

# Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership

**Yearly Report - 2024/2025** 





# **Contents**

Foreword	
Section 1: Introduction	04
Section 2: Area profile	05
<ul> <li>Population of Hull</li> <li>If there were only 100 children in Hull</li> <li>Safeguarding Arrangements in Hull</li> </ul>	
Section 3: Overview of the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership Arrangements	12
<ul> <li>About the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership</li> <li>Functioning and structure of the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership</li> <li>Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership Arrangements</li> <li>Independence, Scrutiny and Assurance</li> <li>Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership Quality Assurance Activity</li> <li>Section 11 Audit Activity</li> <li>Celebrating Positive Practice</li> <li>Learning and Improvement</li> <li>Learning from the experiences of children and families</li> <li>Learning Data</li> <li>Learning Delivered</li> <li>HSCP Training and Development delivered 2024/2025</li> </ul>	
Section 4: Additional Information  Hull Safeguarding Child Partnership - 2024/2025 priority areas of focus Priority 1 - Neglect Priority 2 - Contextual Safeguarding Priority 3 - Multi-Agency Arrangements Priority 4 - Domestic Abuse	30
Conclusion Including Next Steps, Future Plans and Priorities	41

### Foreword

During the last 12 months continued progress has been made across the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership. The collaborative work which has taken place throughout the wider multi-agency system has meant we have achieved greater success and improved outcomes for children and young people in Hull.

Executive members from the three statutory partners, alongside our education lead, were joined by a new strategic lead from the voluntary and community sector which was critical to our continued journey of ensuring inclusivity and engagement and has further strengthened our approach to safeguarding.

There has been a strong focus on reviewing what difference we are making to the lives of children, young people and their families, and this is now well evidenced. We are identifying what works well, alongside sustained ways in which we can improve. The culture of the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership has continued to positively thrive, and I regularly witness strong challenge and support which is the bedrock of a partnership truly committed to learning and growth.

The Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership Executive Board have met bi-monthly, and the subgroup chairs and their members have been committed to seeking evidence in relation to good practice and what needs to be achieved in terms of practice improvement. The strong interface with the Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board and the Hull Community Safety Partnership has been transformative and, in each area, we have representatives working alongside each other as equals committed to our priorities and the Hull Community Plan.

I want to thank the Hull Safeguarding Partnerships Head of Service, and all the staff in the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership Business Unit, for their ongoing support, commitment and dedication to safeguarding children. They have worked tirelessly and achieved so much with all our partners and organisations involved in working to support children, families and the wider community.

Strategic leads, operational leads and front-line practitioners from across the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership have all been part of the journey of success however, we all recognise there is still more to do. As we head into the next phase of improvements, we know that focusing on early help and prevention is key to supporting families when they need it at the right time, and at the earliest opportunity. Working with families, children and communities, and being alongside them as equals will be at the core of our work during 2025/2026.

Finally, I want to say a heartfelt thank you to all the young people who have engaged with us and provided vital feedback in terms of our work, we could not do this without you.



K. Durvard

**Kay Durrant** 

Independent Chair - Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership

### **Section 1: Introduction**

Over the last year, the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership has continued to evolve and thrive. All organisations who have a responsibility for safeguarding children have consistently demonstrated high levels of engagement, commitment and respectful challenge to ensure that the needs and experiences of children, families and the local community have remained at the heart of our work.

This published yearly report demonstrates how safeguarding partners, and relevant agencies, have worked together to ensure effective and impactful multi-agency safeguarding arrangements for children, during the financial year of 2024/2025.

In accordance with the requirements set out in the Children Act and Social Work Act (2017 & 2004), and Working Together 2023, this report transparently reflects how the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership have fulfilled statutory responsibilities through coordinating, delivering and funding local safeguarding services for children and families over a 12-month period.

The Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership have ensured that our safeguarding arrangements have continued to be updated and developed, in accordance with changes to national guidance and legislation. During this time the wellbeing and safety of children has remained a priority for all partner agencies, to ensure a safe and effective structure exists against which we have delivered our priorities, ensuring we are continually responsive to the needs of children and their family networks.

Progress made, during this reporting period is testament to the consistent commitment, strong partnership arrangements and collaborative relationships which exist in Hull. We would like to thank everybody who works across the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership to support and improve the lives of children and young people.



Matt Jukes Chief Executive Hull City Council



**Judi Heaton**Chief Constable
Humberside Police



Stephen Eames
Chief Executive
NHS Humber and North
Yorkshire Integrated
Care Board



Pauline Turner
Director of Children,
Young People and
Family Services
Hull City Council



Paul Butler
Chief Superintendent
(Northbank Divisional
Commander)
Humberside Police



Paula South
Director of Nursing Governance
NHS Humber and
North Yorkshire
Integrated Care Board



Jonathan Roe Chief Executive Officer Thrive Cooperative Learning Trust



**Pippa Robson** Deputy Chief Officer Forum CIO

### Section 2: Area profile

### **Population of Kingston Upon Hull**

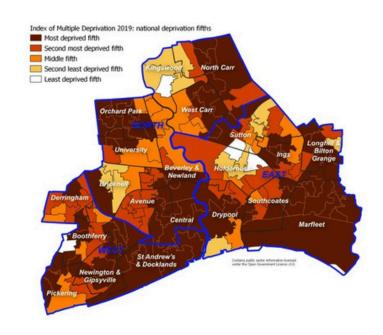
Compact and highly urbanised, Hull is the most densely populated local authority in the Yorkshire and Humber region. The Office for National Statistics estimates the overall population of the City of Hull to be approximately 271,942 (calculated in 2023). Approximately 61,075 children and young people aged 0 to 17 account for 22 per cent of the city's overall population indicating that Hull's population are relatively young in comparison to the England average.

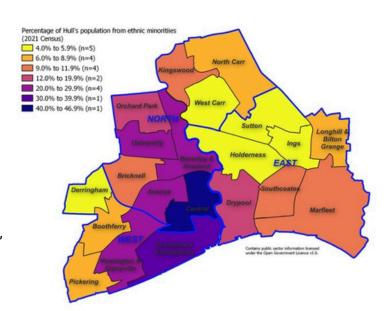
The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD 2019) ranks Hull as being the fourth most deprived local authority area, out of a total 317. Hull is in the top 10% most deprived local authorities for a number of IMD domains including income, health, crime and living environments. More than a third (35%) of children are living in child poverty and the percentage of children eligible for free school meals in Hull is high, relative to England.

Social and economic conditions, such as poverty, poor quality housing and unstable jobs impact on individuals physical and mental health and are contributing factors to inequalities relating to life expectancy of people in Hull.

The 2021 Census estimated that 91.8% of Hull's residents were white, with 83.9% being white British, 0.2% white Irish, 0.2% white Gypsy or Irish Traveller and 0.1% Roma. A further 7.4% were from other white backgrounds (including Eastern Europeans). Overall, 1.7% of residents had two or more ethnicities, 2.8% were Asian or Asian British, 1.9% were black, black British, black Caribbean or black African, 0.5% were Arabs and 1.3% were from other ethnic groups.

The health of people in the Yorkshire and Humber region is poorer than the England average; health inequalities are closely linked to deprivation. Children's health in the city is generally poorer than the England average.





### If there were only

# 100 children



### and young people in the city, then:

Would be eligible

for a free school

21

Would have special education needs, 6 of which would have an education, health and care plan

**Would speak** 

additional

language

English as an

64

meal

Would achieve
the expected
standard in all of
reading writing
and mathematics
as they left
primary school

**28** 

Would be of non-white British ethnic

heritage

1

Would have a child protection plan

would be referred to children's social

1

would be a child in care

Would be either not in education, employment or training after leaving secondary school.

**1** /ould b

Would have a child in need plan



**37** 

care

would leave secondary school with a strong pass in both English and mathematics



**Data from March 2025** 

### Safeguarding Arrangements in Hull

# Children, Young People and Family Services

Hull Children, Young People and Family Services are broadly structured by way of a front door (EHASH - which benefits from multi-agency partnership co-location with agencies), assessment teams, three locality teams in the East, West and North of the city, and permanence and leaving care teams. The Signs of Safety practice model, implemented early in 2021, is well integrated into practice.

As of 31 March 2025, there were 3,325 children and young people open to Hull Children's Social Care, 747 children in care and 500 children subject to child protection plans. There were 123 children supported through the Hull Youth Justice Service.

Additional specialist teams are in place to support children, including the Leisure and Family Support Service (LAFSS) who provide support for 184 children with disabilities.

362 care leavers are supported by a dedicated and co-located Leaving Care Service and the specialist Refugee and Asylum-Seeking Team (RAST). The Hull Fostering Service is responsible for 162 mainstream foster carers, 88 connected carers and 25 supported lodging providers.

'The local authority has an impressive social work academy which is clearly developing good practice, inspires new ways of working, and shapes the training needed for frontline staff. This focus and investment has helped to stabilise the workforce and improve practice. This provides increased consistency for children and their families.'

(Ofsted Focused Visit - October 2024)



Following significant investment, 41 children live in 16 local authority managed children's homes, with spaces for up to 6 more children through a short break provision. Adoption Services are provided by the One North and Humber Regional Adoption Agency.

Children and families in Hull benefit from early help family support services, and an early help partnership which is multi-agency. Family Hubs exist within the most locally deprived communities with co-located services to provide support. The complexity of work is varied, with some targeted families requiring more intensive support with a greater range of partners involved. Underpinning, and working alongside targeted family support, is a wide-ranging offer of universal and early help activities. Targeted family support teams respond to targeted early help requests and co-working takes place with children's social care.

Hull has experienced a significant increase in the stability of social workers over the past twelve months, with a corresponding reduction in the use of agency staff. The Hull Children, Young People and Family Services `grow our own' recruitment and retention strategy is resulting in more social workers gaining experience, progressing and staying in Hull.

This has resulted in children benefiting from increased worker consistency with teams having more overall stability (including the annual sickness rate having reduced from 5.1% in September 2022 to 3.8% in September 2024). It is expected that agency social worker numbers will be reduced again by half during the remainder of 2025.



# Hull Children, Young People and Family Services (data 1st April 24 – 31st March 25)



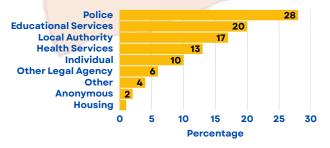


Level 3/4 (Early Help/Statutory) Contacts 72.3%

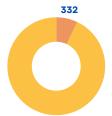
Between April 2024 and March 2025, 20,520 contacts were made to the Early Help and Safeguarding Hub (EHASH). 14571 contacts met threshold for early intervention support or/and statutory involvement.



Domestic Abuse was the highest identified reason for a referral to EHASH, accounting for 1136 referrals followed by physical abuse (589) and sexual abuse (380).



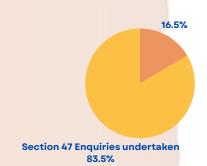
Police accounted for the highest percentage of referrals made at 28% followed by educational services (20%) and local authority services (17%).



Children Social Care Assessment Undertaken 4374

Referral to Children Social Care

4706 contacts progressed to a referral, with 4374 Children's Social Care Assessments undertaken.



2265 strategy meetings were initiated by front door services with 1891 Section 47 enquires commencing.



There were 24617 Open Early Help Episodes between April 2024 and March 2025.

#### **Humberside Police**

Humberside Police Force covers an area of 1,250 square miles, within this there are 4 unitary councils (of which Kingston Upon Hull is one) and over 230 town and parish councils.



With regards to the population of the Humberside Police Force area, a quarter of the population live in a rural area, however, in contrast, over a fifth of the Humberside Police Force area includes the 10% most deprived places in England. As of March 2025, there were a total of 2311 Police officers, 149 PCSO's, 115 Special Constables and 97 Volunteers and 1420 support staff. In the 12 months to March 2025, Humberside Police recorded 93705 crimes with a positive outcome rate of 20.1%. Humberside Police arrest rate was 17.7% per 1000 population with 18326 suspects arrested across the force.

During 2024, Humberside Police were inspected by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS). A PEEL assessment was conducted which considered police effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy. Humberside Police - PEEL assessment (October 24)

#### Outstanding

- Preventing and deterring crime and anti-social behaviour, and reducing vulnerability.
- · Protecting Vulnerable people.
- Building, supporting and protecting the workforce.

#### Good

- Police Powers and treating the public fairly and respectfully.
- · Responding to the public.
- · Managing offenders and suspects.
- · Leadership and force management.

#### **Requires improvement**

· Investigating crime.

# NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

In accordance with the Children Act 1989, the Children Act 2004, the Care Act 2014 and the Health and Social Care Act 2017, the NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (HNY ICB), as with all other NHS bodies, has a statutory duty to ensure that it makes arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people, and to protect adults from abuse or the risk of abuse, reflecting the needs of the population it serves.

As a commissioner of local health services, HNY ICB also acts to assure itself that it has appropriate arrangements in place to seek safeguarding assurance from commissioned services and organisations.

All health organisations are required to adhere to the guidance and legislation outlined in the Safeguarding Children, Young People and Adults at Risk in the NHS: Safeguarding Accountability and Assurance Framework (SAAF) (NHSE, 2024).

QOQ\_HNYICB\_Annual-Report\_2024-25-FINAL.pdf



# Voluntary and Community Sector Enterprise

Hull is very fortunate to be home to a large and diverse Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector. VCSE groups and organisations operating in the city include those that support parents and families with pre-school children, childcare organisations, alternative education providers, youth work and outreach, sexual health and sports activities.

Their work includes early intervention as well as social, mental health and emotional wellbeing/identity support. The VCSE play a key role in supporting children and young people in Hull.

VCSE is represented within HSCP arrangements at all levels, including HSCP subgroups and task & finish groups. This ensures that the role of VCSE is reflected throughout our work with examples including VCSE having been integral in supporting the updating of the HSCP Threshold Guidance.

VCSE Forum is a space that brings together relevant agencies within the VCSE sector and the themes from these meetings are fed back into safeguarding partnership meetings, ensuring the continual link between VCSE and statutory services of the HSCP.

Since 2022, funding arrangements have been in place from the Local Authority and the Better Care Fund to provide support and development for VCSE organisations. These services are delivered by Forum and Hull CVS as the `Sector Connect Hull' project. Importantly, this creates a resource to guide charities, small groups, faith based organisations and social enterprises on safeguarding issues.



https://northbankforum.org.uk/

Through this resource, the VCSE is also represented at the HSCP Executive Board to ensure the needs of children, young people and families, and the VCSE sector itself, are reflected in strategic developments.

Sector Connect Hull's Safeguarding Co-ordinator has continued to strengthen and broaden relationships with Hull Local Authority safeguarding teams, and members across the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership, during this reporting period. Key examples have included facilitating an active VCSE presence at HSCP subgroup meetings to enable important updates and local safeguarding information to be disseminated across the sector.

Information has been shared through the Forum newsletter, direct updates via meetings and bulletins and more recently through the quarterly VCSE Designated Safeguarding Lead Peer Support Meeting. This meeting supports VCSE staff to have prompt and up-to-date safeguarding information, training and support through a peer network. It also brings together VCSE workers and relevant members from across the HSCP, including local authority safeguarding teams, the Early Help and Safeguarding Hub (EHASH), the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership Business Unit, the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) and the Domestic Abuse Partnership (DAP).

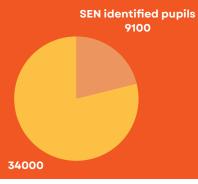
The Safeguarding Co-ordinator has delivered training sessions across the VCSE including safeguarding at varying levels, safe recruitment and policy writing. One-to-one work has been carried out directly with designated safeguarding leads within the VCSE, supporting individual organisations to produce safeguarding policies and procedures tailored to their work with children and young people, and to help them understand their safeguarding responsibilities under the Working Together 2023 arrangements.





#### **Education**

The school population of Kingston Upon Hull is 43,100, with 9,100 pupils identified as having some level of special educational need.



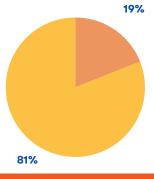
Rated as 'good' or better 94%

94% of schools were rated as 'Good' or better at the cessation of the last Ofsted inspection framework.

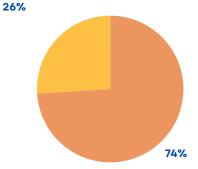
From April 2024 to March 2025 a total of 84 pupils were subject to school exclusions across the city, whilst a total of 943 children were being educated at home.



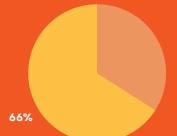
Pupils where English is not their first language



Pupils of minority ethnic heritage account for 26% of the school population (11,170 in number). For 8,340 pupils (19%), English is not their first language; 130 languages are spoken across 98 schools in the city.



Pupils who are eligible for free school meals 34%



In total, 34% pupils are eligible for free school meals (England 25%). 478 young people are not in education, employment or training (2024/2025 target period).

Pupils of minority ethnic heritage

# Section 3: Overview of the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership Arrangements

### **About the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership**

The Hull Safeguarding Children
Partnership (HSCP) is a statutory,
multi-agency partnership, coordinated
by a business unit, which oversees and
leads children's safeguarding
arrangements across Kingston Upon
Hull

In accordance with statutory guidance, the three statutory safeguarding agencies (Kingston Upon Hull Local Authority, NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Humberside Police) take equitable responsibility for driving forward local safeguarding arrangements with the objective of gaining assurance that these are effectively supporting and safeguarding children in Hull who are at risk of abuse and neglect.

During this reporting period, the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership have ensured that their multi-agency safeguarding arrangements align with new requirements, including updating published arrangements in December 2024, setting out the HSCP arrangements in accordance with Working Together 2023.

#### **Multi-agency Safeguarding Arrangements**



# Key principles and values underpinning our work include:

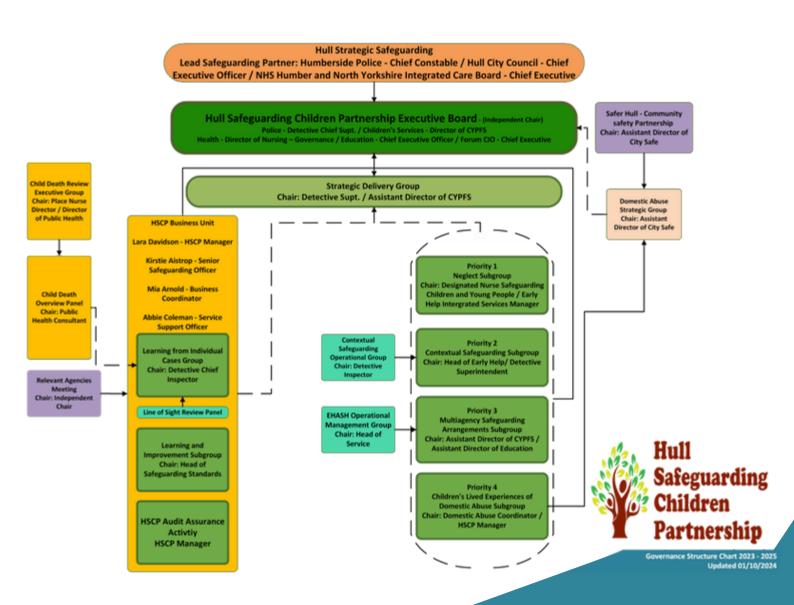
- A focus on early help and prevention to ensure that every child grows up, and is able to thrive, in a safe and supportive environment which free from harm, abuse and neglect.
- Working with all relevant agencies, children, their families and communities, to ensure we have a culture which is inclusive and accountable. We will focus on valuing diversity and ensuring safeguarding is responsive to culture, identity and individual need.
- Ensuring that the voices of children and their families are at the heart of all activity, embracing the ethos that their experiences inform the development and delivery of services within Hull.
- Strong multi-agency and multidisciplinary working is vital to ensure children are safeguarded and protected. Activity undertaken through the HSCP is in collaboration with all partner agencies, communities and organisations who have a role to play in safeguarding.



# Functioning and structure of the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership

The HSCP governance arrangements and structure are illustrated below. The service delivery framework provides clear lines of accountability in terms of driving forward priorities for children and families and ensures an effective system for reporting and assurance. The arrangements are accepted and adhered to within the wider governance of the statutory partner organisations and link with the Hull Community Plan.

The Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership have continued to improve how we collaborate, scrutinise, assure, and drive forward, the coordination of safeguarding activity. Within the partnership each sub-group has a clear terms of reference and the HSCP Business Plan aligns all subgroup activity with the strategic priorities for the partnership. Agendas and facilitative discussions at all meetings focus on safeguarding practice, impact and continual improvement.



### **Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership Arrangements**

The HSCP have been responsive to the recommendations within Working Together 2023 which details a range of expectations in relation to local safeguarding partnership structures and practice.

Our arrangements ensure that there are clearly named lead safeguarding partners (LSPs) and delegated safeguarding partners (DSPs), with equitable contribution from each safeguarding partner in relation to oversight and decision making.

There is a culture of collaborative leadership with clear commitment to collectively drive forward the work of the HSCP, with LSPs and DSPs having proper involvement and accountability of activity, ensuring shared strategic direction and leadership.

Working Together 23 recommends that local safeguarding partnerships have representation from the education sector involved at the highest level of partnership decision making. In Hull we are proud that these arrangements are already well embedded, with education and VCSE sectors fully integrated into our partnership arrangements, at both strategic and operational levels. A Chief Executive Officer for an Academy Trust and a Deputy Chief Officer from Forum CIO (VCSE) are core members of the HSCP Executive Board and have equitable contribution in terms of oversight and decision making, alongside the statutory partners.

High level meetings between DSPs, LSPs and executive leads have been held throughout this reporting year, demonstrating effective oversight as a team, as opposed to acting as a voice for their own organisation alone. These meetings have been facilitated by the HSCP Business Unit and overseen by the HSCP Independent Scrutineer with agendas focusing on safeguarding systems, governance and resourcing.



Current arrangements ensure that each safeguarding partner contributes to the structure of the multi-agency arrangements in terms of staffing resources to enable the functioning of the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership subgroup activity.

Arrangements for this reporting period have been financed by the three statutory agencies.

The core income has totalled £283,074. Hull City Council Local Authority contributions equate to 61% of the total input, ICB contribute 30% and Humberside Police 9%.

The contributions have primarily financed staffing costs (HSCP Manager, HSCP Senior Safeguarding Officer, HSCP Business Support Co-ordinator, HSCP Service Support Officer and two HSCP Training Officers, HSCP Independent Chair/ Independent Scrutineer activity) and learning events.

Contributor	Value of Contribution 24/25
Local Authority	£172,074
Humberside Police	£26,000
ICB	£85,000

Throughout the 2024–2025 reporting period, the HSCP Executive Board has consistently held quorate bi-monthly meetings, chaired by the HSCP Independent Scrutineer, reflecting a strong and sustained commitment to safeguarding children across Hull. Additional in-person strategic planning sessions have further reinforced this collaborative approach.

During a joint lead safeguarding partner and delegated safeguarding partner meeting, the decision was made for the HSCP Independent Scrutineer to continue to chair the HSCP Executive Board due to the previous proven effectiveness of this. Key advantages have included ensuring objectivity at all times in relation to decision making to prevent any institutional bias, statutory partners having been able to have equitable input during meetings and enabling executive leads to be fully engaged in discussions, including focusing on individual agency risks.

Transparent records of each meeting are clearly kept though minutes, an action tracker and risk register.

The 2023/2025 HSCP Business Plan describes the activities and outcomes which the HSCP has delivered against, relating to our identified priorities. The plan includes clear timescales and measures of success and progress, including how updates from Working Together 2023 will be considered and embedded in Hull. Under revised governance arrangements for this reporting period there is a dedicated subgroup for each priority area to deliver identified objectives. HSCP priorities were collectively decided and agreed by HSCP Executive leads, demonstrating shared accountability and vision. Actions within the HSCP Business Plan are referenced in quarterly subgroup chair reports to ensure progress is consistently reviewed by the HSCP Executive Board.

The HSCP Business Unit undertakes the role of managing and supporting the function and arrangements of the partnership.

During this period, the unit comprised of a HSCP Manager, a Senior Safeguarding Officer, a Business Support Coordinator and a Service Support Coordinator. Staffing arrangements have remained stable and consistent over this yearly reporting period, with strong working relationships supporting the volume of activity which takes place under the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership, and cross-partnership activity.



Towards the latter end of this reporting period, the HSCP Manager post evolved into a Head of Safeguarding Partnerships post due to a shared vision to enhance alignment between children and adult safeguarding partnerships, promoting a more cohesive, family-focused approach.

Under the current arrangements, subgroups are in place which drive forward the agreed priorities of the HSCP. Statutory safeguarding partners take a shared responsibility in chairing the subgroup meetings which enables joint working and ownership in relation to areas of focus. These groups benefit from stable leadership and focus on early help, prevention, and family support, in line with national safeguarding reforms.

Subgroups demonstrate excellent multi-agency representation from all relevant agencies, including voluntary and community sectors, housing, police, probation, children's social care, health, and education. There is consistently strong engagement and tangible contributions from all partners.

Operational groups underpin the strategic infrastructure, reporting into relevant subgroups. These include the Front-door Operational Management Group and the Operational Contextual Safeguarding Group. The operational groups are attended by practitioners who support with developing and driving forward identified areas to support practice, including co-ordinating training and tools to support practitioners, and contributing to audit activity.

The HSCP Strategic Delivery Group meets bimonthly, providing a forum for subgroup chairs to share updates, align approaches, and address emerging themes. Subgroup chairs report quarterly to the Executive Board, offering assurance, maintaining a relational approach and facilitating timely resolution of any barriers.



Excellent interface also exists between other boards with co-located arrangements in place to enable strong cross-system collaboration. Daily joint working takes place across the Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board, the Hull Community Safety Partnership and the Health and Wellbeing Board. This integrated approach has been further strengthened through joined-up leadership and shared strategic activity.

To further enhance relationships and accountability, Partner and Relevant Agency Meetings (PRAM) continue to be convened on a quarterly basis. These provide an opportunity for engagement with all relevant agencies to share updates relating to safeguarding activity across the partnership and to facilitate open discussion around what is working well and how to further improve engagement and progress. Feedback from agencies demonstrates improved joint working, and partners feeling that they are valued and integral to the work taking place across the partnership.

Areas of focus at PRAM for this reporting period have included learning from our S11 audit activity, collaboratively developing our approach in response to national guidance (including Working Together 23), a focus on LADO activity and presentations linked to housing provisions to meet the needs of children and families in Hull. Relevant agencies have provided feedback that they find these to be useful and informative events, providing an opportunity to network and formulate new links to support our safeguarding response to children.



**Partnership Relevant Agency Meeting** 

#### During the 2024/2025 reporting period-

- 9 HSCP Executive Board Meetings held with consistent attendance from all executive leads.
- **38+** Multi-Agency HSCP Strategic/ Operational Subgroups held to drive forward activity.
- Additional multi-agency meetings attended by the HSCP Business Unit, outside of the immediate HSCP governance structure, to contribute to work driving forward a whole family approach to safeguarding across the system i.e. Thrive Board, Hull Modern Slavery Strategic Prevention Group, Hull Multi-Agency PREVENT Board, Hull Domestic Abuse Board, VAWG IAG and forums.

#### Independence, Scrutiny and Assurance

The Hull Safeguarding Children
Partnership arrangements are
independently reviewed to assess the
effectiveness of delivery against our
priorities. The independent scrutiny
arrangements provide safeguarding
partners and relevant agencies with
independent, rigorous, effective
support and challenge. This is at both
a strategic and operational level. This
arrangement drives continuous
improvement and provides assurance
that arrangements are working
effectively.

In accordance with Working Together 2023, the Hull Safeguarding Partnership Independent Chair's role has evolved to the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership Scrutineer. The Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership Scrutineer is an asset to HSCP arrangements, having been involved with the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership arrangements since December 2020 therefore having a good knowledge of the local area, with an ability to recognise good practice and hold agencies to account when practice and systems fall short of expectations.

The HSCP Independent Scrutineer works closely and effectively with the Head of Safeguarding Partnerships to support the functioning of the HSCP Executive Board, and associated governance arrangements, including providing independent oversight to support with resolutions when potential professional differences may arise and providing a scrutiny function in terms of local learning reviews.

There is the added benefit of the same Independent Scrutineer role being mirrored within adult safeguarding arrangements which support system wide practice improvements and enables the opportunity to draw on experiences from outside the HSCP.

Examples of scrutineer activity for this reporting period has included oversight of the HSCP quality assurance delivery, including attendance at rapid reviews, local child safeguarding practice reviews, line of sight audit activity, partnership meetings (including those with a focus on domestic abuse) and auditing activity relating to the HSCP priorities.

The HSCP Independent Scrutineer has also undertaken scrutiny activity in relation to contextual safeguarding with findings including effective information sharing being used to support planning for children, and good examples of relational and restorative practice, informed by children and families . Areas for further strengthening included the interface with adults services for children post 16, for example, consideration being given to how the Mental Capacity Act and Court Orders (DOLS) are utilised when a young person is approaching adulthood. These areas have been incorporated within 2025 learning activity.

Hull City Council elected members have regular oversight of activity, with elected members of the Children's, Young People, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Commission being updated in relation to key priority areas of the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership, for example briefings provided in relation to contextual safeguarding, domestic abuse and HSCP annual reporting.



# **Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership Quality Assurance Activity**

Continuous and impactful learning from quality assurance activity has remained a key priority for the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership. We have continued to promote agile and responsive learning through mechanisms including audits, reviews, training and sharing local and national resources.

We are committed to having a continued focus on always seeking to reflect on practice to understand how effective our work has been in improving outcomes to keep children safe from harm. In addition to the `deep dive' auditing activity which is undertaken through our `line of sight' learning activity, we undertake additional multi-agency auditing activity with a focus on our key priorities.

Multi-agency audits are facilitated through the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership Business Unit with examples during this reporting period including a focus on multi-agency responses to neglect and domestic abuse. The audit topics align with the HSCP priorities and any areas of emerging need.

The outcome of audits support with informing future areas of focus for the HSCP including ensuring our learning, guidance and information sharing is responsive and accessible to meet the needs of all those with involvement in safeguarding children.

We adopt a shared approach to revising multiagency policies and guidance to ensure agency consistency, and to encapsulate shared skills and knowledge from across the partnership. This promotes a collaborative ethos of `working together'.

Examples from this reporting period include the development of the HSCP Threshold of Need Guidance and updated guidance relating to bruising and injury to non-mobile infants.

HSCP has effective interfaces with other partnerships in Hull in relation to cross-cutting themes for learning, including CDOP and Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARS).

Audit activity has also highlighted the need for timely and effective resolution of professional disagreements with a focus on a whole family approach resulting in an update to the HSCP Professional Resolution Practice Guidance to encompass colleagues who work under the Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board (inclusive of a neighbouring authority). This has ensured consistent escalation processes are in place for addressing professional differences in a timely manner for children and families, including cross area boundaries. There is evidence that this is effectively used widely across the HSCP.

Impact from quality assurance activity has been evidenced through audits, reviews and daily interactions with safeguarding professionals and members of the public, demonstrating good awareness of guidance and learning and that these are being effectively utilised. Examples include learning reviews demonstrating good practice in reducing risks to pre-mobile babies through hospital staff utilising the guidance.

A HSCP multi-agency task and finish group revised the HSCP Threshold Guidance, as per working together (2023). The guidance sets the shared vision of 'Right Support, Right Time, Right Place'. As part of the launch, interactive training sessions have been created and delivered to over 600 partners across the partnership including to local authority, health colleagues, the education and VCSE sectors and to Humberside Police senior leaders.

Feedback has included -

The session has really supported my professional development"

Social work student Hull University

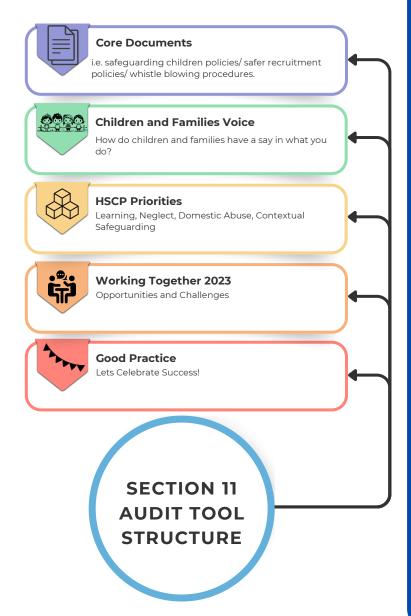
"Great session, it was very interesting and engaging loved it"

0-19 Service Humber

#### **Section 11 Audit Activity**

Working Together 2023 reiterates the duty on safeguarding children partnerships to assess whether organisations are meeting their statutory obligations to safeguard children, as described under Section 11 of the Children Act 2004.

During this reporting period the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership gathered information to evidence compliance through self-assessment auditing activity to assess and understand the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements. The audit was developed with relevant agencies to ensure that this was an accessible and helpful tool.



Responses were received from 31 organisations, representative of all relevant agencies across the partnership.

#### Key highlights from the audit included

- 93% of agencies had updated policies and procedures in place relating to safeguarding children (the remaining 7% needed to update their procedures).
- 100% of organisations reported that they
  would be confident in knowing how to make a
  referral to Hull Children's Services EHASH if
  they were worried about the safety of a child.
  They also reported confidence in how to
  escalate concerns, if required.
- 90% of organisations have in place safer recruitment and selection policies (areas for improvement related to staff waiting to attend safer recruitment training and clarification in relation to whether DBS checks were required).
- 96.7% of organisations ensure staff have access to safeguarding training and compliance is tracked.
- 93% of organisations stated that there are
  policies in place that include reference to the
  importance of listening to children, parents/
  carers, family networks and taking account of
  their wishes and feelings and lived
  experiences.
- 90% of organisations stated that their organisation has systems and processes in place to both safeguard and improve services for minority communities.
- 96.7% have an awareness and understanding of the specific vulnerabilities of individuals in certain groups e.g. SEND.
- 86.7% of organisations had indicated that they
  are linked in with the HSCP arrangements.
  Responses included that agencies are invited
  to subgroup meetings, included in specific
  task and finish groups i.e. Threshold meetings
  and part of the HSCP distribution list to
  receive updates and newsletters.
- 82.8% of organisations ensure that learning from reviews is cascaded, and learning is shared within various forums such as staff meetings i.e. stop the clock or SAFE meetings or utilised within supervision. Whilst learning is shared the written narrative was limited in terms of the impact this has on improving safeguarding practices.
- 90% of organisations stated that the workforce can recognise the impact of domestic abuse on children and respond effectively.



The learning gained through the Section 11 audit has been used by colleagues in HSCP and the Learning and Development Team to inform priority areas of focus and the review of the training and development resources available to partners during the next reporting year.

"Clinical record templates have been reviewed to allow staff to demonstrate that the voice of the child and the parents / carers have been considered as part of health assessments."

City Healthcare Partnership

"We work with organisations that work specifically with minority groups and would seek support from them when necessary."

**Hessle Road Network** 

"Staff receive a wide range of training to ensure they have the skills and knowledge to support families with SEND".

Hull City Council - Early Help Services

"There is a strong push for the inclusion of wider family networks in practice to promote stable, loving networks and relationships for children."

**Hull City Council - Children Social Care** 

# Areas of focus following Section 11 activity included:



Ensuring all organisations have a staff supervision policy.



Evidencing the impact of learning from reviews across all organisations.



Building confidence across the partnership in relation to realising all requirements of Working Together 2023 (i.e. lead practitioner role).

#### **Celebrating Positive Practice**

As part of the revised Section 11 audit tool there was an opportunity for organisations to share good practice within their agency. Below are some examples of the good work which is being delivered across Hull to improve outcomes for children and families!

"The creation of the Vulnerability Hub has made partnership working easier. The same team is reviewing requests for information sharing and completing strategy discussions. There is a clear escalation policy for our organisation and there is cover every day of the week during core hours."

Humbe<u>rside Police</u>

"Staff spent time in building up a trusted relationship with the young person and was able to ascertain their level of understanding. Using a variety of resources the level of awareness was raised about keeping safe on-line as well as other aspects of healthy relationship."

Cornerhouse

"Hull have developed an Achieving Best Evidence workshop which features a local Judge sharing their lessons learnt in-terms of ABE and the PSW/PLs have delivered this to over 700 practitioners this year including foster carers. This was done following a line-of-sight meeting and has resulted in enhanced understanding of ABE, meaning less children are having to repeat themselves."

Children's Social Care

"Neighbourhoods and Housing received an accreditation in 2019 from Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance, we then received the enhanced domestic abuse accreditation in 2022 which is the benchmark of how housing providers respond to domestic abuse...A key element to this accreditation is having clear and succinct Safeguarding Policies and Procedures in place for children and adults. A further review is taking place this year, with the hope to continue to achieve an enhanced accreditation for 2025."

**Hull City Council - Housing Services** 

"L has developed coping mechanisms to effectively manage any issues she is facing within school which has reduced her feelings of anxiety. In turn, her school attendance has improved as has her attitude within the school setting and her engagement within lessons. School staff have commented that the 121 support has had a significant impact on L's behaviour and her school achievements. We are now supporting L as she transitions into further education and have attended college open days with her as well as supporting her to complete college and job applications and providing her with a character reference."

Hessle Road Network

"Specialist pregnant service user pathway incorporating enhanced 0-19 family pathway and 1001-day principles in conjunction with specialist midwives and health visitors and local authority VPG meetings. Joint appointments between service user and health professionals are encouraged within children's centre to provide a family focus clinic and team around the family approach regardless of threshold of need."

**RENEW** 

#### **Learning and Improvement**

Continuous learning is a fundamental aspect of our work. The HSCP continues to be committed to ensuring that a culture of continuous learning, reflection and development exists, and there is a combined recognition that learning is key to all the work undertaken across the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP).

Opportunities for learning have been further enhanced by the collaborative activity which takes place between the HSCP, Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership and the Hull Community Safety Partnership.

The `Collaborative Website' was jointly developed and launched, providing an accessible platform for members of the public and professionals to access safeguarding information.

To ensure key local and national updates are widely shared across the HSCP, regular newsletters and virtual updates (including helpful resources and events to support safeguarding work, national key messages, campaigns, tools and learning) are shared through HSCP, reaching a wide audience across voluntary and statutory agencies.



During this reporting period over 8,900 practitioners have engaged in HSCP training via a range of approaches including in person training, virtual and e-learning.

Throughout 24/25, over 8,900 practitioners engaged in HSCP training via classroom, virtual, and e-learning formats. Topics included private fostering, substance misuse, Channel and Prevent awareness, domestic abuse, safeguarding adults and children, and Signs of Safety. Additionally, HSCP delivered targeted safeguarding training to over 300 Humberside Police Officers, informed by local and national learning. More than 400 practitioners attended HSCP webinars and workshops covering Working Together 2023, Female Genital Mutilation, and Bruising and Injury to Non-Mobile Babies, with learning reviews evidencing positive impacts on practice.

**Hull Collaborative Partnership Website** 









# Learning from the experiences of children and families

Demonstrating the impact of learning from serious incidents remains fundamental in continually striving to make a tangible difference to practice, and most importantly, improving outcomes for children.

Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership recognise that a continued focus on learning from the experiences of children, and their families, provides an opportunity to reflectively discuss good practice and areas for improvement, which will ultimately make a positive difference to the way we support children, young people and their families.

There is a clear referral pathway for agencies to refer to the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership when it is identified that a multi-agency review may be helpful to respond to wider partnership learning linked to child safeguarding. Monthly Learning from Individual Cases Panel Meetings are held, with representation from all statutory agencies.

The panel considers all referrals made for learning reviews, and referrers attend the meeting to ensure a collaborative and reflective approach as to how to progress learning most effectively.

A case specific, nuanced approach is taken, with outcomes including reflective learning events or agency specific audits with key learning actions then shared within the wider subgroup.

When criteria are not met for a potential Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review, our arrangements for local multi-agency learning continue to be held through `Line of Sight' meetings.

These are a regular feature of assurance activity and are equitable to a `deep dive audit' (through individual agency pre-analysis and impact chronologies), followed by multi-agency reflective discussion and shared identification of learning, research and resources to support future practice. Key messages are disseminated widely across the partnerships, through 7-minute guides and short briefings in the form of a Power-Point.



These are all accessible through the HSCP website and shared through presentations delivered at subgroups and other partnership forums.

The HSCP Learning from Individual Cases subgroup (LFICG) continues to form part of the HSCP's framework for learning and improvement and is held bi-monthly with consistently good multi-agency representation and engagement. The core agenda includes sectors providing updates, and highlighting relevant emerging themes, to inform planning for safeguarding children across the system.

Examples include six monthly presentations delivered by LADO to highlight general thematic findings and case specific practice to support wider practice improvement. As a result of this input into the LFICG, there has been the development of the multi-agency guidance on practice response and consideration for non-therapeutic male circumcision.

During this reporting period, 13 learning events were held, including two Rapid Review meetings.

The Rapid reviews related to a serious incident involving a stabbing and a young person who died by suicide, both of which led to in-person multiagency learning sessions. Additionally, nine 'line of sight' meetings have taken place with key learning themes leading to strengthening approaches to effective information sharing, early identification of neglect, risks outside the home, responses to bruising in non-mobile infants, threshold application, and professional curiosity.

The `Line of Sight' process is proving to be agile and responsive, and directly involves practitioners in the learning process. Feedback from partners across the partnership has been very positive in terms of practitioners and agencies feeling that this is a supportive and impactful process for learning, which has positively impacted on practice. An example of this is during a recent webinar conversation evoked curiosity and led to appropriate partnership action and correct threshold applied for support for a family.

This model has now been recognised as good practice across Hull and has been emulated across other partnerships, including the Safeguarding Adults Board.

Positive feedback from partner agencies highlights the value of reviews in strengthening safeguarding responses by identifying key learning themes and providing relevant research and resources to support practice improvements. Notably, neglect briefings delivered to housing colleagues raised awareness of the HSCP neglect toolkit, leading to its use by a housing tenancy officer who subsequently contributed to multiagency safeguarding actions and shared their experience at the HSCP neglect subgroup, demonstrating effective cross-agency collaboration and impact on practice which included the correct intervention and support from agencies.

Joint learning has also taken place through Learning from the Lives and Deaths of People with a Learning Disability and Autistic People (LeDeR) reviews and the Child Death Review (CDR) processes, with a collaborative approach between HSCP and CDR systems supporting broader system-wide learning.

There are strong links with the Hull Children's Voice and Influence Group, who are attendees at HSCP meetings and events, and provide regular feedback from children and young people. This provides a good interface and connection between the HSCP and the work which is already underway in Hull to enable children and families to talk about their experiences to ensure that these are acted upon and understood in a meaningful way.

Placing children and families at the heart of all HSCP activity remains a core principle, exemplified through active participation in a Home Start dads' event, where the Senior Safeguarding Officer facilitated engagement with fathers and children to explore what matters most to them.

Children said "me and my dad have lots of fun" and "he gives me big hugs and he loves me".

One father reflected "don't speak about dads differently to how you speak about mums"



This work reflects a key learning theme from recent reviews—ensuring fathers, male carers, and partners are meaningfully included in interventions and their voices heard. Feedback from children and fathers underscored the value of inclusive practice, which has since informed the development of a Dads Champion Network led by the VCSE sector.

The Hull Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) is a strategic five-year initiative, co-produced with children, young people, Hull City Council, and partner agencies, to improve outcomes for young people across the city.

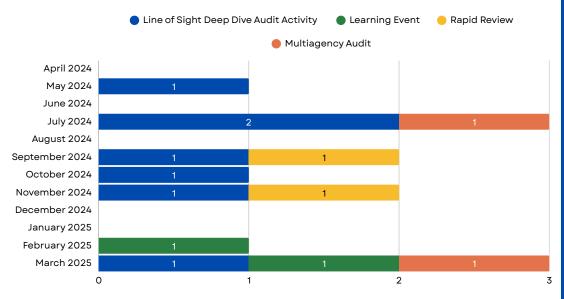
Developed through extensive consultation—including city-wide surveys with over 9,000 young people, workshops, and engagement with youth representatives—the plan reflects a shared vision and deep understanding of local needs. It aligns with Hull's Community Plan and incorporates insights from programmes like Families First and Child Friendly Hull.

Feedback from wider community engagement has highlighted the need for greater inclusivity across all communities in Hull, reinforcing the importance of ensuring that HSCP activity is responsive to the city's diverse cultural needs and lived experiences.



#### **Learning Data**

Number of Quality Assurance Events held by HSCP during 24/25



# LEARNING THEMES FROM ACTIVITY HAS INCLUDED



"Not only has the Line-of-Sight meeting provided a great opportunity for multi-agency reflection, facilitated in a supportive and engaging way, it has also resulted in rich learning and actions which will help to improve practice in the future".

**Quote from Consultant Paediatrician (Hull Royal Infirmary)** 



#### **Audit Activity**

The scope of activity has been varied including joined up activity with LeDeR Reviews and child death reviews



#### **Mental Health**

Mental health was an identified learning theme in 19% of learning undertaken. 50% of this relating to children over the age of 15.



#### **Neglect**

Neglect was an identified learning theme in 14% of learning undertaken. 60% of this relating to children under the age of 10.



#### **Partner Engagement**

A total of 24 different partner agencies have been involved with learning undertaken by the partnership.

### **Learning Delivered**

As part of Child Safeguarding Week 2024, the HSCP jointly coordinated learning events alongside a neighbouring safeguarding children partnership, to take place which specifically related to learning identified within the reviews where there has been bruising and injury to non-mobile infants. The theme for the week was the vulnerability of babies and a multi-agency approach was taken to the delivery of learning which included webinars on the HSCP policy on bruising and injuries to non-mobile infants, ICON and safer sleep. The below infographic highlights the number of attendees including feedback received from the event.



**HSCP `Together We Can Conference - January 2025** 

During this reporting period, the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership have continued to evidence progress in collaboratively implementing Working Together 2023 arrangements and the national reforms relating to child safeguarding. Presentations and briefings were delivered to over 20 different cohorts and agencies relating to the key themes and principles relating to Working Together 2023.

This work was complimented and strengthened during January 2025, when the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership had the privilege to host the 'Working Together 'Together We Can" conference at The University of Hull. The Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership Lead Safeguarding Partners and Delegated Safeguarding Partners attended the conference and played an integral role, alongside over 170 colleagues who attended from across the partnership. The day was filled with opportunities to network, reflect on multi-agency safeguarding arrangements across Hull and celebrate the positive partnership work which we have in place.



99% of attendees who provided feedback in relation to the conference stated that they had found the event useful. Attendees noted the conference provided an opportunity to network with colleagues across the partnership, develop new knowledge, share views, develop thinking, and raise awareness of local services and resources.

"A really good day at the Hull Safeguarding Children
Partnership Working Together Conference. Some
informative speakers and a great energy in the room
from multi-agency colleagues"

Detective Chief Superintendent - Humberside Police

"It was a great day yesterday..well planned and thought out by the team...great participation and a buzz in the room all day"

National Policing Coordinator - Local Child Safeguarding Arrangements

"Fantastic day with lots of discussion, reflection and thoughts" Group Manager – Hull Children and Families Service.

"A brilliant day with safeguarding colleagues....privilege to be able to speak about the transformative impact which the education settings have on keeping children safe and changing children's lives forever"

Strategic Safeguarding and Risk Management Lead – Humber Education Trust During the conference there was a key focus on the role of education in safeguarding children, with sessions led by the National Safeguarding Partner Facilitator Education Lead (John Le Fevre) and a Strategic Safeguarding and Risk Management Lead, from the Humber Education

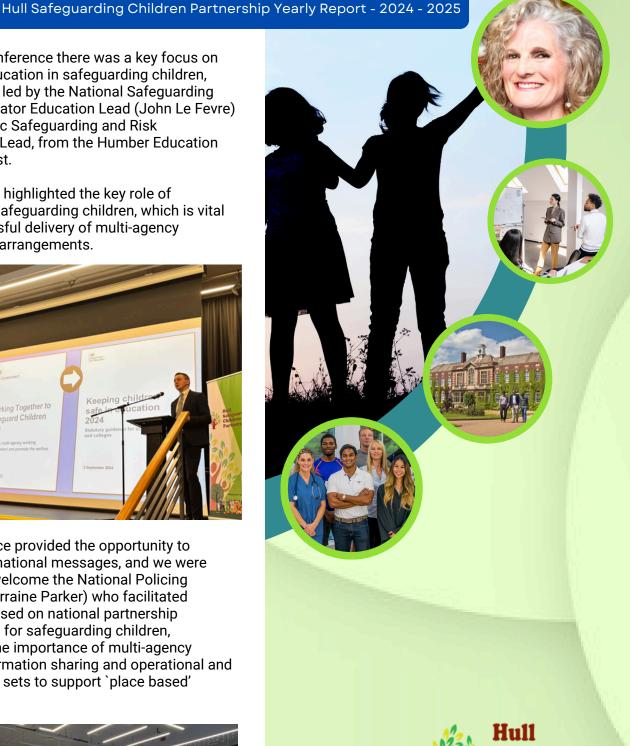
Academy Trust.

Presentations highlighted the key role of education in safeguarding children, which is vital to the successful delivery of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.



The conference provided the opportunity to consider key national messages, and we were delighted to welcome the National Policing Facilitator (Lorraine Parker) who facilitated sessions focused on national partnership arrangements for safeguarding children, highlighting the importance of multi-agency working, information sharing and operational and strategic data sets to support 'place based' activity.







## **WORKING TOGETHER** CONFERENCE

**'TOGETHER WE CAN'** 

23rd January 2025

The Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) actively promotes awareness of current and emerging safeguarding issues throughout the year, supporting preventative action and resource utilisation in relation to abuse and neglect. In addition to its established subgroups, HSCP engages with wider forums and external workstreams to ensure a collaborative, system-wide approach to safeguarding, examples are detailed below



The Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) also contributed to the first joint learning conference focused on `professional curiosity' involving key partners from three multi-agency boards, fostering cross-sector collaboration and shared learning. The event emphasized the importance of professionals being continually curious—a core theme across both child and adult safeguarding reviews—and its role in enhancing understanding and improving outcomes for children, adults, and families. Feedback from the 50 attendees reflected the event's emotional impact and practical relevance, with comments highlighting deep reflection and renewed commitment to safeguarding practice.

"Fabulous speakers who really spoke with passion and honesty which enabled reflection and deep thinking in both areas of how I can now live this into my day-today practice"

**Social Worker Hull City Council** 

"A really remarkable day. A rollercoaster of emotions and a reminder of why I became a nurse"

CHCP nurse practitioner.

As part of Child Safeguarding Week 2024, HSCP co-hosted events with a neighbouring authority focused on the vulnerability of babies, particularly in relation to bruising and injury in non-mobile infants. The multi-agency programme included webinars on HSCP policy, ICON, and safer sleep, with strong attendance and positive feedback captured in the accompanying infographic-



Following the implementation of the revised policy on bruising and injury in non-mobile infants, the Senior Safeguarding Officer (HSCP) delivered training to over 100 health professionals on the updated policy and referral pathway. This engagement has subsequently led to the HSCP's active participation in the Accident and Prevention Steering Group.

# HSCP Training and Development delivered 2024/2025

The Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership has continued to deliver a portfolio of training, consisting of classroom-based face to face training, in person online training and e-learning. Training delivered has incorporated both local and national learning.

- 9 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS HAVE BEEN HELD WITH CONSISTENT ATTENDANCE FROM STATUTORY PARTNERS
- 15 LEARNING REVIEWS AND MULTI-AGENCY AUDITS UNDERTAKEN
- 32+ PARTNERSHIP SUBGROUP MEETINGS HAVE BEEN HELD
- 280+ PRACTITIONERS ACROSS THE PARTNERSHIP ATTENDED TWO CONFERENCES HELD BY THE HSCP.

PARTNERS HAVE ATTENDED WEBINARS AND ON-LINE

- WORKSHOPS DELIVERED BY HSCP WITH SUBJECT AREAS INCLUDING WORKING TOGETHER 2023, FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION, HONOR BASED ABUSE AND BRUISING AND INJURY TO NON-MOBILE BABIES.
- 620+ PRACTITIONERS HAVE ATTENDED THRESHOLD GUIDANCE TRAINING
- 700+ PRACTITIONERS HAVE RECEIVED HSCP PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTERS
- 3449 PRACTITIONERS ATTENDED SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY
- PARTNERS HAVE ATTENDED HSCP TRAINING (CLASSROOM, VIRTUAL AND ELEARNING) WITH SUBJECT AREAS INCLUDING PRIVATE FOSTERING, PARENTAL SUBSTANCE MISUSE, SAFEGUARDING ADULTS AND CHILDREN, CHANNEL AND PREVENT AWARENESS, AND SIGNS OF SAFETY TRAINING.



### **Section 4: Additional Information**

# Hull Safeguarding Child Partnership - 2024/2025 priority areas of focus



Priorities for the 2024/2025 reporting period were collaboratively agreed by executive leads as key areas of focus for the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) -

- Neglect
- Contextual Safeguarding
- Multi-Agency Arrangements
- Domestic Abuse

All partnership activity is underpinned by a shared vision that it is the right of every child to enjoy a healthy and happy childhood, growing up feeling safe from abuse or neglect, and thriving in an environment that enables them to fulfil their potential.

These priorities reflect a collective commitment to improving outcomes for children and families across Hull through coordinated, multi-agency safeguarding efforts and continual learning.

### **Priority 1 - Neglect**

"HSCP will ensure that there is a clearly embedded multi-agency response to children experiencing neglect. Practitioners across all agencies will be supported to identify neglect, understand the impact on children and respond to this at the earliest opportunity".

Support for babies, children and young people who experience neglect has remained a priority for Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership. The HSCP Neglect Subgroup is now well established as part of the HSCP structure. For the majority of the reporting period, the neglect subgroup has continued to be co-chaired by the Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children (NHS HNY ICB) and the Hull Early Help Integrated Services Manager.

The group meets bimonthly and has seen sustained improvements in terms of consistency of multi-agency representation and engagement, which includes VCSE, health, education, drug and alcohol services, Children's Social Care, Probation Service Yorkshire and Humber, Humberside Fire and Rescue, Local Authority Housing and Humberside Police.



The subgroup has had a clear focus on identifying and responding to neglect at the earliest opportunity, including driving the use of the HSCP Neglect Practice Guidance and Neglect Toolkit to evidence multi-agency observations of neglect.

These are widely publicised, and the refreshed webpages on the Collaborative Website contain all the information and relevant links practitioners need to access the training, tools and materials to support children who experience neglect.

#### Neglect - Hull Collaborative Partnership

HSCP have a varying range of accessible training including in person training, two hour partnership workshops, and eLearning. The HSCP Senior Safeguarding Officer and HSCP trainer delivered two 'lunch and learn' sessions with over 180+ attendees from across the partnership and additional training has taken place throughout the year by the HSCP and Hull Social Work Academy.

There has been a focus on the health needs of babies, children and young people in the context of neglect, with a particular focus on dental health in the context of community of Hull. Presentations from colleagues at the Anlaby Suite, Public Health teams and Community Dentistry have elicited discussions amongst members about how the relevant partners may work together to intervene earlier.



Members have also considered the findings of the NCMD Report: Child Deaths due to Asthma or Anaphylaxis in terms of the elements of this report that interface with safeguarding and the links to neglect.

Educational neglect has been a focus area with work underway to review the HSCP Neglect Practice Guidance to strengthen the elements related to education and educational neglect. There is also work ongoing to explore opportunities to strengthen the interface between the Attend Framework which is used by schools across Hull.

#### Subgroup Chairs reflections -

Focus on Children's Social Care - during this reporting year there has been brilliant insight into practitioners experiences of using the HSCP Neglect toolkit to support effective multi-agency working and understanding of the lived experiences of children. Perhaps what was most impactful, was the feedback about how useful the tool had been to enable a multi-agency core group of professionals to gain an understanding of a child's life by completing the tool with the family themselves. We heard how it had enabled rich, robust reflection amongst professionals involved. This enabled healthy challenge and review, all of which led to an enhanced confidence in the outcome of the assessment to which the toolkit contributed. Work continues through the HSCP, supported by the Social Work Academy and through training delivered by other partner agencies, to cascade this learning across teams and continue to share and learn from the experience of others using the resources in real life.

Focus on Housing - members have reflected on the unique insight housing officers have into areas of the home and family life that other professionals may not routinely see. Members have subsequently met outside of the subgroup meeting to review options to strengthen the connections with the housing team at the point of contacts made into EHaSH, including amending templates used to systematically identify if the family are known to live in a Hull CC property, and therefore prompt consideration of

reciprocal sharing of information with the housing team as part of core practice. The subgroup has also considered the findings of the All Party.

Parliamentary Group Report Child Mortality in Temporary Accommodation, in the context of babies, children and their families living in temporary accommodation in Hull.

Quality assurance activity has included the S11 audit, neglect themed Line of Sight events and neglect focused multi-agency audit activity. All of this work has provided evidence of the progress being made in terms of increased awareness and understanding of neglect across the HSCP, whilst also providing greater clarity about the areas of work still needing to be achieved.

#### **HSCP Line of Sight Neglect**



Work is currently taking place to develop a core minimum partnership data set to support a multiagency data dashboard. While evidence based on individual agency feedback suggests increased use of the HSCP Neglect Toolkit, data validity needs further strengthening. Expanding toolkit usage across the system remains a priority and will be a continued focus for the HSCP throughout 2025/26, including ensuring the neglect tool is used at key decision-making points in multiagency safeguarding processes (e.g. during early help support, referral, assessment and Child Protection Conferences)



### **Priority 2 - Contextual Safeguarding**

"The HSCP will work with all partner agencies to identify and reduce the number of children affected by exploitation. The focus will be on ensuring a good understanding across the partnership of the complex and inter-related issues associated with child exploitation to enable support and intervention to take place at the earliest opportunity to reduce risk."

**The Contextual Safeguarding Strategic** Sub-Group has continued to consistently drive forward our partnership wide response to tackling child exploitation in Hull, co-chaired by **Hull City Council Strategic Lead for** Early Help and Prevention and **Humberside Police, Detective** Superintendent Northbank Command **Criminal Investigation Lead.** Accountability across the partnership is strong and all partners work together to tackle exploitation and support children, with partners delivering some key innovations and changes which are outlined below.

The sub-group includes representation from education, police, probation, social care, health, voluntary and community sector (VCS), parks and leisure services, housing and statutory agencies.

A multi-agency operational group supports the work of the sub-group, chaired by Humberside Police and Children's Social Care, with a particular focus on training and community engagement. Strong links also exist into all relevant multi-agency partnership arrangements, for example the Humber Violence Prevention Partnership and Youth Justice agendas.

This year the group reviewed the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) panel, Youth Justice Risk Management Panel and NRM panel. This was driven by recognition that the same children were being discussed in all three multi-agency panels, with a risk of information and actions slipping through the net and the need for a more joined up approach.

The result of the review has tested out 'MAYVE' a new 'Multi-Agency Youth Violence and Exploitation' panel which draws together the three former panels, reviewing policies and procedures to ensure Hull fully meets the expectations and requirements of the Serious Violence Duty and Working Together 23 statutory guidance. The monthly meetings facilitate statutory multi-agency collaboration and offer a co-ordinated approach to risk assessment, risk management and action planning. The child is discussed in the presence of all relevant agencies only once, preventing duplication and enabling effective information sharing. It offers a clear process and purpose for all staff that is simple and uncomplicated.

In response to tackling serious and organised crime, Humberside Police have launched the "Kinetic strategy". Kinetic is a partnership effort, with many teams playing a vital role in ensuring we make our area a hostile place for anyone intending to cause fear or harm.



The Kinetic Intervention Team are part of the Serious Organised Crime (SOC) team and are the reactive arm of the police used to support commands, teams, and partners force wide, and cross-border to tackle those responsible for crime.

This is carried out by targeting organised crime groups, drugs activity and high risk of harm offenders.

The team includes very highly trained officers with a specialist skill set, including method of entry, Taser, Police Support Unit (PSU) and licensed search officers.

Their daily activities include execution of rapid entry warrants, locating and arresting suspects, and searching locations, vehicles, and premises for evidence. In addition to this, they also coordinate searches to locate high risk missing people, provide support at public events, football matches and protests and ensure they have high visibility patrols in hot spot crime areas.

### Read more: Who are the Kinetic Intervention Team?

Coordinated Kinetic Gold, Silver and Bronze partnership meetings are held to deliver Hull's response to tackling serious and organised crime.

Both MAYVE and Kinetic are standing items which report into the Contextualised Safeguarding Strategic Group, ensuring ownership and transparency of the work being done across the partnership.

The Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership Contextual Safeguarding Strategy is now in its second year and the work of the HSCP partnership groups clearly links to the priorities outlined in this strategy.



<u>Contextual Safeguarding Strategy 2023 - 2026</u> (<u>hullcollaborativepartnership.org.uk</u>)

	Year 1
	(over a year)
Young Women and Girls (YWG) overall supported	55
How many (YWG) has had an increase of safety	55
Reduction in gang related harm	39
Safer peer network	36
Improved relationship with trusted adult	55
Missing	48
Not reported missing after intervention	33
Completed Missing No More programme (MNM)	9
Not reported missing after MNM	8
Group work	410
Professionals trained	290

#### VEMT - 2024/2025

Prevention and early intervention are at the forefront of our approach, with a strong early help and youth offer providing diversionary activities and support for young people in the community. Examples include the successful Healthy Holidays Programme which continues to reach more children and families in 2024.

Hull has a strong youth offer across the city with a range of youth settings and an outreach service delivered by local VCS partners (Cornerhouse and The Warren) which links into our Vulnerable Exploited, Missing and Trafficked Team (VEMT) and Neighbourhood Policing Teams ensuring we are using intelligence to be in those places in local communities where young people need support to prevent exploitation and support young people into more positive activities in the community. The Integrated Care Board, through the Health Inequalities funding has supported provision of a Parenting Worker in Cornerhouse to work alongside their targeted outreach and prevention programme Flipside, supporting parents to understand their role in preventing and tackling exploitation.

The Vulnerable, Exploited, Missing & Trafficked Team (VEMT) hold daily missing meetings with the police and the East Riding County Council 'Making a Change' team, to consider children who are missing, share information, identify areas of concern, and agree actions to increase safety. Regular bi-monthly meetings take place across the local authorities within the Humberside Police area to discuss trends, concerns and share best practice.

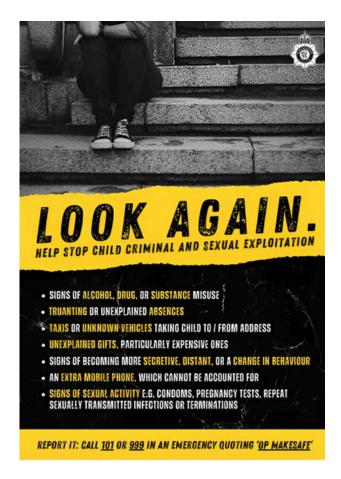
The volume of missing episodes fluctuate month on month, and there are patterns of increase / decrease which correlate to different times of the year such as summer holidays and winter months. The service strives to meet up with every child who has had a missing episode. Overall, the number of reported missing episodes are reducing. The service is aware of specific groups of young people in the city who are frequently missing from home or care settings, and the team is proactive in supporting wider agencies in managing and reducing risk for these children. VEMT are actively involved in several risk management meetings in relation to frequently missing young people, to provide support and guidance and direct intervention where possible.

VEMT work closely with children's homes to ensure that return home interviews (RHIs) are offered promptly so that the child's safety plan can be reviewed and strengthened. Every child and young person who participates in a RHI receive a follow up call after 2-3 weeks to offer them the opportunity to provide feedback on the services they received from the VEMT Team. The team offers each primary school a visit to talk about going missing, the risks and how to keep safe. They also discuss exploitation in an age-appropriate context. The children are consistently engaged in this and work hard to learn about how to keep themselves safe.

During March 25, Humberside Police launched "Operation Makesafe", focused on the 'Look Again' child sexual and criminal exploitation campaign to align with Child Exploitation Awareness Day and the national initiative Operation Makesafe.

The campaign is focused around getting members of the public and local businesses to 'Look again' at some situations which, at first glance, may appear to be completely normal.

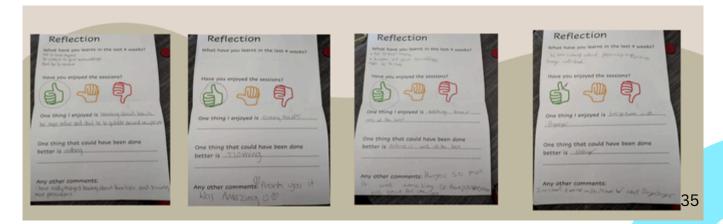
The Campaign asks the public "Do you notice something about someone's relationship that might be unhealthy or inappropriate? Does someone appear to be acting more distant and showing signs of being controlled? Do you see the same group of teenagers regularly going missing or skipping school?



Humberside Police aligned the campaign with the national Operation Makesafe to focus on supporting awareness of specific business sectors (including hotels, public houses and takeaways) in recognising early warning signs of child exploitation and responding to this. The HSCP provide safeguarding training to all taxi drivers who are licensed in Hull

Local prevention campaigns, led by the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner have also provided a wealth of resources to support young people, families and practitioners. Examples include videos led by young people, describing their lived experiences and tools which are available to support responses; lesson plans and presentations which can be used in schools and much more.

Link: <a href="https://notinourcommunity.org/">https://notinourcommunity.org/</a>



### **Priority 3 - Multi-Agency Arrangements**

"The Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership will work with all agencies to ensure that there are effective safeguarding arrangements across the system which offer effective intervention and support for children, young people and their families."

During 2024/2025, the Multi-Agency Arrangements Subgroup (MAAS) has continued to be co-chaired by the Hull City Council Assistant Director for Learning & Skills and the Hull City Council Assistant Director for Children's Safeguarding Services, reinforcing the integration of education within our safeguarding arrangements.

The Multi-Agency Arrangements Subgroup has provided a robust and responsive platform for safeguarding partners to collaborate, challenge, and drive forward practice improvement, supporting improved safeguarding practice and better outcomes for children and families across Hull.

Bi-monthly meetings have been held, and attendance has remained consistently strong, with active engagement from a broad range of agencies including education providers, health services, probation, Humberside Police, targeted and universal early help services, voluntary and community sector representatives, and Hull Children and Families Services.

Membership of the subgroup has expanded to include colleagues from post-16 education provisions and academy trusts, further embedding the role of education in safeguarding discussions and decision-making.

Sessions have evolved in response to partner feedback and quality assurance activity, with enhanced data reporting and targeted discussions around escalation points and areas for improvement.

Areas of focus have included -

- Ensuring the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding responses to concerns and referrals, via EHASH and Pitstop (Humberside Police - Partnership Integrated Triage). This has included a focus on the timeliness of strategy discussions and effectiveness of thresholds and transfer arrangements (step up and step down).
- A focus on the quality of partnership working for children with a Child Protection Plan, including multiagency attendance at child protection conferences and core group meetings, and scrutiny of repeat plans.
- Consideration of and analysis of national audits and publications, linking these to local demographics and need, to support our responses to children and families. Examples have included considering key message and patterns in practice from the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel 2024 Annual Report, and a key focus on effectively integrating 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023' into local practice, priorities and guidance.
- Oversight of the Local Authority Designated Officer function, including review of the annual report and case management processes.
- Driving forward outcomes and learning linked to audit activity undertaken though the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership, and additional multi-agency quality assurance activity.
- Emphasising the role of education in safeguarding and improving outcomes for children, with attention to attendance, exclusions, and engagement with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) network.
- Linking with relevant agencies for a collaborative approach to safeguarding children, including work undertaken through the Domestic Abuse Strategic Board and the Hull Probation Service.

<u>Panel Annual Report – published</u>
December 24

(patterns in practice, key messages and Panel work schedule and links to wider government reforms)



Examples which have contributed to improved outcomes for children and families, as well as enhanced collaboration across agencies, include -

The Early Help and Safeguarding Hub (EHASH) has continued to operate as a central point for multi-agency decision-making in relation to safeguarding children. EHASH arrangements include social workers, health colleagues, Humberside Police, Probation Service Officers, DAP, a local authority education safeguarding worker, RENEW and targeted early help colleagues, sitting alongside Hull Adults Social Care for an integrated approach to safeguarding. This co-location and shared decision-making model has strengthened the quality and timeliness of responses to concerns, particularly in cases involving complex family dynamics or overlapping vulnerabilities.

The Hull Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) is fully embedded within the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership's multi-agency safeguarding arrangements, in line with the expectations set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023. The Hull LADO contributes to relevant HSCP subgroups, ensuring that learning from allegations informs wider system improvement. In addition, the LADO has worked closely with the Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board to support the development and implementation of the PIPOT (Persons in Positions of Trust) process. This collaboration has enabled a streamlined and consistent approach to managing concerns across both children's and adults' safeguarding systems.

Audit activity conducted during the year has evidenced improved multi-agency responses to children identified as being at risk of immediate harm. There has been a notable increase in the appropriate application of thresholds and an improvement in the quality of strategy discussions, with agencies demonstrating a shared understanding of risk and a commitment to timely intervention. Data from EHASH also indicates a reduction in rereferrals, suggesting that initial responses are increasingly effective and that families are receiving the right support at the right time.

The launch of the ATTEND framework has marked a significant step forward in addressing barriers to school attendance through multiagency planning. Developed in partnership with colleagues from health, early help, and education, the framework provides a holistic assessment tool that supports coordinated interventions. The locality-based attendance model ensures that school attendance officers are supported by link workers from a range of services, with strategic oversight provided by the Senior Education Welfare Officer.









### **Priority 4 - Domestic Abuse**

"The Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership will work closely with Safer Hull (Domestic Abuse Strategic Group) to ensure that effective support and protection is provided to children, young people and their families who experience domestic abuse. The Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership will also work closely with the Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board, and all relevant agencies, to support ongoing early intervention and preventative work to raise awareness of domestic abuse."

As highlighted within national guidance and publications, domestic abuse continues to have a significant impact on children, adults and families. The prevalence of domestic abuse in Hull continues to be an area of risk for children and their family networks.

Strong and cohesive partnership links are evident in Hull, and it is recognised that a joint strategic approach to domestic abuse is key to reducing risk to children, and to support a preventative approach to reduce the prevalence of children experiencing domestic abuse.

The Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership work closely with the Community Safety Partnership to increase the effectiveness and sustained impact of services, with the aim of preventing repeat incidents of harm.

The domestic abuse arrangements for Hull are strategically driven through the Hull Domestic Abuse Strategic Board, co-ordinated through Safer Hull arrangements. The board is chaired by the Assistant Director for Community Safety, with multi-agency attendance and participation by all relevant agencies. Membership of the strategic board includes Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership, Assistant Director for Children's Services and the HSCP Independent Scrutineer.

During this reporting period, Safer Hull have commissioned a whole system independent review of domestic abuse including all relevant agencies. This has informed the Hull Domestic Abuse Strategy for 2025 – 2028, with a collaborative structure in place to oversee the implementation of the strategic priorities. Implementation groups have been established chaired by agencies across the partnerships. This approach brings together survivors with lived experience, and organisations, to collectively drive forward our response to children and adults who experience domestic abuse.

### 1. PRIORITISING PREVENTION

We will prevent domestic abuse. This means challenging harmful attitudes and behaviours through public awareness campaigns and education programmes to promote healthy relationships.

#### 4. IMPROVING SYSTEMS

We will work together as part of a coordinated community response (CCR) which supports victims, children and young people, holds perpetrators accountable, and strengthens the support available in Hull.



#### 2. SUPPORTING VICTIMS

We will ensure that all victims and survivors impacted by domestic abuse have access to timely, compassionate support through survivor led services. Our focus will be on providing trauma informed services that are strength based, sensitive and responsive to diversity of need.

#### 3. HOLDING PERPETRATORS ACCOUNTABLE

We will work in partnership to support victims, children and young people by supporting and engaging perpetrato 80 change their behaviour. We will work closely with relevant services to hold abusers accountable and reduce reoffending.

Other

 Humbercare · Hull college

 TU staff · Age UK

MESMAC

Lithuanian community

· Tigers trust

 Refuge Council HANNA

Relate

· William Jacksons

As part of the independent review, the Domestic Abuse Equality Impact Analysis (EIA) for Hull was also refreshed with Forum CIO (VCSE) commissioned to complete an independent consultation with victims who had accessed the domestic abuse commissioned providers services.

Domestic Abuse Locality Practitioners (DALPs) continue to support social workers in their work with both victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse. Family practitioners have also continued to work alongside colleagues in the domestic abuse service to further develop their skills. Joint consultations continue to be held which has supported evidence based domestic abuse risk assessments on children's records which helps to inform plans to support children to remain safely at home.

Following on from the success of consultations between DALP's and locality practitioners, the local authority have expanded the offer by providing targeted domestic abuse training to 5 family practitioners specifically focus on domestic abuse. This has further enhanced collaborative working with the Domestic Abuse Partnership (DAP), providing a high level of intervention and support including Hull Strength to Change working alongside partner agencies to develop a bespoke programme under the Inspiring Families Framework' which supports families remaining together.

Safer Hull are regular attendees at Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership meetings to enable a collective response to domestic abuse, including attending the HSCP subgroups to support preventative work, delivering training and contributing to auditing activity. There is regular collaboration and joint working in terms of driving forward practice improvement based on shared learning themes from Domestic Abuse Related Death Reviews (DARDR) and HSCP quality assurance activity.

During this reporting period the Hull DAP have continued to lead the delivery of We Can Talk About Domestic Abuse Training with 192 Social Workers and Early Help Family Hub staff attending to. Feedback in terms of impact to future practice has been positive with examples including workers feeling more confident in working with perpetrators of violence, having increased confidence in safely engaging with children and adults and improved knowledge in relation to undertaking assessments focused on evidencebased practice.

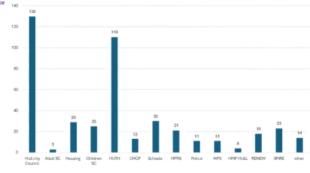
In addition to this, over 430 practitioners across Hull have attended training focused on domestic abuse provided through the Hull Learning and Development Team and HSCP training offer.



During December 2024 a Humber-wide learning event was arranged by Safer Hull for practitioners across the Humber region. This event aimed to raise awareness of coercive control and the impact on adults and children and young people. The event was very well attended across the arena with excellent feedback received in terms of the impact that this would have on future practice when responding to domestic abuse. CAFCASS also attended the event and as a result training will now be delivered across the whole of CAFCASS to support the introduction of their newly published domestic abuse policy.



442 DA champions recruited to date.



Work led by DAP has resulted in the network of domestic abuse champions and ambassadors continuing to grow across Hull. Young people are continuing to be recruited and provided with training to become White Ribbon Young People Ambassadors in order to share key messages with other children across Hull.

During November 2025, the White Ribbon `16 days of action' commenced with children across education establishments in Hull participating in activities. During this time the Children Living with Domestic Abuse work-stream were successful in gaining support from Hull FC, Hull Kingston Rovers and Hull City Association Football Club who accompanied the White Ribbon facilitators to deliver healthy relationship sessions within senior schools across Hull. Activities undertaken had an impact on hundreds of children by increasing awareness around the importance of healthy relationships.



Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership are actively involved in the work relating to Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) with early intervention and education pivotal to progress. The HSCP are active members of a number of related work streams, including the VAWG Strategic Delivery Group, and the VAWG Independent Advisory Group (IAG), which is chaired and informed by members of the public.

The VAWG IAG was pivotal in supporting the 2025 Humberside Police Night Challenge with the theme being tackling violence against women and girls. The Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership enjoyed being part of the event which involved Humberside Police bringing together multiple individuals and organisations to work alongside young people throughout the night.

The event involved 30 teams of young people aged between 13-18 years, tackling challenges whilst walking a 14-mile route, supported by walking supervisors.

During the route, young people participated in activities to increase skills and awareness linked to personal safety, drug and alcohol use and education around tackling violence against women and girls. Examples included young people participating in assault courses led by army cadets, activities led by the Humberside Fire and Rescue Service, voluntary agencies and Yorkshire Ambulance Service, and a Barrister leading a role play within a court room environment at the end of the event which involved a powerful statement from a victim describing the traumatic impact of violence.



The impact of this included helping young people to build positive relationships between agencies, supporting learning through interactive educational activities relating to VAWG, and encouraged young people to work together as a team and develop new skills. The young people involved stated that they had found the event enjoyable and informative and also developed increased trust and confidence in agencies.





# Section 5: Conclusion - next steps, future plans and priorities

During this reporting period, visible progress to sustainably strengthen our safeguarding response to children and their families has been made. Lead safeguarding partners and delegated safeguarding partners have been committed to strong and shared leadership of child safeguarding arrangements within Kingston Upon Hull, with the strategic direction and culture of local safeguarding arrangements having been jointly agreed.

In January 2025, we held the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership Conference which was entitled `HSCP Working Together: Together We Can'. Activity during this reporting year has highlighted how the conference theme accurately portrays the culture across the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership, with agencies working together with continued determination and dedication to make impactful changes for children, with a whole family approach.

Through sharing knowledge and experiences, and collaboration with other boards and partnerships, we have continued to embed a culture of continuous learning and healthy professional challenge, whilst acknowledging the pressures faced on a daily basis by agencies and professionals working hard to ensure a lasting difference is made for families.

Getting it right for children, young people and their families is the continued ambition of the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership, amid the inevitable change that system-wide reforms will present.

Following the publication of Working Together 2023, the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership has worked alongside partner agencies to ensure the changes within the guidance are tangibly translated into practice across Hull, including shared standards and responsibilities. We will continue to ensure that clear national child protection standards are fully integrated into practice, and we will be responsive to further national audits and guidance in terms of best practice. This is likely to include expected recommendations for local safeguarding children partnerships, following the development of the Child Protection Authority (CPA), to strengthen the approach to child protection across England. We will also respond to key legislation which will be pivotal to safeguarding partnerships, including the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill (2025).

We will maintain our focus on early intervention, ensuring the earliest, and most appropriate support for children and families is provided. Work to ensure effective information sharing will continue over the next year, alongside ensuring that the renewed HSCP Threshold Guidance is embedded into practice.



The Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership priorities for 2025/2026 have been agreed collaboratively by safeguarding leads in Hull, following consideration of local need and national publications, including audit and analysis activity published by the Department for Education, and the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel. During the next reporting period we will continue to work to drive forward these priorities which include early identification and support relating to neglect, effective multi-agency responses to risk outside of the home, impactful learning from quality assurance activity, recognising and responding effectively to domestic abuse and ensuring multi-agency safeguarding arrangements meet the needs of children who are at risk of harm. We will also focus on ensuring we have a co-ordinated response to sexual harm.

Since the publication of the Families First
Partnership Programme, engagement, planning
and communication has been taking place,
inclusive of all relevant agencies. It has been
agreed that the governance for the
implementation of the Families First Partnership
Programme will sit within the HSCP structure, with
oversight by the HSCP Executive Board and lead
safeguarding partners.

Meaningful engagement is key to the success of our transformation activity, and we will continue to listen and engage with our children, families, communities, practitioners, Elected Members and all key agencies, to ensure focused and relevant co-design, and delivery, of services. We will continually strive to improve practice through an agile and responsive approach to learning, with continued reflection on how we can maximise, and evidence, the impact that our work is having on improving the lives of children and their families. We will continue to do this through the delivery of training and learning, optimising opportunities to share learning from reviews when cross cutting themes across adult and child safeguarding reviews are evident, to support a whole family approach to safeguarding. We will continually sharing local and national learning, agendas and resources which can support practice. This will include ensuring we have a collaborative approach to using tools to support practice and identify risk, linking our work to evidence based national practice.

We will remain relentlessly ambitious to achieve the very best for our children, families and communities in Hull. We will demonstrate transparency, consistency and accountability for all the work the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership undertakes, through yearly published reporting, continued scrutiny and updating our published arrangements. We will continually evaluate the work of the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership and always strive to improve.



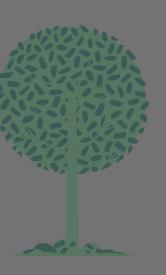


Lara Davidson - Head of Safeguarding Partnerships for Hull

Danish







HullSafeguardingChildrenPartnership@hullcc.gov.uk

https://www.hullcollaborativepartnership.org.uk/ hull-safeguarding-children-partnership