe and are safe within their education settings at all ages. Inspection reports routinely identify strengths across schools in anti-bullying work and in enabling children to be safe on line and within their communities. As part of this, pupils have consistently reported that they feel safe in school, that bullying rarely happens and that they feel confident that if it does happen it will be dealt with quickly. Pupils are also aware of the different forms that bullying can take (including cyber-bullying) and know what they could do if they thought they were being bullied.

4.5 ALLEGATIONS AGAINST PROFESSIONALS

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) team is well established, based within the Independent Reviewing Service and provides oversight of allegations against people who work with children through liaising with children’s services, the police and employers as well as providing advice and guidance to agencies. Key points from the annual report 2017/18 are:

- a dedicated LADO has enabled the coordination of managing allegations to have a greater consistency and application of threshold, as well as advice and guidance
- in 2017/18 there were 35 referrals scoped in under the Managing Allegations procedures which compares with 32 in 2016/17 so similar levels of activity over the last two years
- referrals were from across a wide range of agencies/settings and the types of allegations were similar to previous years
- the vast majority of referrals were for alleged physical or sexual abuse
- during the year there were 70 consultations that required advice and guidance with follow up enquiries that did not meet the criteria of the Managing Allegations procedures

What is the impact of the managing allegations process?

- Where necessary there has been Children’s Social Work Services involvement under the Children Act 1989 (sections 47 and 17). This has ensured that children are protected and provided with services where assessed as in need
- There have been a number of police investigations or initial enquiries with criminal processes followed as appropriate
- Employers have taken any necessary precautionary measures to ensure employees are supported and proportionate action is taken upon the conclusion of the process to ensure children are kept safe
- The LSCB training programme includes Managing Allegations and the LADO has trained over 80 staff during the year including specific service areas enhancing knowledge
- Managing Allegations leaflets have been designed with North Lincolnshire’s Cool Kidz Club and are available for children, employees and employers



4.6 ENGAGEMENT WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Voice and engagement activity and working collaboratively with children and young people's perceptions, aspirations and skills is an area of strength in North Lincolnshire, as was highlighted in the 2017 Ofsted inspection. There are established groups and forums in place where children and young people can have their say, share their views and experiences, co-produce with and also challenge and support local decision makers to shape and influence strategic planning, commissioning and service provision at an individual, service and strategic level. Key examples include:

- Stay Safe Consultation Group
- Buddy Meetings
- Cool Kidz Club
- SuperKidz
- Children in Care Council
- Youth Council
- Positive Steps Working Group

Other mechanisms for children and young people to shape and influence are:

- Staying Safe Conferences
- routine feedback from children and young people involved with services
- primary, adolescent and college lifestyle surveys
- involvement of young people in section 11 challenge events
- involvement of young people in commissioning and recruitment
- involvement in 'Make Your Mark' annual youth ballot where young people get to vote on issues that matter to them
- attendance at key boards and partnerships

Key headlines and examples of engagement activity include:

- **Children and young people 'feeling safe'** – Staying Safe meetings with children and young people to explore issues to help keep them safe. At the last meeting, 9 schools attended to explore the new suite of lessons #Let'stalk which focusses on appropriate ways to talk to each other online. Children and young people will be delivering lessons in their own schools.
- **Most young people have a positive outlook on life** – 5037 young people took part in the Adolescent Lifestyle Survey in 2017 of which the majority of young people said they have a positive outlook on life, are happy and confident and have a lot to be proud of. Most young people also said they have adults in their lives that they can talk to about their worries. Over 1900 young people also took part in the College Lifestyle Survey in 2018 of which the vast majority have a positive outlook on life, perceive themselves to be in good health, feel safe and happy and are optimistic and confident about the future.
- **Young people 'Making their Mark'** – 9271 local young people voted in the 2017 'Make Your Mark' annual youth ballot, constituting the best voting turnout in Yorkshire and Humberside (for the second year running) and 7th across the country.
- **Young people represented on key boards and partnerships** – Young people are members or represented on key boards and partnerships, including the LSCB, Children and Young People's Partnership and the Corporate Parenting Board to challenge and support decision makers ensuring they are aware of, responsive to and informed by issues that affect young people in the area. Young people attended the LSCB in April 2017 to update Board members in relation to young voice contributions to enhancing children's emotional wellbeing and resilience and the Cool Kidz Club, a group of young people in need and in need of protection gave an update on recent activities and how their voices contribute to practice.
- **Young people taking 'Positive Steps' to 'Create the Change'** – Through one local school and the Youth Council, innovative and talented young people developed the 'Create the Change' song as a way of sharing powerful messages for young people to take positive steps to improve their emotional wellbeing.

- **Not In Our Community** – Young people continue to be involved with the Not In Our Community social media campaign which aims to raise awareness of child sexual exploitation. Campaign content is written by young people for young people. Members of the Youth Council highlighted the importance of impactful messages based on real life and work has been undertaken with young people who have experienced child sexual exploitation to help them tell their stories in a range of ways. An awareness raising film with Scunthorpe United Youth Players has also been completed for use in lessons.
- **Young people taking the lead on staying safe online** – The Youth Council have developed the BE SMART Social Media Charter for young people by young people. The charter, which aims to help young people to BE SMART online, has been rolled out across learning settings in the area. Different versions are available for primary age children, secondary age young people and people with learning difficulties. Information for parents/adults is also available too.
- **Corporate Parenting Week** – In 2017, children in care and care leavers attended and contributed to a range of events and activities. These included an activity day, Air Kings event, Bake Off competition, Aspiration Event and Awesome Kids Awards and Talent Show, culminating in the Corporate Parenting Board. Corporate Parenting Week reinforces the commitment of corporate parents and corporate parenting champions to providing opportunities for children in care and care leavers and the outcomes of the week provides an insight into their views, experiences, talents, successes and achievements.

What is the impact of wider engagement with children?

- Feedback is used consistently and systematically to shape priorities, service development and delivery and also to individually support children, young people and families
- Information is co-produced with young people for young people and as such, it is more age appropriate and fit for purpose for the young people population
- Young people have more awareness of the issues, a greater understanding of what information, services and support is available and are more empowered to help keep themselves safe and make positive choices
- All engagement promotes child and adolescent resilience in some way

- Young people have improved confidence, skills and outcomes
- Engagement with children and young people has promoted supportive relationships and safeguarding arrangements between young people, their families, peers, practitioners and senior leaders

Staying Safe Conferences

In July 2017, more than 200 children and young people from primary and secondary settings attended the annual Staying Safe conferences. Peer mentors from a local academy helped to facilitate a session on bullying, whilst members of the Youth Council facilitated the workshop on emotional wellbeing.

Children and young people demonstrated that they are willing and able to talk about mental health and emotional wellbeing and they are keen to develop resources that they can access in order to support fellow students in school.

School staff reported that they had some interesting and challenging conversations about subjects that have, in the past, been less well talked about – such as eating disorders, self-harm and attempted suicide.

Young people want us to continue taking action about mental health and emotional wellbeing – preventing young people suffering by reducing pressures on them and enabling young people to both talk to and respond to their peers about experiencing emotional and mental health distress.

What is the impact of the Staying Safe Conferences?

The Staying Safe Conferences present a unique forum for the child's voice to be heard by the LSCB members. Children and young people challenge and support partners during the workshops which leads to more bespoke indeed co-produced service delivery. Children and young people also actively contribute to developing information, resources and positive messages about issues that matter to them and that come from their perspective.

The information and resources they develop also contributes to wider groups of children and young people across the area becoming more aware of how to keep themselves safe in their homes, schools and communities. This universal information and support will help to build children, young people and their families' resilience and reduce the need for support at a targeted and specialist level.

The conferences were rated as brilliant or good by 93% of children and young people. They said that the events gave them plenty of information to take back to their schools and use as Peer and Buddy Mentors.

A significant number of Peer and Buddy mentors stated that they had learnt some information that they did not know before. They decided that they would :

- ✓ share this information by leading a whole school assembly
- ✓ plan and deliver lessons in classes to younger age groups
- ✓ plan a diary of safety messages
- ✓ develop a poster, leaflet and/or newspaper about key safeguarding messages

Taking account of the feedback from the conference, we are:

- ✓ assisting schools in completing their action plans
- ✓ using the learning to shape strategies, priorities and action plans
- ✓ assisting the development of resources for young people to use and trial with their peers
- ✓ considering if pressures on young people can be reduced/alleviated

What Works Well with Adolescents Consultation

As a response to our re-shaping of work with adolescents across the children's safeguarding system we engaged with young people, including those receiving services, to understand 'what works well' with adolescents in order to help influence practice and service developments.



Specific consultation questions were identified and a consultation feedback form was distributed to early help and statutory safeguarding teams. The form was also distributed to key participation leads with responsibilities for the Youth Council, CIC Council, Cool Kidz, Older Lads Group and SuperKidz.

A collaborative event with young people was held to talk through the questions in a mixed group setting. There were 23 young people engaged in the event, ranging from ages 11 to 18 including males and females, some involved with services and from across young people's forums.

The outcomes of the consultation provided a richer understanding of young people's perspectives of living in North Lincolnshire, their aspirations, how they perceive themselves, their environment and their behaviours and what works well in terms of information, communication, support and services. The detailed feedback from the consultation was distributed to key officers and there will be further opportunities to build on this consultation in 2018/19, the outcomes of which will contribute to the new approach to working with adolescents.

4.7 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

The LSCB has a comprehensive performance management framework in place which supports the Board in identifying and addressing areas of good performance as well as areas that require attention and challenge.

What is the impact of the LSCB scrutinising performance data?

The following areas of performance have been key areas of consideration for the LSCB and demonstrate where continued excellent performance has been maintained and where improvements have been achieved.

- **Children’s Services Assessments completed in timescale**

For 2017/18 97.3% of children’s services assessments were completed within 45 days. Consistent excellent performance maintained

- **% of child protection conferences held within 15 days of the strategy discussion**

99.5% of conferences were held within 15 days of the strategy discussion during 2017/18. Consistent excellent performance maintained and higher than the last published statistical neighbours at 83.3% and England average at 77.2% for 2016/17

- **Number of initial child protection conferences and children becoming subject of child protection plans**

185 initial child protection conferences were held in 2017/18 which is similar to 180 in 2016/17. The number of children with a child protection plan increased in 2017/18 to 129 at 31/03/18 compared to 111 children at 31/03/17

- **% of child protection review conferences held within timescales**

100% of reviews were held within timescales in 2017/18. Consistent excellent performance maintained and higher than the last published statistical neighbours at 94.8% and England average at 92.2% for 2016/17

- **Number and rate of children becoming subject of second/subsequent child protection plans**

Reduced in 2017/18 to 8.3% (14 plans) from 11.5% (20 plans) in 2016/17. Consistent excellent performance maintained and lower than the last published statistical neighbours at 19.1% and England average at 18.7% for 2016/17

- **% of children who went missing receiving safe and well checks by the police**

100% of children who went missing in 2017/18 and 98% in 2016/17 received safe and well checks. Excellent performance maintained

- **% of children who went missing being offered an independent return interview**

100% of children who went missing in 2017/18 and 2016/17 were offered independent return interviews. Excellent performance maintained



5 Making a difference

5.1 Priority 1:

Reduce the harm from child sexual exploitation

Reducing the harm from child sexual exploitation has continued to be a priority area of focus for the LSCB. The 2017/18 actions underpinning this priority were:

Implement a CSE Strategy and Action Plan

- The Child Sexual Exploitation Strategic Group is well attended and robustly monitors the progress against the action plan and the impact on children and young people. Progress against the action plan is reported to the LSCB each quarter
- Child sexual exploitation is a shared strategic priority with the Community Safety Partnership
- The infrastructure is in place to ensure accountability, governance and shared action
- The Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy 2015/18 outlines the accountability framework for tackling child sexual exploitation within North Lincolnshire at both a strategic and case specific level. This includes missing children and child trafficking. The action plan for 2017/18 has been completed and a new Child Exploitation Action Plan has been developed for 2018/19 to encompass both child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation
- The work on child sexual exploitation locally is heavily influenced by the voice and feedback from children and young people some who have been at risk of child sexual exploitation and some who have not been, evidenced through consultations undertaken within agencies, including through schools and the Not In Our Community campaign
- The MACE meeting, Multi Agency Missing Children meeting and Safeguarding Operational Managers Group have contributed to the Child Sexual Exploitation Strategic Group and the action plan through informing of trends, patterns and themes in relation to child sexual exploitation and missing children, and also by completing pieces of work such as enhancing awareness of and developing practice, most recently in relation to child criminal exploitation

Evaluate the quality of assessments, plans and reviews and impact

- The LSCB has tested out the effectiveness of local work in respect of child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation through the Joint Case Evaluation process and a Line of Sight meeting
- There has been investment in local services to support tackling child sexual exploitation which includes a dedicated team of child sexual exploitation intervention workers, independent advocacy for all children who go missing, outreach youth work that provides positive diversionary activities, a police early intervention team and a lead Practice Supervisor
- MACE meetings enable monitoring of interventions as added value to children's individual statutory plans. An annual review of the MACE has been completed which will further inform multi agency work into 2018/19
- The Multi Agency Missing Children Group enables the monitoring of interventions and whether they are making a difference to children and young people
- Both the MACE meeting and Multi Agency Missing Children Group inform the Child Sexual Exploitation Senior Officer group of case specific level issues as well as the Child Sexual Exploitation Strategic Group
- There are therapeutic services in place, recommissioned to specifically support children and young people who have suffered harm

What is the impact on reducing harm from child sexual exploitation?

- There is a comprehensive local profile in place related to victims, offenders and locations that enables the Child Sexual Exploitation Strategic Group, Gold Group and a Lead Senior Officers Group to understand the local picture including prevalence and to target resources appropriately. It also informs the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and underpins future developments
- The risk management processes in place in relation to child sexual exploitation are robust. The links between children who go missing and child sexual exploitation are well understood and acted on, both strategically and operationally
- Local information has underpinned our ambition to establish a young person's centre/space and re-think our approach to working with and building resilience and emotional well-being of children at risk or who have been exploited. Cross agency commitment and resources has seen the development of an early intervention programme taking a nuanced approach specifically for those who are at risk from child sexual exploitation
- The Multi Agency Missing Children meeting considers data and themes from independent return interviews. This information is fed back to lead professionals and the police to inform prevention and interventions
- There are up to date policies and procedures in place including for safeguarding children from child sexual exploitation and missing children tested out through the Joint Case Evaluation process and a recent Line of Sight meeting and previously through peer challenge
- New policies and procedures relating to child criminal exploitation have been developed
- The MACE meetings now include child criminal exploitation
- Lesson plans for primary and secondary schools on child sexual exploitation, healthy relationships, domestic abuse, female genital mutilation and Prevent have been developed
- The child sexual exploitation prevention team works with the LSCB and uses a wide range of resources tailored towards individual children's experiences including for boys and young men to heighten their trust, confidence, self-esteem, awareness and safety. This specialist service works closely with the Youth Offending Service, Delta (children's drug and alcohol service), police, Youth Outreach Service and other professionals



- There is a robust programme of training in place for the workforce so that they understand child sexual exploitation and their responsibilities
- There is a performance management framework in place that enables the LSCB to identify what is working well and where the challenges are in respect of tackling child sexual exploitation.
- Excellent engagement by schools is ensuring that staff and children are informed about child sexual exploitation

Children discussed at MACE meetings show reduced levels of risk

Data demonstrates that:

- in a context of low numbers of children being discussed at the MACE meeting in relation to child sexual exploitation, the level of risk has continued to reduce for children over the year with a reduction of 66% between April 2017 and March 2018 of high-risk cases
- all children have a risk analysis as part of their statutory plan and also a management action plan in place

Offenders discussed at MACE meetings are disrupted and prosecuted

Data demonstrates that:

- between April 2017 and March 2018 the total number of suspected perpetrators/perpetrators discussed at MACE meetings has reduced by 30.7%
- the large majority of suspected perpetrators/perpetrators are assessed as medium risk

- 'Operation Palladium' resulted in the conviction of a perpetrator who received a 6-year sentence
- other cases continue to be under investigation
- disruption activity has continued during the year based on national good practice
- targeted disruption work continues to be undertaken with a number of individuals as well as use of wider powers across partners to disrupt specific premises and organisations

Children and young people say they know how to have access to help and protection

Data demonstrates that:

- 100% of missing children received safe and well checks from the police during the year
- 100% of missing children were offered an independent return interview and 83% took up the interview in 2017/18
- Not In Our Community's core and most effective approach continues to be co-producing (with young people, including survivors) a series of film and photo stories that illustrate the grooming process to educate young people
- based on a sample size of 370 13 to 17-year olds from throughout the Humber collected via an unbranded online survey and at school roadshows during 2017 showed Not In Our Community brand awareness was found to be 78%
- through the annual survey 78% of 13 to 17-year olds in Humber said yes to "Has Not In Our Community helped you to identify where to seek help if you were to recognise someone at risk of being groomed or sexually exploited?"
- the introduction of the 'Spot the signs' series of images produced with a local illustrator has become a strong interactive feature of the campaign and was a central feature of the North Lincolnshire Staying Safe conferences in 2017
- 'Deception serialisation' co-written and produced with young people and local actors at locations across the Humber were headline news features from the Humber-wide radio broadcaster Viking FM and BBC Radio Humberside, also a special feature on BBC Look North
- Joint Case Evaluation demonstrated that the voice of the child was strongly evident throughout all of the cases audited

What do we need to do next?

There has been significant progress made against the LSCB Child Sexual Exploitation Action Plan for 2017/18 to the extent that the LSCB has concluded the plan and developed a new Child Exploitation Action Plan for 2018/19 which incorporates ongoing multi agency work relating to both child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation.

Child sexual exploitation is an area of continued focus and child criminal exploitation is a newer focus of activity for the LSCB to ensure that locally risk continues to be managed effectively in respect of victims, perpetrators and locations. Therefore reducing the harm from child exploitation will remain a priority for 2018/19.

Our partnership approach to tackling child exploitation is based on four strategic aims, under which we have identified a number of strategic outcomes for 2018/19:

- **Prepare**
 - ▶ systems and processes are enhanced and effective in supporting partnership action and practice
 - ▶ people are aware of child exploitation and staff are trained, skilled and knowledgeable
- **Prevent**
 - ▶ child exploitation is addressed at the earliest point resulting in prevention of escalation
 - ▶ young people have enhanced resilience and protective factors as a result of new approaches to working with them and managing risk
- **Protect**
 - ▶ those vulnerable to exploitation and those who have experience of exploitation receive support through accessible pathways including transitioning to services to adults
 - ▶ those vulnerable to becoming perpetrators and who are perpetrators receive support to reduce impacts
- **Pursue**
 - ▶ offending is tackled and maximised through prosecution, disruption and law enforcement

The partnership will maximise all opportunities to disrupt, target and prosecute offenders and those who pose a risk of exploiting children. The local profile will continue to be updated to inform the local picture of the prevalence and enable resources to be targeted.

There will be a continued clear focus on preventing the risks and causes of child exploitation through education and prevention both with individuals and communities and through early help focused on early intervention and behaviour changing through targeted interventions and universal provision.

Our approach will also encompass preventative, protective (immediate safeguarding) and responsive approaches, focusing on both victims and perpetrators (and recognition of the potential for overlap between the two).

The partnership will continue to provide appropriate services to identify and protect young people at risk of or who have been subject to sexual and criminal exploitation and to safeguard and prevent them from further harm.

It is important to ensure that the workforce continues to be trained and that all staff across the partnership are confident in identifying and disrupting child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation, as well as supporting all victims and their families and carers who will receive the help and support that they require. We also need to continue to learn lessons from the experiences of children, young people and their families to inform future developments.

5.2 Priority 2: Reduce the harm to children from domestic abuse

Reducing the harm for children who live in households where there is domestic abuse was a priority area for the LSCB in 2017/18. An LSCB Policy Statement is in place and the LSCB has contributed to the Domestic Abuse Strategy 2017/20 led by the Community Safety Partnership.

Key actions underpinning this priority agreed through the LSCB Domestic Abuse Task and Finish Group were:

Embed a clear domestic abuse offer that relates to the Helping Children and Families (Threshold Document 2016/20)

- A domestic abuse self-assessment from a child-centred perspective completed across agencies in late 2017, considered help and protection across the safeguarding pathway for children (thresholds for early help, children in need, child protection processes, children becoming looked after), Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) for victims and support for non-abusing parents and perpetrators.

Strengthen the local online presence for victims, perpetrators, and children and young people to access information and support

- The North Lincolnshire Council Safer Neighbourhoods website has been strengthened and contains a wealth of information and advice. The Youth Council reviewed national websites for children and young people for inclusion in the information.
- The local Life Central information hub for young people holds lots of advice and contacts where help and support can be accessed including for parents.

Further develop services/interventions to support and reduce risk for young people who are violent or abusive to parents or within relationships

- Locally, work with schools and colleges is a strength and there are a number of resources used during PHSE including 'Expect Respect' that educates about relationships more broadly, 'jigsaw' and 'the Hideout'
- The Youth Offending Service uses 'Step-Up' which is cited as good practice by the Youth Justice Board and restorative practice is embedded
- More widespread training in 'Non Violent Resistance' was rolled out across services who work with children and families as a framework to work with child to parent violence
- A local Harmful Sexual Behaviour panel facilitates trained practitioners to use the Assessment Intervention Moving on (AIM) assessment framework model and 'Good Lives' intervention for young people where there has been sexual violence

Undertake case audits/evaluations of multi agency practice to demonstrate the quality of assessments, plans, reviews and impact of cases where domestic abuse is a factor

- The Multi Agency Audit Group explored the effectiveness of the domestic abuse daily triage process. This formed part of wider review of the triage process which took place.

What is the impact on reducing harm from domestic abuse?

- An LSCB-led Domestic Abuse Action Plan has complemented the wider Domestic Abuse Strategy 2017/20 developed under the Community Safety Partnership
- Good practice from the Line of Sight meeting highlighted:
 - ▶ strong focus on the child – on improving outcomes through clear multi agency intervention and planning
 - ▶ understanding of specific areas of risk in relation to domestic abuse, for example, risks after separation
 - ▶ holistic approaches in working with the whole family – for example, Youth Offending Service/Drug Education Liaison & Treatment Agency (DELTA) working with a young father in his own right and as a perpetrator, separate Social Workers for a teenage parent and their child, protective joint working with a grandparent
 - ▶ working together creatively to manage risk – for example, direct work with the child including ‘hidden harm’ by DELTA, use of specialist programmes, for example, ‘Specifically for Women’, ‘Freedom’ and ‘Chrysalis’, delivery of specialist parenting support based on attachment theory, joint visits which gave a strength to observing the child’s lived experience
 - ▶ professionals had a shared understanding of the issues and risks and maintained a healthy scepticism
- Findings and learning from case audits/evaluations and the Line of Sight meeting has been disseminated through the LSCB, SOM Group and to other professionals during information sessions

- Following the self-assessment, an LSCB Domestic Abuse Challenge Event was held in January 2018 which identified strengths and areas for development:
 - ▶ domestic abuse is part of the core knowledge and skills required and included in staff inductions and mandatory training
 - ▶ Operation Encompass in place – a police and education early intervention safeguarding partnership where schools are informed of domestic violence incidents which affect their children
 - ▶ excellent prevention work with and in schools/colleges
 - ▶ domestic abuse multi agency triage meeting in place for sharing information on low risk cases
 - ▶ multi agency risk assessment, analysis and management of cases, response and commitment including co-working in localities, between teams at all levels across early help, targeted and specialist services
- Information including advice and where to access help and support is available online from local websites and the Life Central app
- A number of resources and models are used by staff across the partnership to reduce risk for young people who are violent or abusive to parents or within relationships. Various multi agency staff have been trained in the use of evidence-based interventions
- Consistent and effective information sharing, evidence-based decision making, and good use of the Helping Children and Families (Threshold Document 2016/20) was identified during the Multi Agency Case Audit that focused on domestic abuse
- To enhance the effectiveness of the triage process the responsibility moved from the Integrated Multi Agency Partnership to the Single Access Point to further facilitate early help

What do we need to do next?

Supporting parenting capacity is critical in reducing the harm from abuse and neglect, promoting healthy attachments between parents and children and providing help for parents who have multiple complex needs of their own which impact on their parenting capacity. These include substance misuse, mental health issues and domestic abuse.

There continue to be a number of local services and initiatives in place to support victims of domestic abuse and children who have been affected, also to address the behaviour of domestic abuse perpetrators. In addition as part of the LSCB's role in preventative safeguarding there has been the development of a number of proactive programmes for children and young people who may not be experiencing domestic abuse to teach them about healthy relationships. Multi agency commitment to support and reduce domestic abuse is strong within North Lincolnshire and there are a number of multi agency forums that come together to consider how to improve local support and outcomes for adults, children and young people affected by domestic abuse.

'The multi agency response to children living with domestic abuse: Prevent Protect & Repair' published in September 2017 is a summary of the second joint targeted area inspection (JTAI) programme of six local authorities, which began in September 2016, and examined 'the multi agency response to children living with domestic abuse'. The findings consider the extent to which children's social care, health professionals, the police and probation officers were effective in safeguarding children who live with domestic abuse. It outlined:

- Agencies have overcome many problems in managing the volume of cases and the next step is to take a long-term approach towards the prevention and reduction of domestic abuse over time. 'This is more than a task for agencies individually, it requires a societal change in the conceptualisation of domestic abuse among professionals, and between individuals in the public domain'.
- With much good work done to protect children and victims, far too little is being done to prevent domestic abuse and repair the damage that is done and as 'there is limited reliable research or evidence that enables agencies to select and deploy interventions they know are effective in changing the behaviour of perpetrators, there needs to be a focussed effort across agencies to develop and test interventions. Once interventions

are identified, they need to be made available for all levels of risk and need, particularly at the stage of early intervention'.

- 'Domestic abuse causes long-term suffering to partners/family members and children. More thought needs to be given to how local areas can collectively supply the emotional, psychological and practical support that is needed to help children and victims – or families that have stayed together – get safe, stay safe and move on to reach their full potential'.

Due to the local prevalence of domestic abuse as a presenting risk for children and as an underpinning factor where adolescents experience additional vulnerability and neglect, this is a priority area for supporting and increasing children and families resilience and safety.

Clearly more needs to be done across partnerships to try to 'turn the curve' and build upon the strength in our local system by adopting creative and innovative approaches to prevention and tackling the behaviours and dynamics that underpin domestic abuse in all its forms.

Such an ambition is supported by the findings from the domestic abuse themed joint targeted area inspection.

Therefore, a multi-board approach is to be taken going forward. The LSCB will work jointly with the Community Safety Partnership Board and the Local Safeguarding Adult Board during 2018/19 to further progress work to reduce the impact of domestic abuse.

A Domestic Abuse Strategy Group was established in early 2018 which is governed by the Community Safety Partnership and will report also to the LSCB.



5.3 Priority 3:

Reduce the harm from neglect

Reducing the harm for children from neglect was a priority area for the LSCB in 2017/18. An LSCB Policy Statement on reducing the harm from neglect is in place and an LSCB Action Plan.

Key actions underpinning this priority agreed through the LSCB Neglect Task and Finish Group were:

Neglect is identified and assessed consistently well across the system – LSCB to commission and implement the NSPCC's Graded Care Profile

- The LSCB commissioned the Graded Care Profile 2 (GCP2) neglect assessment tool developed by the NSPCC to enhance local multi agency practice as an outcome from the Line of Sight Meeting held in early 2017 that focused on neglect. This identified effective multi agency practice in North Lincolnshire and recommended that the identification and intervention of neglect would be strengthened with the use of a specific tool
- There was a strategic workshop on the GCP2 facilitated by the NSPCC in October 2017 attended by Board members alongside staff who attend the SPLOG and Neglect Task and Finish Group

Families are enabled and empowered to make positive and timely change and to identify support where possible from their own networks

- Restorative practice training programme across the services to children workforce was commissioned

Professional practice supports timely and effective interventions to reduce risk and promote positive change within families

- During 2017 the SOM Group focused on neglect over a series of meetings
- The LSCB neglect training programme was revised to reflect current local and national research, and to support the roll out of GCP2 training
- The LSCB neglect guidance was updated with links to recent research and is available on the LSCB website

Assessment, intervention, decision-making, recording is focused on the lived experience of the child

- There has been the roll out of direct work 'chatter bags', training workshops. Audit has identified the use of chatter bags within the toolkit used by social workers supporting children and young people

What is the impact on reducing the harm from neglect?

- 20 multi agency staff were trained as trainers in the GCP2 neglect assessment tool by the NSPCC in November 2017
- A programme of training has been devised for the wider workforce to understand, identify and respond to neglect. More specialist training for frontline practitioners working with children and families is scheduled for 2018/19 and will be delivered as masterclasses
- The strategic workshop helped to shape the implementation plan, develop the best way to support the use of the tool in practice and considered implementation challenges
- One of the work streams developed information to identify households where the adults had multiple complex needs including substance misuse, mental health issues and domestic abuse
- Plans demonstrate a multi agency commitment to helping parents and carers, whilst keeping the child's needs at the heart and the potential for early intervention for adults and children has been improved
- The SOM Group reviewed national reports and Serious Case Reviews in relation to neglect and the learning to enhance multi agency practice was spread across their services to inform practice with children, young people and families
- The skills, attributes and practices already in use with children and families have been strengthened, which supports the empowerment of families
- LSCB training and practice guidance on neglect reflects current research
- Case audits and recording evidences consistent use of a menu of direct work tools to maximise the voice of the child

The introduction of the GCP2 initiative is being taken forward in 2018/19 with trainers accrediting front line practitioners in the use of the tool. Systems to capture data are being developed across agencies to evidence the impact on children, young people and families.

What do we need to do next?

Our local performance information and qualitative case audit information in respect of neglect identifies the increasing effectiveness of statutory interventions in enabling families to make sustained change and in being decisive to seek alternative effective care for young children where change is not sustained.

Neglect has remained the most prevalent reason for child protection plans locally over a number of years and remains the most prevalent form of child maltreatment nationally. Therefore understanding its consequences and the potential for prevention and early intervention is important. Relatively new and emerging evidence so far indicates connections to other forms of harm and children's vulnerability to adult perpetrated intra-familial child sexual abuse, child sexual exploitation and harmful sexual behaviours in children and young people.

During 2018/19, neglect will be a priority area for safeguarding children and there will continue to be a multi agency GCP2 steering and champions group to embed this key assessment tool.

Female genital mutilation

The enhanced dataset published breakdown for North Lincolnshire shows that there were between 0 and 4 newly recorded cases of women and girls identified as having undergone female genital mutilation in 2016/17. Data below national level is suppressed so that all numbers between 0 and 4 are obscured with an asterisk, and all other numbers are rounded to the nearest five. All North Lincolnshire figures are shown as an asterisk and this means that there were between 0 and 4 newly recorded cases of women or girls.

Between April 2017 and March 2018 there have been no referrals to Children's Services with a presenting issue of female genital mutilation.

Following an LSCB task and finish group on female genital mutilation in 2017, the Community Safety Partnership agreed to provide strategic oversight for female genital mutilation. The LSCB has continued to seek assurance that further work is progressing and received an annual report with some key updates as outlined below.

Nationally, the NHS digital figures/female genital mutilation enhanced dataset collection supports the Department of Health's female genital mutilation prevention programme by presenting a national picture of the prevalence of female genital mutilation in England. Data is collected by healthcare providers in England including acute hospital providers, mental health providers and GP practices.

The overall figure of 5,391 newly recorded cases for the financial year 2016-2017 is a drop from the 6,080 cases recorded in the financial year 2015-2016. The enhanced dataset covering the period from April 2016 to March 2017 show that in 57 cases the practice had been undertaken in the UK.

The enhanced dataset April 2016 to March 2017, experimental statistics show that there were 9,179 newly recorded attendances of female genital mutilation reported at NHS trusts and GP practices nationally. The dataset found that 87% of these attendances were in midwifery or obstetrics services. The average age at attendance was 31 years. 95% of the women and girls first recorded in the data in 2016/17 had undergone female genital mutilation before they were 18 years old. This information was recorded for three in ten women and girls.

During 2016/17 there were 328 multi agency professionals who were trained via the LSCB. In 2017/18, there have been 73 multi agency professionals trained under the LSCB and 84 staff have completed the e-learning female genital mutilation training. These figures exclude training that has been completed within individual organisations.

Despite local low numbers further work continues to understand our population and any relevant changes, raise awareness and respond appropriately to identify and prevent female genital mutilation.

Enhancing emotional wellbeing

During 2017/18, the LSCB were assured that further work was progressing in relation to enhancing the emotional wellbeing and resilience of children and young people.

The North Lincolnshire Emotional Health and Wellbeing Transformation Plan 2015-2020 (Transformation Plan) was refreshed in December 2017 and aims to bring about long term sustainable changes by providing support at the earliest opportunity to provide positive emotional wellbeing and mental health.

As part of the overall governance, the Health and Wellbeing Board receive regular updates on the progress made against the plan. Led by the Clinical Commissioning Group, the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Group continues to steer the priorities of the Transformation Plan with sub groups taking the lead on key priority areas.

Examples of progress are:

Working collaboratively with young people, the Life Central website and app continues to be developed and promoted as a key online resource for children, young people, parents and professionals relating to emotional wellbeing and associated issues. As part of the Transformation Plan, the webpages are being refreshed to be more interactive through the introduction of quizzes.

To ensure early identification of children and young people with emerging emotional and mental health needs, all schools, colleges and educational settings have identified Mental Health Champions (MHC). As part of the Workforce Development strand of the Transformation Plan, youth mental health first aid (YMHFA) training continues to be rolled out to MHC's and to support a local sustainable training offer, eight local YMHFA instructors have been trained.

MHC Network Meetings have now been established on a termly basis and an online forum has been developed as a way for MHC's to keep up to date with the quickly changing landscape.

The Youth Council continues to take a lead in the development and promotion of emotional health and wellbeing in North Lincolnshire. Members of the Youth Council continue to lead the Positive Steps Working Group which engages with partners to help shape and influence local information, services and support and is a key point of reference for all partners' developments around emotional and mental health services and provision. Through the Positive Steps Working Group, young people have developed promotional information to clarify the role of the MHC's and how to access them within the school environment.

Leadership and challenge

Collaboration and challenge are essential components of an effective LSCB. The strength of the LSCB is evident through how well it has both co-operated and also appropriately challenged leading to change and improvement to produce positive outcomes for children and young people. Such challenges have led to developments:

Development of a Safeguarding Pathway Lead Officers Group – the group was established in 2017 to oversee and quality assure multi agency working across the children's safeguarding pathway from early help to statutory safeguarding processes. The group critically evaluates the interface at different points of the pathway, multi agency decision making, the quality of assessments, the effectiveness and timeliness of multi agency help and protection and information sharing.

The group has been effective in overseeing key areas of practice and performance across the pathway including the work of the Single Access Point, Integrated Multi Agency Partnership and the child protection process. It also continues to have a Line of Sight to the well established Multi Agency Audit Group which provides an opportunity for group members to reflect on feedback from multi agency case audits. Examples of key areas of practice developments highlighted at the Safeguarding Pathway Lead Officers Group are:

- the review of the domestic abuse triage, which highlighted the need to strengthen the quality of Domestic Abuse Stalking and Harassment and honour based violence (DASH) risk identification checklist to improve consistency of practice
- the development of a framework for working with adolescents including the Enhanced Risk and Resilience Evaluation Meeting which adds value, particularly for those young people presenting with risk facing behaviours

Revision of the Multi Agency Missing Children meeting – a review of the group was undertaken which resulted in more refined, robust processes for sharing information, intelligence and data and to ensure agencies continue to work collaboratively to prevent and reduce children going missing leading to better outcomes and experiences. The group has been effective in developing multi agency prevention action plans for the 'top ten' children who have repeated missing incidents, which focus on what else

can be done to reduce missing incidents through innovative approaches and building on young people's strengths and aspirations. The group also focuses on children who have had only two missing incidents in order that agencies can work collaboratively at the earliest point to prevent further missing incidents.

The strength of the LSCB is evident through how well it has challenged which has resulted in more inventive and collaborative working leading to improved outcomes for children and young people.

6 Areas of focus for 2018-19

This report highlights the significant progress made in relation to the priorities identified for 2017/18. In order to continue our collaborative efforts and continue to embed and further develop our systems, processes and improved practice leading to better outcomes, it is proposed that the current priorities will continue into the next year. As such, the safeguarding priorities for 2018/19 are to:

Reduce the harm from:

- child exploitation *
- domestic abuse
- neglect

*The focus on child exploitation in 2018/19 from child sexual exploitation in previous years acknowledges the broader remit and associated risks relating to criminal exploitation as well as sexual exploitation and the need to have clear understanding of local risk factors and to focus on collaborative action.

The LSCB has one business priority for 2018/19, which is to:

- continue our preparation for transition to new multi agency safeguarding arrangements for children in the context of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and the new statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018

The LSCB will continue to monitor and scrutinise progress against the safeguarding priorities through the appropriate partnership arrangements, namely the Child Exploitation Strategy Group, Domestic Abuse Strategy Group and Neglect Grade Care Profile 2 Steering Group. The LSCB will continue to seek wider assurance that further work is progressing in relation to these priority themes across other local partnerships.

Progress against the business priority will be monitored and scrutinised through the LSCB Executive Board, the LSCB and Safeguarding Operational Managers Group and others as appropriate (to be superseded by the Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements Board and the Helping and Protecting Children and Young People Partnership (HPCYPP) in line with new multi agency safeguarding arrangements).

There will be ongoing commitment to an open and transparent culture, where continued learning and improvement is fundamental to successfully implementing our organisational model leading to better outcomes for our children and families. As part of this, there is an ongoing commitment to the audit and assurance processes that are in place under the auspices of the current Learning and Improvement Framework and scrutiny and quality assurance processes in place which are further strengthened through a robust system of independent scrutiny. There will also continue to be a commitment to engaging with children, young people and families at every level and to ensuring that the views and experiences of all children, particularly the most vulnerable, continue to shape and influence partnership action leading to improved practice and outcomes.

The LSCB will continue to ensure that its statutory responsibilities are met through transition to the new multi agency safeguarding arrangements for children. Through the early adopters programme, there are opportunities to build on our already robust arrangements, to further test and develop the local approach and lead the way in developing and implementing new innovations. North Lincolnshire is aspirational for the children, young people and families in this area and there continue to be a drive and commitment across local agencies and organisations to work collaboratively to move to 'beyond outstanding'.

Appendix 1

LSCB membership 2017 - 18

Organisation	Role
	Independent Chair
North Lincolnshire Council	Director of Children and Community Resilience
North Lincolnshire Council	Director of Learning, Skills and Culture
North Lincolnshire Council	Director of Adults and Community Wellbeing
North Lincolnshire Council	Principal Social Worker Adults and Children
North Lincolnshire Council	Cabinet Member for Children, Families, Learning and Leisure
North Lincolnshire Council	Director of Public Health
North Lincolnshire Council	Principal Officer Safer Neighbourhoods and Child Sexual Exploitation Lead
North Lincolnshire Council	LSCB Manager
North Lincolnshire Council representing Youth Offending Service and Family Justice Board	Head of Safeguarding Children
Humberside Police	Detective Superintendent
Clinical Commissioning Group	Director of Risk and Quality Assurance
Clinical Commissioning Group	Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children
Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Trust	Head of Safeguarding
Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Trust	Consultant Paediatrician, Scunthorpe General Hospital Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Trust
Associate Nurse Director	Primary Schools Representative
Head Teacher, Leys Farm Junior School	Secondary Schools Representative

Role	Organisation
Head Teacher, The St Lawrence Academy	North Lindsey College
	Assistant Principal Quality Improvement and Student Support
CAFCASS	Service Manager
National Probation Service	Head of National Probation Service (North and North East Lincolnshire) and Vice Chair of LSCB
Community Rehabilitation Company	Acting Community Director, Greater Lincolnshire
Humberside Fire and Rescue Service	Community Safety Manager
East Midlands Ambulance Service	Safeguarding Lead for Children
Barnados	Agency Representative
Ongo	Director of Operations
NHS England	Senior Nurse
	Lay Member (x1)

Appendix 2

Partnership structure 2017 - 18



Appendix 3

LSCB budget 2016 - 17

Budget contributions and income to LSCB 2017 - 18

Agency contributions and income	Amount
North Lincolnshire Council	-£67397.40
Clinical Commissioning Group	-£38241
Police	-£13000
National Probation Service	-£691.86
Community Rehabilitation Company	-£1100
CAFCASS	-£550
John Leggott College	-£1140
North Lindsey College	-£1140
Education	-£26955
Education non-schools	-£11070
Training income	-£10329.80
TOTAL	-£171615.06

Key areas of LSCB expenditure 2017 - 18

Expenditure	Amount
Training, events, research, subscriptions, research, contributions to services, equipment and provisions	£51731.75
Serious Case Reviews	£0
Child Death Reviews	£0
TOTAL	£51731.75

