



Welcome to the NSCP Newsletter which is the first under the new safeguarding arrangements.

The new arrangements are designed to build on the strong foundations of the Local Safeguarding Children Board and the commitment shown by all the organisations and individuals who contribute to safeguarding children in Nottinghamshire.

With the flexibility to shape the new arrangements to suit our area we intend to strengthen engagement with lead safeguarding practitioners, develop a partnership with a focus on safeguarding improvement and enable a faster response to serious child safeguarding cases.

We hope you find this newsletter useful and informative and if you have any suggestions on how to improve it please get in touch

## Partnership Update

After a 3-month implementation period which ended on 31<sup>st</sup> March this year the new safeguarding arrangements are now fully operational. All the sub groups have met and taken on their new responsibilities and the Partnership Forum met for the first time on 21<sup>st</sup> May. The Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board has been disestablished, in line with statutory guidance, following the publication of the last serious case review (KN15).

The Partnership Forum provided a great opportunity to strengthen links with safeguarding managers and explore two areas of safeguarding practice in depth: safeguarding non-mobile babies and contextual safeguarding. An update was also provided on the work of the partnership. It was good to see ex members of the NSCB, strong representation from schools and District and Borough Councils as well as new members from Nottinghamshire Women's Aid, the Fire & Rescue Service and Looked After Children Nurses.

Further details of the safeguarding arrangements can be found at:

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/nscp/about-the-partnership>

## Also in this issue

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**Contextual safeguarding update**

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**Tips & tools**

- Safeguarding non - mobile babies
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- Updated guidance

**How to access multi-agency safeguarding training**

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## New system to share child protection plan information

A new system has been introduced in Nottinghamshire to help police officers protect the most vulnerable children in our communities and to make sure social workers who are supporting families quickly find out about incidents which may impact on the care of children.

Nottinghamshire police now receive details of all children on a child protection plan (not just those where the police have direct involvement) so that a 'Place of Interest' marker can be added to the relevant address on the police system. When an incident is reported at an address with a marker the officer attending is made aware that there are safeguarding concerns about a child connected to the address. This additional information provides context which enables the police to make safeguarding observations that may not have been possible before.

Brief details of any incidents at addresses with a safeguarding 'Place of Interest' are sent to the Safeguarding Children Information Management Team (SCIMT) who then let the social worker for the child know. If the social worker decides the incident may be relevant they can obtain further details from the police at the MASH. The new system provides social workers with information that they may otherwise have not become aware of which may be relevant to the protection of the child.

The system doesn't replace the need for police officers to submit Public Protection Notices to children's social care if they have concerns about a child.

DCI Pete Quinn, Public Protection Lead for Children and Laurence Jones, Caldicott Guardian & Service Director Children and Family Services, were instrumental in setting up the arrangement and both have been encouraged by the early results. Already there has been examples of the police response to incidents being revised because of the additional information available to them and it is clear that the improved information sharing will enhance the collective effort to keep children safe.



# Contextual safeguarding update

Children and young people may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families – Working Together 2018 refers to these extra-familial threats as ‘Contextual Safeguarding’ and the December 2018 NSCB Newsletter included an article on ‘What is Contextual Safeguarding’: <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/1728482/nscb-newsletter-december-18.pdf> .

Since then partners have been working together to further develop our approach to protecting young people from extra-familial risks and a full update was provided at the Partnership Forum in May.

## Criminal Exploitation

A new **Serious Youth Violence and Criminal Exploitation Panel** has been formed which recognizes the links between youth violence, weapons possession and exploitation of young people. The pathway for child criminal exploitation remains unchanged – referral to MASH when a child or young person is not open to services or via the allocated social worker where known. There is no separate screening tool for partners however an assessment tool is being developed, the Pathway to Provision has been updated and cases identified early should be directed through the Early Help Unit. The panel is accessed via direct referral from social care or youth justice and a screening tool is used to assess and identify high risk cases. Intervention is largely based on existing processes, it is acknowledged that the skills exist, but the knowledge and approach need developing. The panel aims to share relevant information and coordinate multi-agency actions to reduce risk – the further development of the panel is being overseen by a multi-agency steering group.

Details of further work in relation to contextual safeguarding can be found in the partnership safeguarding priorities section later in this newsletter.

## Harmful sexual behaviour (HSB)

The interagency safeguarding children procedures include useful guidance for practitioners dealing with harmful sexual behaviour. It contains a link to the Brook Sexual Behaviours Traffic Light Tool which helps practitioners across different agencies work together by using the same criteria when making decisions and protecting children.

[https://nottinghamshirescb.proceduresonline.com/p\\_sexually\\_harm\\_behav.html](https://nottinghamshirescb.proceduresonline.com/p_sexually_harm_behav.html)

If you would like to find out more about contextual safeguarding further information and resources can be found at the Contextual Safeguarding Network website:

<https://contextualsafeguarding.org.uk/about/what-is-contextual-safeguarding>

## Safeguarding non-mobile babies

A new video animation has been developed by the partnership to promote the 'bruising in babies' pathway' and highlight the risks to non-mobile babies. Thanks to Dr Becky Sands who put forward the idea having seen the success of the 'Was Not Brought' film developed by our colleagues in Nottingham City.

Becky then led the multi-agency group that worked on the development of the 'babies that don't bruise rarely bruise' film on behalf of the partnership. Evaluation of the video has been really positive so please take a look and well done to all those that contributed to it.

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/nscp/news/babies-that-don-t-bruise-rarely-bruise>.

## Neglect Toolkit

Early identification of neglect can be a difficult and tracking improvement/deterioration is sometimes a problem. A new toolkit is now available to assist practitioners – it does not replace the EHAF or Child & Family Assessment but is an additional tool that provides descriptors to support professional judgement

[https://nottinghamshirescb.proceduresonline.com/local\\_resources.html#local\\_practice\\_guidance](https://nottinghamshirescb.proceduresonline.com/local_resources.html#local_practice_guidance)

## ICTAs

Any child who is recruited, transported, transferred, harboured or received for the purposes of exploitation is considered to be a trafficking victim. An Independent Child Trafficking Advocate service is now available with a 24/7 professionals support line 0800 0434303. Further details can be found in the NSCP Briefing Note:

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/1735342/icta-briefing-march-19.pdf>

## Updated Interagency Safeguarding Procedures

The latest updated interagency safeguarding children procedures were published on 11<sup>th</sup> July and the following sections have been amended:

- Responding to abuse & neglect – reviewed and refreshed to ensure consistency with terminology used in Working Together 2018 and Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Children with disabilities – link to guidance on mental health and behaviour in schools
- Female Genital Mutilation – updates to the indicators and reporting requirements
- Harmful Sexual Behaviour – definition of HSB expanded
- On-line Safety – reviewed and refreshed, link to 'Social Media as a Catalyst and Trigger for Youth Violence'

Find out more about the full range of procedures and guidance that are available to help you in your work: <https://nottinghamshirescb.proceduresonline.com/>



## New Booking on System goes Live!

You probably will have noticed by now that we no longer use application forms to book onto our face to face events but now have a new log in page where you can book onto any of the NSCP events including e learning.

Benefits of the new system:

- You can create an account at any time (remember you will need your organisations registration key initially)
- After attendance at a face to face event you can complete a short evaluation form, print off your certificate and download a copy of the course PowerPoint and any course materials.
- View your training log at any time which includes all NSCP training attended or e learning completed
- Cancel a place if unable to attend and re-book onto another event

**Booking on:**

- Simply go to our new login page: <https://nottsccllearningpool.com/login/index.php>
- If you haven't already set up an account go to our training page for guidance on how to do this : <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/nscp/training/upcoming-courses-and-events>

For any further support / guidance including clarifying your registration key, please contact Sarah Bale: [sarah.bale@nottsccl.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.bale@nottsccl.gov.uk) or 0115 99774439

### Trauma, Toxic Stress and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) refer to some of the most intensive and frequently occurring sources of stress that children may suffer early in life. **Such experiences include multiple types of abuse; neglect; violence between parents or caregivers; other kinds of serious household dysfunction such as alcohol and substance abuse; and peer, community and collective violence. This course looks at the different types of ACEs and shows as professionals that noticing difficulties in children's lives and then responding to them with support and early help can change the outcome for their adult lives.**

**A new E learning module is now available which** is designed to help practitioners understand what ACEs are and explore the evidence base and impact of ACEs over the life course.

**Booking on:**

Simply go to our login page to book a place: <https://nottsccllearningpool.com/login/index.php>

# Reducing Parenting Conflict

The Reducing Parental Conflict (RPC) programme has been developed by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). The programme works closely with local authorities and their partners across England, to support them to integrate services and approaches to reduce parental conflict into their local services for families. Parental conflict, which can range from a lack of warmth and emotional distance, right through to swearing and shouting, is known to be a risk factor for poor child outcomes, particularly when conflict is frequent, intense and poorly resolved. There is growing understanding and awareness of the need to address and reduce parental conflict that sits below a domestic abuse/ violence threshold. Nottinghamshire County Council has been successful in obtaining grant money from the DWP in relation to offering local multi-agency training for frontline practitioners re: Reducing Parental Conflict.

The NSCP is coordinating access to the training and information will be available on our website soon regarding the training events we will be offering to partners which will include opportunities to:

- Attend face to face multi-agency events
- Complete a combination of face to face Training and E Learning
- Complete only E Learning Modules
- Attend a 2 day Training the Trainer event – to equip you to deliver and cascade training out across your organisation/teams
- Access modules aimed at practitioners and managers (Level 3 events)
- Access modules aimed specifically at managers/supervisors (Level 4 events)

The first events will be offered in September/October, with further opportunities being made available early in 2020, so keep a look out on our website for additional dates!

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/nscp/training/upcoming-courses-and-events>

## KN15 Serious Case Review Published

Following the conclusion of a Coroner's Inquest the serious case review (KN15), relating to a 13-year-old girl who died whilst missing from home after a family argument, was published.

The full report is available on the partnership website:

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/nscp/learning-from-practice/serious-case-reviews> .

The review was commissioned by the NSCB and the learning from the review had already been acted upon prior to publication. A Learning Bulletin is also available which summarises the findings of the review.

# Partnership Safeguarding Priorities

One of the main aims of the new arrangements is to make sure improvement priorities are coordinated and fully understood across the partnership. The Safeguarding Assurance and Improvement Group (SAIG) is responsible for this work and they have agreed the following practice improvement workstreams:

- **Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)** – this continues to be a priority for the partnership, we now have a better understanding of the risks to children in Nottinghamshire thanks to the CSE Problem Profile & Threat Assessment developed by Nottinghamshire Police. The Cross Authority CSE Group leads on developing and improving the response to CSE, improving the voice of children and reducing inequality by improving understanding of specific vulnerabilities for minority groups.
- **Contextual Safeguarding**
  - Raising awareness and developing a cultural shift
  - Reinforcing existing pathways and frameworks
  - Development of a pre-referral tool (for criminal exploitation)
  - Briefings/training – development of E learning
  - Further development of place-based intelligence sharing and interventions
  - Ensuring exploitation work is connected
- **Strategy discussions** – we are working to improve the quality of strategy discussions to make sure they are timely, involve the right people and are well recorded. Teresa Godfrey, Group Manager Children’s Social Care, is leading this work assisted by Bob Ross, NSCP Development Manager. A full review is being undertaken with frontline practitioners so that the current challenges can be fully understood, and an action plan will be developed.
- **Injuries to non-mobile babies** – making sure that the bruising in babies’ pathway is effective
- **Information sharing**
  - Introduce and embed information sharing of child protection plan details with the police
  - Monitor the impact of the Child Protection Information System (CP-IS)
  - Review the basis for checks to be undertaken by the Safeguarding Children Information Management Team
- **MASH** – the MASH Steering Group is taking forward improvements to help manage the demand on resources and help it function effectively by
  - Looking at children’s emotional health and wellbeing practitioners being based in the MASH
  - Promoting a clear pathway within health and education for young people that self-harm or parental overdose
  - Support professionals to provide as much contextual information as possible when making a referral
  - Promote the Brook Traffic Light Tool for harmful sexual behaviour
  - Support schools to respond to concerns about sexual behaviour
- **S.136 Mental Health Act** – support; the implementation of the protocol to ensure that children subject to s.136 are transported appropriately, the reporting of data related to children taken to a place of safety and the case recording regarding gender dysphoria.