



# North Yorkshire

Safeguarding Children Partnership

## North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NYSCP) Annual Report 2022-2023

Enter

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# Statutory Safeguarding Partner Statements

We are delighted to present the North Yorkshire Children’s Safeguarding Partnership Board Annual Report. This report is a testament to our unwavering commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of our children and young people in North Yorkshire.

In a world where our children face evolving challenges and uncertainties, our role as the safeguarding partnership is more crucial than ever.

This report is more than a compilation of statistics and achievements; it is a reflection of our collective determination and the incredible work carried out by the board, its partners, and the communities we serve. It offers a comprehensive overview of our activities, successes, and the challenges we’ve encountered, as well as our plans for the future.

Throughout this report, you will find insights into the collaborative efforts that have enabled us to create a safer and more nurturing environment for children and young people in our county.

This report also highlights the voices of those at the heart of our work - the children, young people, and families themselves. We firmly believe that their perspectives are invaluable in shaping our strategies and actions.

Thank you for being an essential part of our journey.



**Stuart Carlton**  
Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services, North Yorkshire Council



**Michelle Carrington**  
Executive Director of Quality and Nursing, Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

This year has seen a major change in the structure of our NHS with the transition from CCGs to Integrated Care Boards (ICB). In line with statutory guidance, the Humber and North Yorkshire ICB has provided a clear directive to ensure retention of safeguarding expertise ‘at place’. The Designated Professionals for North Yorkshire have been able to continue to provide effective systems leadership to health care providers and ongoing support to partnership working across North Yorkshire.

It is recognised that the move to ICBs offers increased opportunities to share good practice, reduce duplication and learn from the experience of other partnerships across a wide footprint. This work continues to evolve and will be supported by the establishment of the Humber and North Yorkshire ICB Safeguarding Committee during 2023-24.

As ever, it is expected there is more change and challenge ahead with the anticipated revisions of statutory guidance and new practice developments following the Review undertaken by Josh McAllister<sup>3</sup>. The Designated Professionals will continue to build on strong partnership relationships to respond to these challenges to further strengthen safeguarding and children in care practice across North Yorkshire.

<sup>3</sup> **MacAlister J.** ‘The Independent Review of Children’s Social Care (May 2022) Accessible at: [www.gov.uk/government/groups/independent-review-of-childrens-social-care](https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/independent-review-of-childrens-social-care)



North Yorkshire Police are incredibly proud of the work of the North Yorkshire Children's Safeguarding Partnership. Although our responsibilities are statutory, improving our services to children, families and carers relies on a culture of strong collaboration and relationship building at all levels. Over the past year North Yorkshire Police has recognised the need to improve its approach to safeguarding children and young people. We have worked extensively with our partners and invested significantly to better meet our responsibilities. The early impact of this investment can already be seen in this report, for example the increase in the numbers and quality of referrals, and it remains critically important that the Police works in lockstep with our partners to continually improve our services together and respond proactively to proposed changes to Working Together guidance. This annual report is a testament to all those professionals from across the different agencies who strive to keep children and young people safe and it is right their work is recognised. The Achievement Awards highlighted in this annual report reflect this ongoing work and I am incredibly proud of Sergeant Ben Hallewell who has worked to reduce the risk of people becoming involved in extremism and crime.



**Scott Bisset**  
Assistant Chief Constable,  
North Yorkshire Police

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Bisset', written over a light blue background.

# Independent Scrutiny Statement

The role of Independent Scrutineer is outlined in the Children and Families Act 2017, and guidance is contained within Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018. A key aspect of the role is:

“to provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area, including arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding cases. This independent scrutiny will be part of a wider system which includes the independent inspectorates’ single assessment of the individual safeguarding partners and the Joint Targeted Area Inspections”

The decision on how best to implement this at a local level is the responsibility of the three statutory partners and partners should ensure that the scrutiny is objective, acts as a constructive critical friend and promotes reflection to drive continuous improvement. It is the responsibility of the Independent Scrutineer to consider how effective the arrangements work for children and families, together with practitioners, and, how the safeguarding partners are providing strong leadership. The local Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements (MASA) should set out the plans for scrutiny and reviews of the arrangements.

During January 2023 I was appointed as Executive Chair and Independent Scrutineer for the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NYSCP). As such this is the first Annual Report in this role, for North Yorkshire, that I have contributed to.

Prior to my appointment, Dr Maggie Atkinson fulfilled the role, supporting the three statutory partners in developing the new arrangements under Working

Together 2018, and, supported the partnership through the challenges of responding to the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic. I would like to thank Maggie on behalf of the partners for undertaking the role and the work she has driven through her tenure.

Looking back over the 12-month reporting period there has been much to focus the partnership. Throughout 2022/23 the national rising cost of living has presented a significant challenge for families. North Yorkshire has provided a wide variety of support schemes delivered by public and voluntary organisations to help support families. In July 2022 the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) transitioned to form the Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) and this has led to changes in structure and leadership. There have also been changes in the safeguarding leadership within the Police. Change can often present opportunity and I have observed the forming of new, positive and strong strategic relationships at Executive level.

This Annual Report sets out the work that has been undertaken during the reporting period. It outlines the Being Young in North Yorkshire (BYINY) strategy, highlights the priorities and the work undertaken in relation to the priorities and the response to emerging issues. The report outlines the recognition of good practice as well as responding to emerging need and areas for development. The report concludes with the priorities that have been set for 2023 to 2024, these being:

- Strengthening the role of education in the partnership
- Children and Young People's Emotional and Mental Health
- Promote positives of Online Engagement whilst minimising the risk children and young people face online

I look forward to undertaking both elements of the role I perform in the year ahead and seek to support NYSCP to fulfil the obligations outlined in statute and reflected in Working Together 2018. I will be able to report on the strengths and developments of the partnership more fully in the annual report for 2023/24.

In conclusion, I would like to recognise that the achievements contained within this report are the result of the continued high level of service and support delivered by individuals, teams and organisations across North Yorkshire who display relentless energy and drive to continue to safeguard children and young people in North Yorkshire. Thank you.

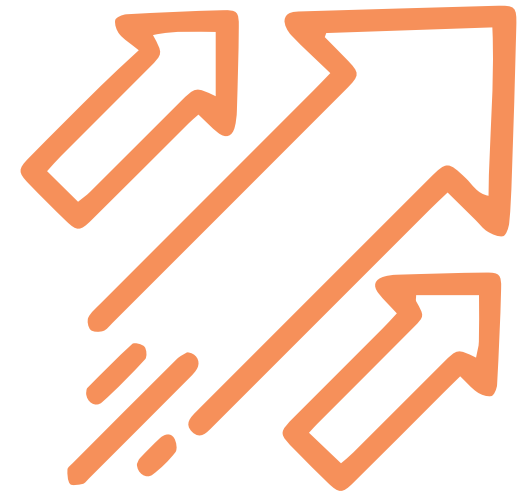


**Heather Pearson**  
Independent Scrutineer  
and Chair for NYSCP

# What is North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership?

Everyone in North Yorkshire shares a commitment to and responsibility for the safeguarding of children. This document sets out the Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements for North Yorkshire, established in accordance with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018). The three safeguarding partners who are responsible for the local Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements in North Yorkshire are North Yorkshire Council (NYC), the Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (formerly the Clinical Commissioning Group or CCG) and North Yorkshire Police (NYP).

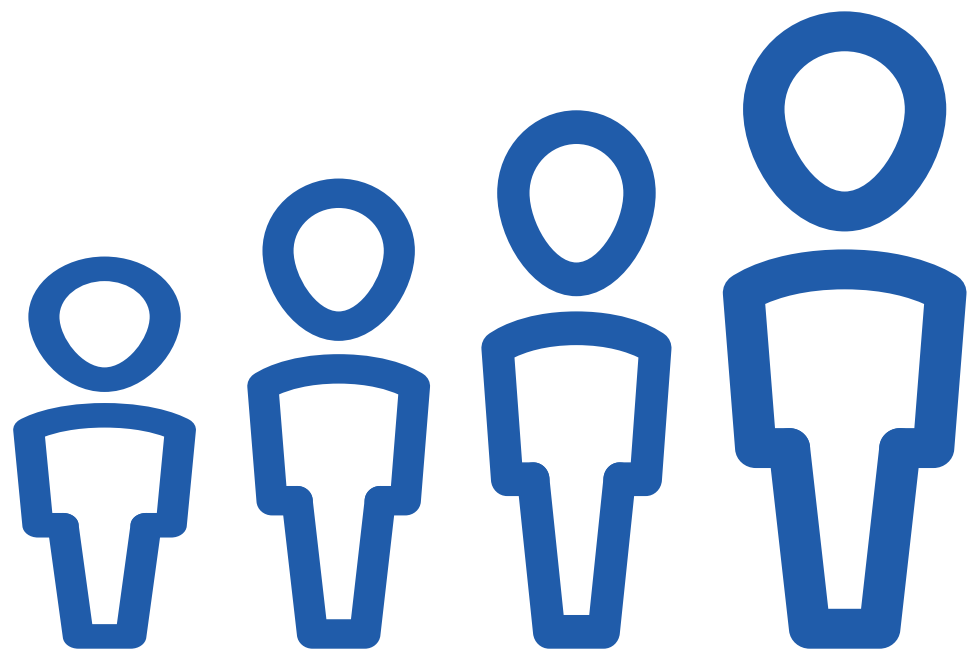
Further information about the Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements in North Yorkshire is available from our [website](#).



# Demographics of North Yorkshire

North Yorkshire is the largest geographical county in England covering an area of approximately 3,103 square miles. Although the county is large, it is sparsely populated with a population of 680,847 equating to 77 people per square km. Of those, 113,816 are under 18, based on the latest population estimates taken mid-2021. Across the total population 60% are of working age, 15% are under the age of 16 and 25% of the population are over the age of 65. The life expectancy for someone born today in North Yorkshire is 84 years for females and 80 years of age for males, higher than the national England average of 81 years for females and 79 for males. The life expectancy for someone born in North Yorkshire has risen by 3 years over the past decade, from a life expectancy of 80 years to a life expectancy of 82 years. In England as a whole, life expectancies have risen by 3 years.<sup>3</sup>

The total population of school children is 83,182 and 95.3% of young people aged between 16-17 are in education, employment or training. 84.5% of North Yorkshire primary schools are graded as Good or Outstanding by Ofsted compared to 89.8% nationally. 83.7% of secondary schools in North Yorkshire are Good or Outstanding with 81.4% being the national average.



<sup>3</sup> North Yorkshire Demographics | Age, Ethnicity, Religion, Wellbeing (varbes.com)

# Being Young in North Yorkshire (BYINY)

Being Young in North Yorkshire 2021-2024 is the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Strategy for children and young people living in North Yorkshire. As a partnership, we recognise the diversity across North Yorkshire and how important it is to harness this when agreeing our delivery plans.

Our children and young people are our future, we want them to thrive in North Yorkshire and achieve the best possible outcomes they can.

This strategy sets out our vision which is shaped by the feedback from children and young people living in North Yorkshire and sets out our four key themes for children and young people having:

**Theme One**  
**A safe life**

- Protected from harm
- Live in safe communities
- Supported by family networks

**Theme Two**  
**A happy family life**

- Families are empowered to be resilient
- School years are happy
- Community support networks help families thrive

**Theme Three**  
**A healthy life**

- Promote health and wellbeing through positive choices
- Improve social, emotional and mental health
- Reduce health inequalities

**Theme Four**  
**Achieving in Life**

- Ensure children are 'school ready'
- Raise achievement levels for all
- Create environments where children have aspirations for their future

The Full strategy can be read [here](#)

# 2022 / 2023 Achievements

Key areas of progress against our four themes

Theme One

A safe life

1

- The MAST (Multi-Agency Screening Team) received a total of 27,707 of contacts over 22/23, an increase of 24% on the previous year.
- Contacts received from Police accounted for a significant proportion of this increase with 46% more contacts being received than the previous year.
- More young people have received support from our Early Help services with a 28% increase in new cases this year (4038).
- 1,409 referrals to Children's Social Care were recorded in Q4 2022/23, the highest in the last seven years and 26% higher the same time last year. For the full year there were 4,990 referrals to Children's Social Care, 13% more (558) than in 2021/22
- More children are accessing help at an earlier stage with fewer children requiring Child Protection Plans. The end of the year saw 375 Child Protection Plans (CPP), a reduction of 65 compared to last year.
- Of those, only 4% of new Child Protection Plans were within a year of a previous Child Protection Plan.
- The rate of repeat referrals across 2022/23 was 17.0% %, which remains statistically significantly lower than the national average of 22.4%.
- The number of children in care at the end of 2022/23 was 454, which is higher than the previous period last year (427) but recognises that Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) cared for by the Local Authority has risen. The number of UASC children has doubled over the last two years to 42 at the end of 2022/23 and will continue to increase.
- 60% of pupils who go online say they know how to keep themselves safe on the Internet<sup>3</sup>. Nonetheless, 21% say they have friends online that they don't know in real life.
- 21% of year six pupils told us that they had been bullied at or near school in the last 12 months.

<sup>3</sup> NYork2022summary (healthyschoolsnorthyorks.org)

## Achievements in 22/23

- Jointly with the **North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board**, we have supported and delivered a range of awareness raising campaigns across topics such as National Stalking Awareness Week, Honour Based Violence, Child Abuse, Internet Safety, Child Exploitation, Female Genital Mutilation and Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence. Our calendar of activity for the year can be viewed [here](#).
- The **ICON - Babies Cry, You Can Cope** programme supports parents and carers to manage normal infant crying and to prevent abusive head trauma injuries to babies caused by shaking, also referred to as 'shaken baby syndrome'. ICON is an evidenced-based programme designed to help parents and carers understand the normal crying pattern of young infants and to help them develop successful

- coping mechanisms to deal with this. Work within health and partner agencies has been undertaken to ensure the ICON message is consistently shared with parents and carers. We have found consistent evidence in audits and reviews that shows the ICON message is being shared with parents in line with agreed procedures in North Yorkshire. Following the publication of the **Child Protection in England** report published May 22, partners from NYSCP collaborated to produce a partnership response to the report, reflecting on the recommendations through a North Yorkshire lens. The learning was then collated onto a [webpage on the NYSCP website](#).
- NYSCP have developed a range of resources to support parents and carers in understanding online safety including resources around:
    - Games, consoles, smart devices and how to keep your child safe**
    - Online Safety**
    - Reporting online images of my child**
  - We have facilitated the training of a CEOP Education Ambassador to support the sharing of specialist training and resources for frontline professionals, parents/carers and children and young people.
  - The Schools Designated Safeguarding Leads Conference in October 22 welcomed keynote speakers from the Marie Collins Foundation and E-Safety Ltd focussing on technology assisted child abuse, delivered to over 200 schools.
  - We have worked collaboratively with the Marie Collins Foundation to promote **Click Path to Protection** training to frontline professionals and managers across North Yorkshire, ensuring professionals are equipped with the knowledge and skills to meet the needs of children harmed by technology assisted abuse and exploitation.
  - NYSCP delivered a Safeguarding Masterclass on Parental Conflict in April 22 to over 32 delegates and to a further 15 utilising the **NYSCP YouTube Channel**.
  - Jointly commissioned through North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council, a range of training sessions have been delivered around **Domestic Abuse**, led by **IDAS**.

- North Yorkshire Children and Families and Foxstones Training and Learning delivered a training event to over 50 senior strategic leaders across North Yorkshire, focussing on parental conflict and the impact on children and young people.
- In November 2022, we promoted the **'NotMyChild'** campaign following a 15-year-old girl from North Yorkshire who tragically lost her life after taking two MDMA bombs. This campaign was supported the young girl's Mum Kerry and the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner to encourage parents and carer givers to have early and positive conversations about drugs and other substances with their children.
- ICON will be further explored as part of Thematic Review currently being undertaken by the Designated Nurses on behalf of NYSCP
- NYSCP safeguarding masterclass delivered to professionals across to share the learning following the national review into the murders of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star Hobson as part of safeguarding week in 2023 [NYSCP \(safeguardingchildren.co.uk\)](#)
- A commitment was given by NYSCP in March 23 regarding greater awareness raising around parental conflict across our partnership over the coming year 2023/24.





## Theme Two

# A happy family life

2

- The [Growing Up in North Yorkshire Survey](#) was undertaken to seek a detailed understanding of what daily life is like for children across the age ranges within North Yorkshire.
- The SEMH i-Thrive model identified 80% of North Yorkshire's young people are thriving most of the time.
- 41% of pupils reported that they think their school deals with bullying well.
- 58% of pupils responded that they found school lessons about keeping safe online 'quite' or 'very' useful.
- 57% of pupils responded that they are asked for their opinions about what they learn in school; 41% said their opinions make a difference.
- 45% of pupils found their lessons about emotional health and wellbeing 'quite' or 'very' useful.
- Two-year-old funding take up that supports families on the lowest incomes remains higher than the national average of 74% in North Yorkshire with 86% Autumn 2022 and 82% for Spring 2023.

## Achievements in 22/23

- The partnership aim was to improve the emotional wellbeing and resilience in all children and young people. It is recognised that children will not be happy all of the time and it is important for children to identify and understand difficult thoughts, feelings and emotions. At times in all our lives, we will experience challenges however, what is important is that children and young people know where to get support and when this should be accessed.
- We have reviewed our Social Emotional Mental Health (SEMH) pathways, monitored through the SEMH Strategic Board. This review is underpinned by the i-Thrive Model which aims to promote children and young people's access to the right support at the right time. Children and young people have co-produced [posters and leaflets](#) which have been distributed to schools to support this work.
- Continued promotion of The Go-To website ([www.thegoto.org.uk](http://www.thegoto.org.uk)) resulting in increased website users and delivery of a "Let's Talk" session with Parent/Carer Voice which has developed a targeted communications package to promote The Go To. This can be viewed [here](#).
- Establishment of the 'Growing Healthy' team to offer support to children and young people around anxiety, exam stress, low mood, anger, managing emotions, emerging and disordered eating and self-esteem. This support is delivered by Emotional Resilience Nurses, Children's Well-being Practitioners (CWPs) and Family Health Practitioners.
- Support delivered through the Mental Health Support Teams (MHSTs) in schools has begun with a successful bid for funding to support the launch of a Mental Health Support Team in Scarborough.
- NYSCP have strengthened the training and awareness available as part of the [Self-Harm and Suicidal Ideation Pathway](#) available to professionals around self-harm and suicide. The range of different courses including [Head First](#), [Mental Health First Aid Training](#), [Safe Talk](#), [Zero Suicide Alliance](#), [Psychological First Aid](#) can be accessed [here](#).

## Theme Three

# A healthy life

3

- Over the year, there has been 28,309 attendances at Accident & Emergency Departments for children as a result of injury. This has been 6% higher than the previous year, however, may be influenced by an increasing confidence in attendance following the post COVID recovery.
- However, fewer young people have required inpatient admission as a result of injury, with 966 admissions, 17% fewer than in 21/22.
- Similarly, fewer children have required admission as a result of substance misuse. For 22/23 there were 148 admission which was 93 fewer than 2021/22.
- 69% of young people aged 10/11 responded that they had found school lessons about healthy eating 'quite' or 'very' useful'.
- 85% of 10 - 11-year-olds said they felt they knew enough about how their body changes as they get older.
- Face to face attendance at Yor-Sexual-Health clinics have seen a reduction this year, however there has been an increased online support offer making it easier for young people to access at any day/time [www.yorsexualhealth.org.uk](http://www.yorsexualhealth.org.uk).
- Year eight and year 10 pupils who do five or more hours of physical activity in a typical week in school (9% in 2020 vs. 15% in 2022) or out of school (35% in 2020 vs. 45% in 2022) has increased.
- There has been an increase in children visiting a dentist with 53% of children in 2022 having been to a dentist in the last year compared to 42% in 2020.

## Achievements in 22/23

- A survey has been undertaken to inform our Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) work including Emerging Eating Disorders, the promotion and development of The Go-To website and development of resources for example the [marketplace](#).
- Supporting young people with problematic substance use, [North Yorkshire Rise](#) have been able to ensure they receive timely and effective support to reduce harm, meeting national targets to ensure treatment within 21 days of referral. Further investment has also supported the recruitment of a new young person's practitioner in Scarborough. The service reached their 22/23 target and by the end of Q4, had supported 135 young people.
- Promotion of the [North Yorkshire Packed Lunch Guidance](#) to professionals across North Yorkshire as well as continued promotion of the Healthy Start scheme across our education providers.
- Development of [Drink Drug Hub](#) with specific resources for young people to raise awareness and knowledge around substances and their effects as well as key harm reduction messages including advice around vaping and psychoactive substances.
- A new offer is now available to support the dental needs of children in care as well as [training for professionals, e-learning packages](#) for those working with all children and young people as well as free oral hygiene training arranged and promoted across the early years sector.
- NYSCP have also developed a multi-agency standard operating procedure for the management of young people awaiting availability of suitable CAMHS Inpatient Services. This can be viewed [here](#).
- Health inequalities funding has also been secured in partnership with Public Health to develop an Active Start physical development programme for 0- 4-year-old children.



## Theme Four

# Achieving in Life

4

- We know during the COVID lockdown that there was an increase in children Electively Home Educated. As part of the post lockdown recovery we have continued to see a number of children EHE. At the end of the 2022/23 academic year there were 1,022 children in EHE, which is an increase of 103 (11%) on the previous year.
- We also know that for some young people, returning to school has been challenging. During the 2022/23 academic year 2,055 children were excluded from secondary schools for a total of 5,835 fixed term suspensions and 33 children were permanently excluded from their school. Fixed term suspensions of children in primary schools has also increased. Multi-Agency audit work for 23/24 will undertake a deep dive focussing on school exclusions which will identify key themes and learning for the partnership.
- 60% of pupils said they are happy being at school 'most of the time' since COVID and lockdown, while 13% said they aren't happy
- 86% of pupils think it is important to go to school regularly
- 33% of boys and 43% of girls in Year 10 said they want to continue in full-time education at the end of their course
- 66% of Year 10 pupils did homework on the evening before the survey. 20% reported they did more than an hour.
- Continued development of our innovative offer to care leavers in North Yorkshire to ensure they have someone to turn to if they need any help or advice or simply to tell someone what they have achieved at any age, even when they are no longer receiving regular support. Over 22/23, we received over 100 requests for this service both individuals asking for advice and sharing achievements throughout the year.

## Achievements in 22/23

- We have strengthened the support and information around Elective Home Education through **One Minute Guides** and through information that is given to parents considering **Electively Home Educating** their child supported by a team of 4 Elective Home Education Advisors whom parents/carers or professionals can contact if they have any queries. This is continually monitored through our NYSCP sub-groups to ensure children and young people continue to receive every opportunity to succeed in life.
- This year NYSCP have hosted specific evening early years safeguarding masterclasses for those working across the early years sector, supporting professionals to keep up to date with key safeguarding issues and partnership working at a time that works best for them.
- Young people in North Yorkshire continue to perform above the national average in terms of being in employment, education or training when they leave care.
- We have implemented Dingley's Promise, free online training to all our early years workforce to upskill them working with children and specifically with those who have delayed development and/or SEND.
- As at the 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 23, 97% of all our private, voluntary and independent early years provision in North Yorkshire is graded as Good or Outstanding by Ofsted.
- Furthermore, 70.3% of children at end of year Reception achieve a good level of development which is 3% more than national average of 67%.

# NYSCP Partnership Achievement Awards

The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership showcasing the multi-agency work between the Council, Police and NHS in safeguarding vulnerable children and their families.

**Working in the field of safeguarding children and children in care practice can be both highly rewarding and exceptionally demanding. Above all else, the recipients of these awards have demonstrated one common goal, to keep the children and young people of North Yorkshire safe and able to thrive. These awards provide an opportunity for the Strategic Partners to say a very big "thank you!" to the recipients for their exceptional work**

The Partnership Achievement Awards are given to individuals or groups working or volunteering with children and young people. Awards have been presented to the following professionals and teams over 2022/2023:



North Yorkshire Together - A partnership of three voluntary sector organisations - Rural Arts, North Yorkshire Youth and North Yorkshire Sport, who are committed to improving the lives of North Yorkshire residents. At the start of the covid pandemic they pooled resources to support young people to keep healthy and happy at home via creativity, physical activity and wellbeing resources.



Sergeant Ben Hallewell from North Yorkshire Police who is a constant leader and supporter within the delivery of the Prevent statutory duty. Sergeant Hallewell's ability to constructively challenge practice has led to young people been engaged with prevent and diverted them from criminal processes and custodial sentences.

Dr Jonathan Grimbley, Named Doctor for Safeguarding children at South Tees Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, who was recognised by his colleagues as going above and beyond in his role and exemplifies the best characteristics of a named doctor.

The Child Death Overview Panel for North Yorkshire and City of York who always show a great example of multi-agency partnership working to prevent future deaths where possible. Their work has received a number of requests to share good practice with external professionals.

Dr Joy Shacklock, Named GP for Child and Adult Safeguarding for North Yorkshire, who was part of setting up the safeguarding team for Primary care within North Yorkshire and was instrumental in its success. Dr Shacklock is always an excellent advocate and ambassador for safeguarding.



Julia Precious, is an Outreach Nurse within Sexual Health team, who was recognised for her high quality work and working with partner agencies to facilitate and develop knowledge of her team's role.

Mary Windsor is a Children's Social Worker, within Children and Families service at North Yorkshire Council. Mary was recognised for the support she provides to schools and families and always going over and above to ensure children are safe.

Polly Newell and Sandra Cooper are Specialist Safeguarding Nurses within York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust. They were recognised as having led a detailed investigation into children and young people presenting within emergency departments, from this they were able to clearly identify gaps in service provision and opportunities for multi-agency working which has led to new safeguarding and clinical processes within the Trust.

NYSCP is looking for nominations for future achievement awards. More information about how you can nominate individuals, teams or services can be found at [www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/partnership-award](http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/partnership-award).



# Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group

North Yorkshire Council is duty-bound to notify the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel (CSPRP) and by extension the Department for Education and OFSTED, if it knows or suspects a child has died or been seriously harmed and abuse or neglect is known or suspected. The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Practice Review Group (SPRG) carries out reviews of the cases that are notified to CSPRP and of other safeguarding cases where there has been multiagency involvement which could support learning.

Number of notifications made to the CSPRP in 2022/2023	3
Number of Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPR) awaiting publication (due to ongoing Police investigations)	3
Number of Serious Case Reviews (SCR) Outstanding from the Local Safeguarding Children Board (due to ongoing investigations)	1
Number of cases notified to North Yorkshire Safeguarding Practice Review Group (SPRG) in 2022/2023 by partners for consideration	4
Of the 5 cases notified to SPRG 2022/2023 for consideration, which have been reviewed locally for learning	4

For each LCSPR and SCR detailed action plans have been commenced created and actions undertaken to address the identified need. This is monitored quarterly within the NYSCP Learning and Improvement Subgroup and regular reports on progress are presented to the NYSCP Executive. It is the view of the NYSCP Executive that these reports will not be publicly published until all due processes are concluded to ensure there is no influence to statutory investigations. The feedback NYSCP have received from the National Panel have consistently feedback that our submission to them have been consistently recognised as being thorough and identifying appropriate learning.

# Practice Development Subgroup

The Practice Development subgroup seeks to assure and contribute to the development of child safeguarding practice. This is achieved by providing professional challenge and requesting assurance from partner agencies in respect of safeguarding children practice.

During 2022/2023 the subgroup has:

- Continued to raise awareness of the Threshold Guide and Early Help Strategy
- Continued to raise awareness of the Day Night Sleep Right safe sleep campaign
- Planned and delivered Safeguarding Week 2023 activity
- Received feedback from frontline practice to support strategic developments
- Worked with the School Improvement Service, North Yorkshire Council and schools to develop the termly Designated Safeguarding Leads Network Webinars and the delivery of a Designated Safeguarding Leads Conference

## Priorities for 2023 - 2024

- Seek to develop the way feedback from frontline practice shapes the work of the subgroup
- Consider how the NYSCP Website can be developed to support the broader focus on the BYINY Priorities

The NYSCP maintains the multi-agency safeguarding procedures for North Yorkshire and provides practice guidance and one-minute guides (OMG) for professionals. The NYSCP procedures, practice guidance and one-minute guides can be found at:

[www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/procedures-practice-guidance-and-one-minute-guides](http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/procedures-practice-guidance-and-one-minute-guides)

# Learning Improvement Subgroup

The Learning and Improvement Subgroup seeks to identify, report and act upon any examples of local, regional, and national learning through the Learning and Improvement Framework.

During 2022/23 the Learning and Improvement Subgroup has:

- Promoted 7-point briefings
- Shared learning from Reviews
- Undertaken Training and Learning
- Masterclasses
- Audit summaries

## S11 audit

Following the completion of the 2020 - 2021 Section 11 and Governance Audit, which was carried out in partnership with the Safeguarding Children Partnerships and Safeguarding Adults Boards (SAB) across North Yorkshire and the City of York, a number of pieces of work have been delivered:

1. A managing allegations against staff and people in a position of trust [podcast](#).
2. NYSCP and the Safeguarding Adult Board have worked with partners in the voluntary sector to develop a self-assessment audit tool similar to the Section 11 and Governance Audit tool for use by within non-statutory organisation
3. Development of a Safeguarding Training Directory
4. Coordinated a range of awareness campaigns and calendar of activities across North Yorkshire in conjunction with the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board and North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership. Strengthening of the arrangements for reporting safeguarding concerns between NYSCP and Independent Schools.

## Working with Schools

### School Safeguarding Audit

Between December 22 and March 23, the NYSCP commenced its bi-annual audit of the safeguarding arrangements within primary and secondary phases of education for children and young people up to the age of 18. The purpose of the audit is to seek assurance of the level of safeguarding arrangements within all schools and identify areas for development. The audit responses are being analysed and the learning will be shared through a 7 point briefing with all schools and wider partners.

### Designated Safeguarding Leads Conference

In October 2022, NYSCP delivered a conference for Designated Safeguarding Leads across North Yorkshire which was attended by over 225 delegates from schools across North Yorkshire and focussed on:

- Technology Assisted Child Sexual Abuse (TACSA)
- What children and young people are doing online and the real risks and challenges that they face.
- Child Exploitation, Contextual Safeguarding and County Lines.
- Supporting Education Settings in Identifying those impacted by Hate Incidents and vulnerable to radicalisation.
- Safeguarding children from black and minoritised communities
- Virtual school: an introduction to the impact of trauma on education including attendance: See a child differently and you see a different child
- Poverty proofing

98% of attendees feedback that they felt they had learnt new skills and were able to apply what they had learnt to the workplace.

92% reported the conference met their expectations. Planning is now underway for a second conference in October 2023.

# Multi-agency Safeguarding Learning Themed Audits

When partner agencies and individual professionals engage in case auditing, it helps understand:

- the effectiveness of front-line practice in protecting children and young people
- how well the lessons of Case Reviews and other reviews of practice have been learnt; and
- what the impact of locally delivered training has been.
- Importantly, it allows us to identify good practice and ask questions about whether things could be done differently to improve the safeguarding system.

During 2022/2023 we have undertaken three Learning Themed Audits:

1. Multi-Agency Responses to Referrals on the Grounds of Neglect
2. Multi-Agency Responses to Child Exploitation
3. Multi-Agency Responses to Domestic Abuse

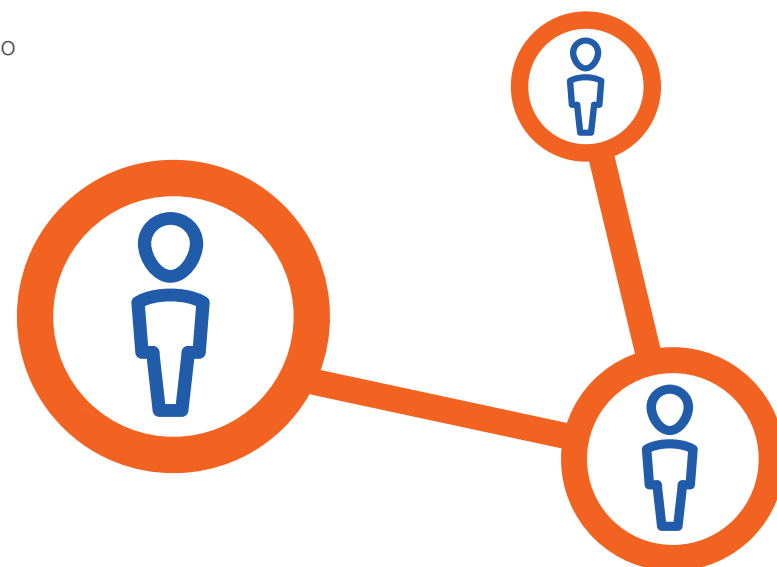
For more information about the learning from audits, visit our published 7-point briefings: [NYSCP \(safeguardingchildren.co.uk\)](https://safeguardingchildren.co.uk)

## Audit Priorities for 2023 / 2024

The Learning and Improvement Subgroup have identified the following Learning Theme Audits to be carried out in 2023-2024:

Multi-Agency Responses to Children and Young People who have been Excluded from School. This audit seeks to identify key themes surrounding the multi-agency responses to children and young people who have been suspended or excluded from school.

Multi-Agency Response to Unborn Babies. This audit will explore how potential safeguarding concerns are identified and assessed prior to birth and measure practice against the revised multi-agency practice guidance.



# Multi-agency Child Exploitation and Contextual Safeguarding

During 2022/2023 the Multi Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) and Contextual safeguarding (CS) arrangements have focussed on our priorities outlined in our **Multi Agency (MACE) and Contextual Safeguarding Strategy (2020/2023)**.

It focusses on:

- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
- Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) including County Lines
- Children missing from home (MFH)
- Harmful sexual behaviour
- Modern day slavery and human trafficking (MSHT)
- Online Child exploitation
- Wider contextual safeguarding.

**Priority 1: Enable partners and communities to work together to protect children and young people.**

### Achievements in 2022/2023

Development of our **Be Aware Knowledge Hub** which was relaunched in June 22. The hub is regularly updated to include key information pertinent to North Yorkshire as well as national and regional themes and trends. Consultation work with PSHE leads in schools has also enabled us to include a collection of age-appropriate lesson plans and additional resources for schools.

In 2022/2023, the BeAware site received nearly 30,000 views and received positive feedback from young people, partners and parents about its use.

“Exploitation can take place anywhere, to anybody and by anybody.”

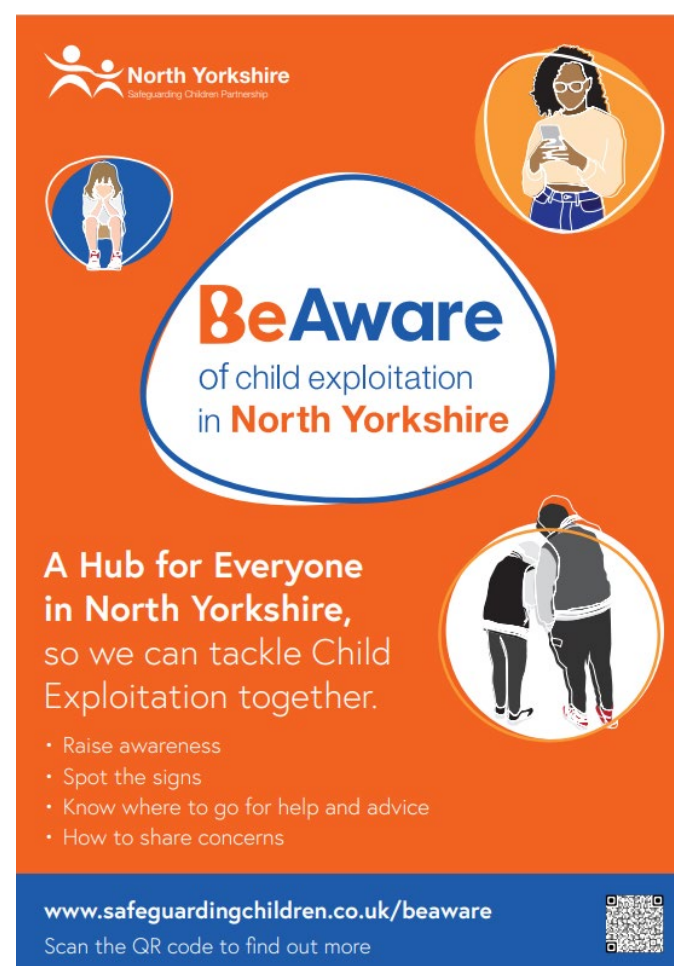
*“Be Aware is a fantastic resource with vital information presented in an accessible way, tailored to different school stakeholders. It has been brilliant to signpost parents to Be Aware to raise the profile and enhance their understanding of an important local safeguarding matter and staff have found it an extremely valuable go-to resource for all areas of child exploitation.”*

NYSCP have strengthened the MACE arrangements this year through the recruitment of a Child Exploitation and Contextual Safeguarding Officer who will support the work of MACE across North Yorkshire and act as an independent chair of our MACE Level 2 meetings as well as our **National Referral Mechanism (NRM)** panel from Spring 2023.

- **Training and updates** in relation to child exploitation have been shared with partners through masterclasses, as well as delivery to Designated Safeguarding leads as part of the safeguarding conference.



- Hope for Justice training delivered to 90 multi-agency partners around modern slavery and the NRM across North Yorkshire and City of York.
- Promotion of national campaigns such as the **National Working Group** Child Exploitation Awareness Day and the **Children's Society #Lookcloser campaign**, via social media and through partnership briefing packs.
- NYSCP **E-Bulletin takeover**, delivering key messages and updates from partners around exploitation resulting in a significant increase in visits to the Be Aware site.



## Priority 2: Focus on Prevention and engagement of children, young people, parents, and carers.

### Achievements in 2022/2023

Collaboration with parents, carers young people as well as partners such as PACE (Parents Against Child Exploitation), Youth council, the Youth Commission and Detached Youth work services to develop the Be Aware knowledge hub's young people and parents and carers section.

*“My children are aged 10 and 12 and a friend forwarded me the link to be Be Aware site. I had not seen it before, but I thought it was a great resource that would be useful to lots of groups. Some of the messages were very powerful and emotive....I think having this practical information available to everyone in an easy way to understand format is really important for safeguarding matters.”*

- Increased promotion of the use of the 'Mind of My own' app. The App is used by Children and Families Service and is a tool to capture the voices and experiences of children and young people.
- Supported the work of our partners in engaging in prevention work. This has included North Yorkshires Hand in Hand Service delivering 48 sessions in primary and secondary schools to 433 children and young people and PACE working with 58 families and delivering training to 2490 individuals who reported an 86% increased understanding of child exploitation.
- Development of the role of our Independent Child Trafficking Guardianship service continues to in providing advice to professionals, direct work with children and young people as well as advisory support within our NRM panels.

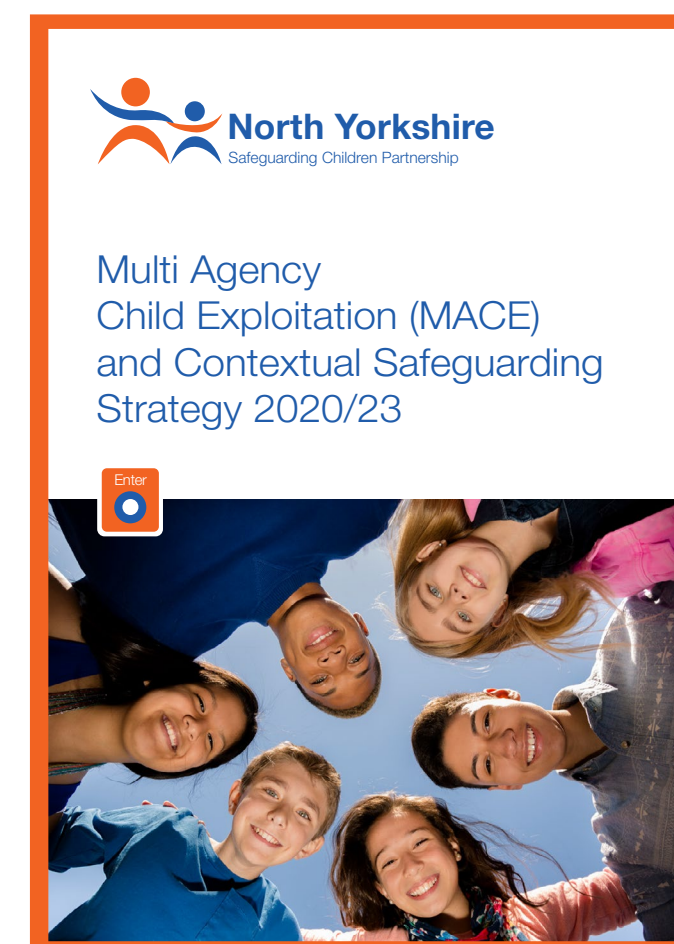
## Priority 3: Strengthen multi-agency work in response to children and young people identified as at risk and the targeting and disruption of those who pose a risk of harm and locations of concern.

### Achievements 2022/2023

- Continued focus around the use of the **Police Partnership information sharing form**.
- Strengthening of our arrangements around those who **pose a risk of by exploitation** towards young people, including the development of 'Perpetrator on a Page' created by Police and shared within our MACE Level 2 meetings outlining the risk posed by individuals or groups and outlines relevant intelligence collection plans.
- An ongoing strategic focus on the support for victims of exploitation as they move through periods of transition, particularly as they approach adulthood and turn 18 and may still be vulnerable to exploitation.
- Disseminating resources and awareness raising materials to **local business and communities** as well as through our Local Safeguarding Partnerships from our Be Aware knowledge hub to develop community links and increase awareness of warning signs and sharing information to tackle and disrupt exploitation.

## Priority 4: Utilise research, innovation, and quality assurance to strengthen practice.

- Development of cross partnership dataset that highlights themes, patterns and trends in our locality areas to drive understanding of the risk of exploitation and identify those children who may be at risk.
- Consistent focus on quality assurance through our MACE Strategic, Operational and Level 1 and 2 arrangements.
- Development of a series of MACE face to face development sessions for delivery in Summer 23, providing partners with an opportunity to come together, build partnership links and share good practice and innovation.



# Multi-agency Training and Learning

Our masterclasses are recorded and can be viewed via our NYSCP YouTube Channel available from [www.youtube.com/@nyscp](https://www.youtube.com/@nyscp) 446 people booked on NYSCP Masterclasses for 2022-2023, with 380 delegates in attendance. Between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023 these recordings received over 1,614 views. Our masterclasses can all be viewed through our [website](#), which we have found is a really effective way of reaching wider partners and supporting them to facilitate their own learning at a time that works for them if they are not able to attend the live masterclass.

Parental conflict	Sudden Unexpected Deaths in Infancy (SUDI)	Working with Men Virtual Conference
Working with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Children	Be Aware and Safeguarding Partnership Training	Day and Night Sleep Right
NYSCP Quickfire Updates	Responding to cases of domestic abuse and sexual abuse; safeguarding children from BME communities	Safer Recruitment and Domestic Violence
Ukrainian families as refugees - Challenges and Vulnerabilities	Fire Awareness and Cyber Crime	Early Years
Counter terrorism	Drink Drug Hub	Sexual Abuse Assessment Centre (SARC)

We have gained an additional 64 subscribers via our YouTube channel and received 5.5K views of channel content, accounting for 614 hours of watch time. Our most watched YouTube videos for 2022-2023 were:

1. Contextual Safeguarding Keynote by Dr Carlene Firmin with 636 views
2. The NYSCP Early Years Masterclass October 2022 with 436 views
3. NYSCP Thresholds Video V6 - with 432 views
4. Sudden Unexpected deaths in Infancy (SUDI) with 357 views
5. The NYSCP Be Aware Masterclass with 191 views

## Safeguarding Week 2022

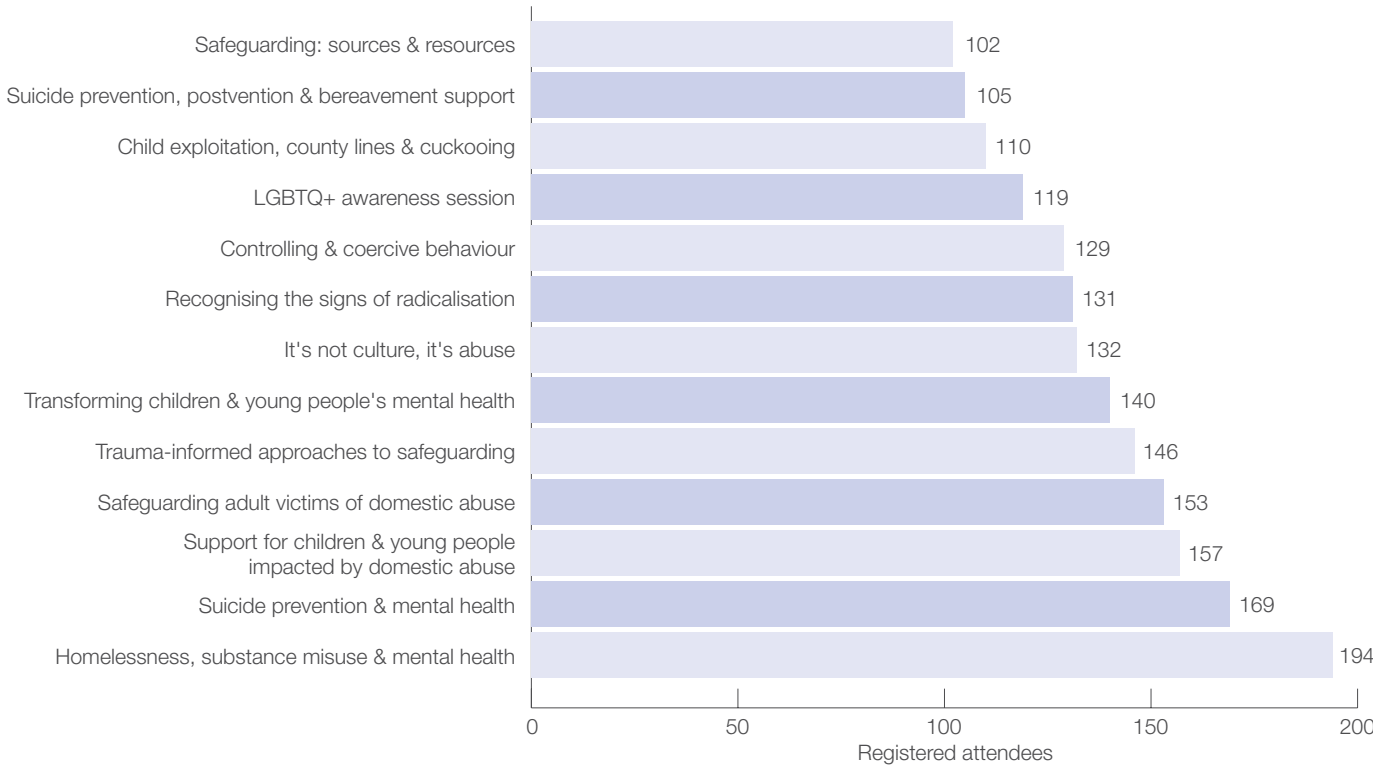
Safeguarding Week is the annual event supported by the NYSCP, NYSAB and NYCSP.

During the week partners across the County ran:

- 53 sessions held over 5 days (2 cancelled)
- 3,572 registered attendees



### Most popular topics for Safeguarding Week 2022



99% of all attendees reported they felt that the Safeguarding Week sessions they attended were a good learning opportunity. Feedback included:



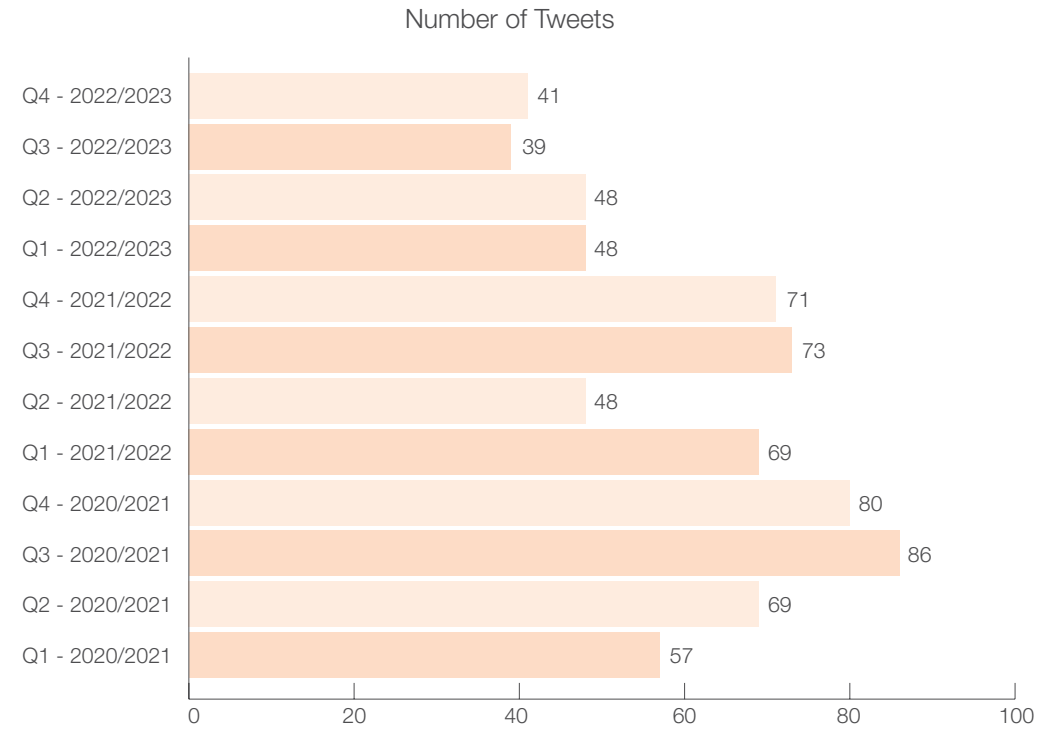
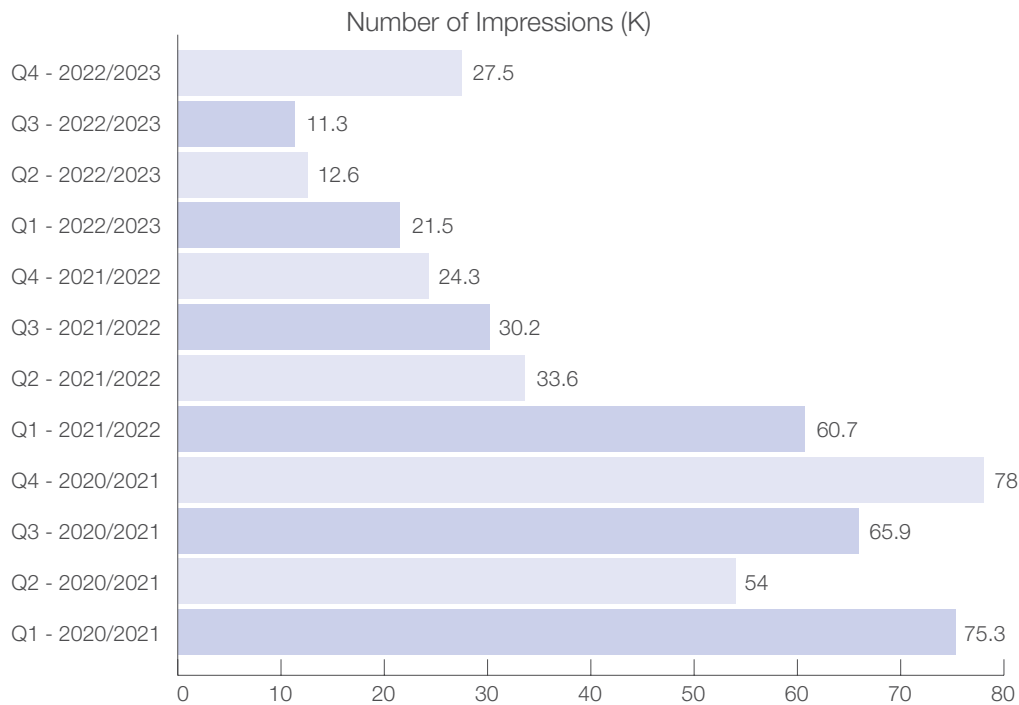
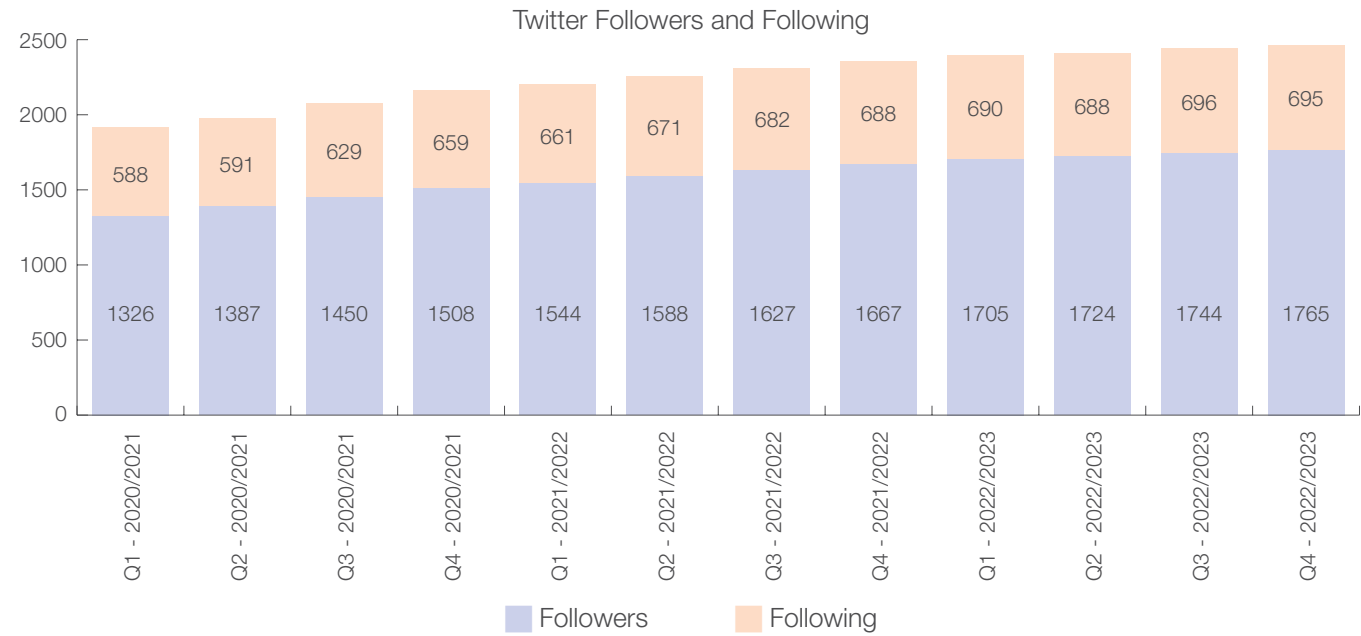
NYSCP Website

Throughout the year, usage of the NYSCP website has continued to increase. Between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023 there were:

- 153,665 website sessions
- 114,092 website users
- 266,011 web pages viewed

Social Media

The NYSCP supports the use of social media as a communication method of engaging with professionals across North Yorkshire. The number of follows has continued to grow steadily over the last two years.



The number of tweets varied across the year with a higher rate in the first few quarters due to greater usage during the pandemic. The number of impressions (i.e. times when the NYSCP has appeared on a user's twitter homepage) has varied significantly over the year. It is understood that throughout the Pandemic there was a high use of Twitter and other online resources; following the pandemic there has been decrease in visits to the NYSCP Twitter page.

NYSCP E-bulletin

Our monthly free e-bulletin continues to grow with 1,925 people subscribed. The e-bulletin has covered a wide range of topics including:

- Promoting Safeguarding Week
- The NYSCP Be Aware Knowledge Hub
- Domestic abuse
- Working with men
- Online Safety
- Sudden Unexpected Deaths in Infancy and ICON
- Dog Safety
- Campaigns
- The NYSCP Partnership Awards
- Training

Sign up by visiting: [NYSCP \(safeguardingchildren.co.uk\)](https://safeguardingchildren.co.uk)



# Child Death Review Process

Child Death Review partners, the Local Authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups for North Yorkshire and City of York hold responsibility for the delivery of the Child Death Review Process as set out in the Children Act 2004, as amended by the Children and Social Work Act 2017. The publication of the **Child Death Review Statutory and Operational Guidance in 2018** built on the requirements set out in Chapter 5 of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 and details how individual professionals and organisations across all sectors involved in the Child Death Review should contribute to guided standardised practice nationally and enable thematic learning to prevent future child deaths. The process is undertaken locally for all children who are normally resident within North Yorkshire and City of York.

- The NYSCP are committed to learning from the circumstances and factors present in each death, and to;
  - Identify any change that can be made or actions which can be taken that might help to prevent similar deaths in the future
  - Share learning with colleagues locally, regionally, and nationally so that the findings will have a greater impact
  - Analyse trends and targeted interventions that can be delivered in response to findings, for example, through an extensive multi-agency campaign of training and awareness raising

## ‘Day or Night, Sleep Right’

Between 2017 and 2022, North Yorkshire Council (NYC) and City of York Council (COY) have had 10 babies who have died with a recorded cause of death

as SUDI. In March 2021 a paper was presented to NYSCP Executives highlighting the need for a partnership response to reducing the risks of SUDI, with a particular focus on supporting families with additional vulnerabilities. This paper was in response to findings from a report published by the Safeguarding Children Practice Review Panel in July 2020 and learning arising from a number of North Yorkshire and York cases where there had been the unexpected death of an infant in families with existing safeguarding vulnerabilities.

The partnerships agreed to adopt a “Prevent and Protect Model” of SUDI Risk Minimisation. This model was subsequently named the ‘*Day or Night, Sleep Right*’ campaign and aimed to look at SUDI risk minimisation through a safeguarding lens, focusing on supporting professionals from all relevant agencies to feel competent and confident to work with families to promote safe sleep practice. In addition to an extensive program of single agency training, multi-agency training is available to practitioners. A multiagency masterclass developed which was developed which has now had **446** views on the NYSCP YouTube channel and SUDI podcast has been listened to **76** times.

The *Day or Night, Sleep Right* work is ongoing with the aim of establishing safe sleep as a fundamental aspect of multiagency work with families with additional vulnerabilities.

The campaign has been recognised by researchers at Durham University (Durham Infancy and Sleep Centre) as one of very few multiagency SUDI risk minimisation programmes across the Country’.

**NYSCP ([safeguardingchildren.co.uk](https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk))**

# Voice of the child

As a partnership, we heard routinely from relevant agencies of the work they do to capture the voice of the child within the work they are undertaking on an operational basis. Within our audit activity we regularly see how professionals are seeking and speaking directly with children and young people. Within the work of the partnership, we routinely use feedback from children and young people to help us to seek assurance that agencies are doing all they can to be child focused and listen to the voices of our service users. This is an area the partnership are keen to develop and are seeking the views of children and young people around how they can be more included in our work to ensure our Youth Voice groups across North Yorkshire have a platform at our NYSCP Strategic group meeting.

## The Growing Up in North Yorkshire Survey

We routinely use and promote the use of the Growing Up in North Yorkshire Survey which hears directly from students across North Yorkshire schools. This has been used along with feedback from children and young people in the creation of the NYSCP Being Young in North Yorkshire Strategy.

This year the survey supported 17,000 children and young people participating and sharing their perceptions and experiences and the findings within the survey continue to provide all professionals who work with children and young people across North Yorkshire with key insights into their perceptions and experiences in order for us to achieve this strategic vision.

The data reinforces the need for us to continue to focus on supporting all our children and young people, including the most vulnerable, ensuring we all take collective responsibility for prioritising their health and wellbeing.

## The Youth Commission

The Youth Commission enables young people, aged between 10 and 25, to inform, support and challenge the work of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, North Yorkshire Police and North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. Comprising of up to 35 young people, they are a diverse group who broadly reflect the make-up of the local population, including those who may have direct experience of the police and the criminal justice system.

Young people have provided some feedback about their involvement:

“I absolutely love it. It’s made me so much more confident in myself and I’m really interested in how we can help other people”

“I am improving my confidence and speaking skills whilst also helping people at the same time. I feel that I have life experience which may be valuable to share with others”



# Local Safeguarding Partnerships

Local Safeguarding Partnerships (LSPs) are local safeguarding meetings where partners come together. Professionals are based in Children, Adult and Community Safety services and aim to raise awareness of safeguarding in the local area and respond to local need. The groups identify learning needs, share good practice and deliver the local priorities within the Board

and Partnership’s business plans. We have four groups across the County in Harrogate/Craven, Hambleton and Richmondshire, Selby and Scarborough and Ryedale. It is recognised that the LSPs play a vital role responding to issues in the locality and over the coming year work will be completed to strengthen the role they play in communities.

# Financial Position

The NYSCP budget is agreed annually, and contributions made by several partners outlined below.

Organisation	Contribution (£)	Percentage of Budget
North Yorkshire Council	151,600	49%
Integrated Care Board	91,344	30%
North Yorkshire Police	44,633	15%
City of York Partnership (Child Death Contribution)	16,693	5%
HM Prison and Probation Service	2,727	1%

# Priorities for 2023 - 2024

Within the NYSCP Strategic Group Meeting a review of the Being Young in North Yorkshire Strategic Action Plan was undertaken with progress updates shared by relevant agencies against the action plan. Upon review of the BYINY Strategy the following three areas were agreed to be the priority areas for 2023/2024:

## Strengthening the role of education in the Partnership

The NYSCP Executive recognises the important role education plays in the lives of children and young people. When considering potential changes to Working Together Legislation **Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 - consultation document (education.gov.uk)** it is felt important for the Partnership to consider how the role of education can be strengthened in partnership working.

## Children and Young People’s Emotional and Mental Health

While considerable work has been undertaken by partners in this area, children and young people continue to report this as an area of concern so a focus will continue, to ensure children have access to the right support at the right time in respect of their emotional and mental wellbeing.

## Promote positives of online engagement whilst minimising the risk cyp face online

The internet is a valuable resource for children and young people to learn and share information and experiences. The social aspect of online interaction is deeply embedded children and young people’s lives. While the use of the internet is a positive aspect in the lives of children and young people, it also opens them to various risks and vulnerabilities such as online bullying, grooming, exploitation, extremism and sexual abuse to name just a few.

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