



North Lincolnshire

**CHILDREN'S
MULTI-AGENCY
RESILIENCE &
SAFEGUARDING
BOARD**

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

Published October 2021

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Foreword

Welcome to the North Lincolnshire **Children’s Multi-Agency Resilience and Safeguarding (MARS) Local Arrangements** to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Our Local Arrangements are set within the context of the **One Family Approach** which aims to create **a system that works for all children, young people and families**, to prioritise those who have additional need, to reduce inequalities and improve outcomes for all children and families, taking account of ethnicity, race and religion and those with specific additional vulnerabilities.

The **North Lincolnshire Children’s Commissioning Strategy 2020/24** clarifies the integrated **One Family Approach**.

Children, young people, families and communities are at the heart of what we do and we are proud to acknowledge and celebrate the positive outcomes achieved to date and the strength of partnership working. We are ambitious for the future and for our children and young people, and we have high expectations of ourselves as partners, working with children, families and communities, to improve outcomes. We want to build on the collective strengths of our people and place to innovate and change through integration and system redesign. In North Lincolnshire, our One Family Approach aims to create **a system that works for all children, young people and families** where we work together.

Our ambition is for children to be **in their families, in their schools and in their communities**. As partners take a **One Family Approach** across North Lincolnshire, we want children, young people and families to be able to build upon their strengths and their resilience to find or be enabled to find solutions when things are not going so well. They should be able to access available information, advice, guidance and be enabled to maximise their potential and enhance their life chances. We want all children and families to have a sense of belonging and equality of opportunity and through our integrated working, we will address inequalities and enable those more in need to achieve positive outcomes. Where there are significant concerns, we want children, young people and families to be able to access swift, creative and flexible help so they can remain independent. We will protect children and young people with an aim to build resilience and help them live within their family, attend their school and be a part of their community.

The **One Family Approach - Helping Children and Families in North Lincolnshire 2020/24** sets out how services support children, young people and families to participate, find help online and in their networks and communities, to be resilient, stay safe and independent. This includes a key role for us, as the three statutory partners from the **Police, Clinical Commissioning Group and Council**, and other relevant partners on how we **safeguard children**.

We want children, young people and families to be supported by a workforce that is resilient, confident, competent and with authorisation to do what they think is the right thing to do without escalating children and families unnecessarily through a range of organisational systems and referral processes when the day to day contact with trusted professionals can make the difference. We will listen to families, work to build upon the child and family's strengths, help them find solutions and only when necessary consult with others to seek assurance, check they're doing the right thing and continue to support the child and family. We want to create equality of opportunities by acknowledging inequalities and removing barriers and we will prioritise services to our most vulnerable children and young people so they have fair and equitable opportunities to be the best they can be, irrespective of their background and circumstances.

By listening, learning, reviewing and adapting; by taking account of the performance data and intelligence, by listening to our children, young people, families and taking account of the **Children’s Challenge 2020/24**, specific areas of focus have been identified on which we want to ‘shine a light’ for partnership action.

Through our Local Arrangements, we want to help and protect children and families including promoting resilience and early help which we believe are fundamental to a successful safeguarding system.

Following the publication of our original Local Arrangements in October 2018, our launch event in November 2018 and our subsequent annual republication(s), these refreshed Local Arrangements take account of our listening, learning, reviewing and adapting.

Across the partnership, we remain committed to co-producing with children, young people and families using their strengths and assets to develop services to meet their individual needs. We also continue to focus on building children, young people and families' resilience and making children's safeguarding personal and swift so they can be in their families, in their schools and in their communities.

These Local Arrangements fulfil the requirements set out in Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2018, including the arrangements for:

- the safeguarding partners to work together to identify and respond to the needs of children in the area
- commissioning and publishing Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews
- independent scrutiny of the effectiveness of the Local Arrangements

The Local Arrangements are managed and co-ordinated by the Children's MARS team through the Strategy, Partnership/participation/performance/policy, Assurance, Children and Community Resilience, and Evaluation (SPACE) service within North Lincolnshire Council who will draw on subject matter experts from across partner organisations. Through subject matter experts and the SPACE service, we will deliver a focussed, co-ordinated response, innovate system change, deliver efficiencies and drive up multi-agency practice.

As safeguarding partners and through the Children's MARS Board, we remain committed to improving outcomes for our children, young people and families and we will continue to work collaboratively so that equal and joint, consistent and committed leadership continues.

These Local Arrangements were published in October 2021 and will be implemented with immediate effect.



Ann-Marie Brierley

Interim Director of Children and Community Resilience
North Lincolnshire Council

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Helen Davis

Interim Director of Nursing and Quality
North Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Helen Davis'.



Darren Wildbore

Chief Superintendent
South Bank Divisional Commander
Humberside Police

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1 Introduction and Context

Introduction and Context

Helping and protecting children through a co-ordinated approach to safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility. Children, young people and families are at the centre of the system and through collaborative working across agencies who work with children, young people and families, including those who work with parents/carers, the ambition of our Local Arrangements is that everyone is able to recognise, respond and fulfil their responsibilities to children, young people and families in order to build their resilience and ensure that they are safeguarded.

Legislative Context

These Local Arrangements are underpinned by [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018](#) and the [Children Act 2004](#) (as amended by the Children and Social Work Act 2017). These outline that the three safeguarding partners are:

- the local authority
- a clinical commissioning group for an area any part of which falls within the local authority area
- the chief officer of police for an area any part of which falls within the local authority area

and that they have a shared and equal duty to make arrangements to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area.

The three safeguarding partners must set out how they will work together and with any relevant agencies. Relevant agencies are those organisations and agencies whose involvement the safeguarding partners consider may be required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children with regard to local need.

Local Context

In September 2017, Ofsted judged both the North Lincolnshire Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and Children's Services as 'Outstanding'. This was recognition of the excellent partnership arrangements that we have in place. Ofsted indicated that the LSCB was outward looking and constantly striving to improve the effectiveness of its agencies in safeguarding children.

In July 2018, North Lincolnshire was chosen by the Government as an 'early adopter' to implement the new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements. Learning was shared across other areas as part of the programme and work was undertaken to develop and implement new innovative approaches to multi-agency safeguarding practice.

These Local Arrangements will deliver effective practice within the context of wider strategy and policy development within North Lincolnshire. We will also drive opportunities to shape and influence policy development beyond the local geographical footprint leading to improved practice and outcomes for children.

Helping Children and Families in North Lincolnshire 2020/24

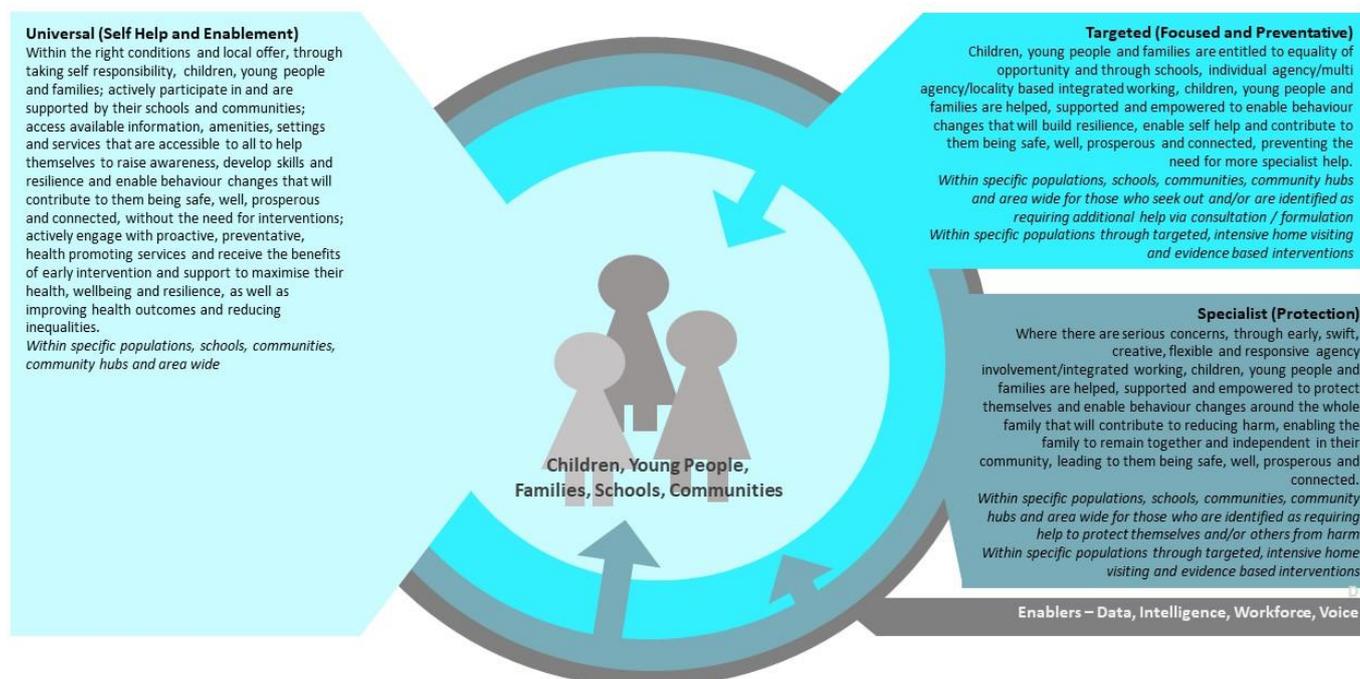
The **Helping Children and Families in North Lincolnshire 2020/24** document meets the requirements of Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2018 by setting out the levels of need (thresholds) in North Lincolnshire, in the context of our broader system for early help and protection and fulfils the Safeguarding Partners' responsibility to publish a threshold document.

The document also underpins the One Family Approach – Children's Commissioning Strategy 2020/24 and associated planning and commissioning arrangements.

Specifically, the document:

- sets out our local definitions of levels of need, in line with our organisational model
- sets out guidance to professionals about providing early help and making decisions about levels of need
- refers to our One Family Approach Practice Model which provides the framework for how the provision of help and protection should be undertaken across the partnership
- refers to our Risk Outside the Home local approach as to how the provision of help and protection should be taken to reduce the risks children face outside the family home
- sets out the principles which underpin multi agency practice in North Lincolnshire

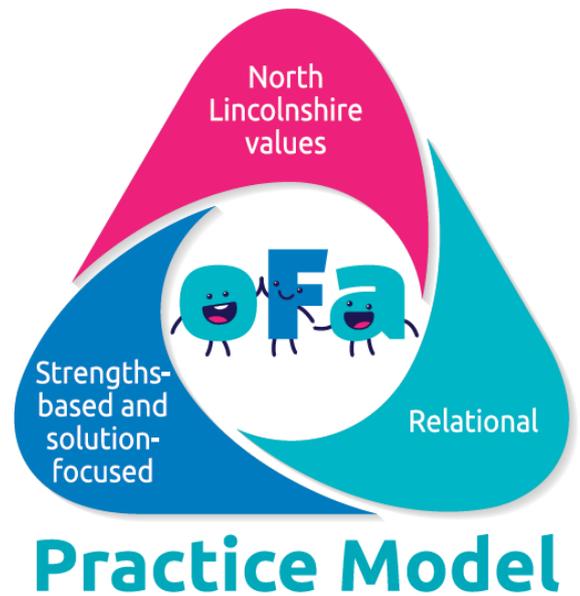
Our North Lincolnshire organisational model places children, young people, and families at the centre of a system that works for all, where the earliest help is to enable families to access information and self-help, in their communities. For those more in need, targeted early help prevents escalation and enables resilience and independence, to achieve positive outcomes. Where required, specialist agency involvement and protection is swift, responsive, and effective, leaving the child's family and network stronger.



The One Family Approach Practice Model provides the framework for how every professional in North Lincolnshire should work with children, young people, and families.

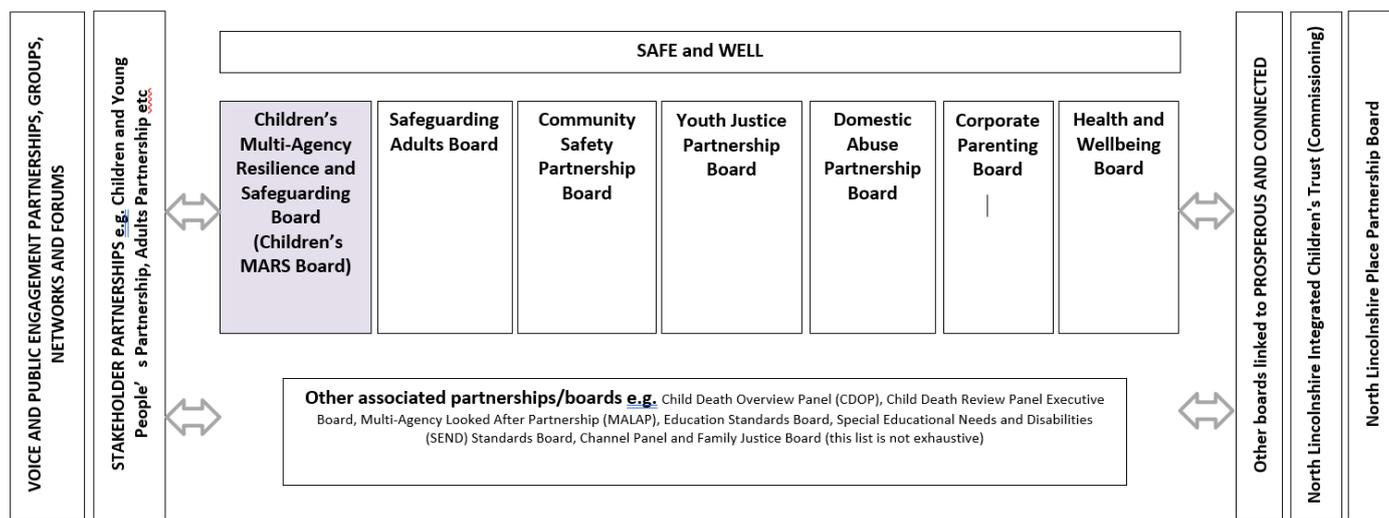
It is based upon our North Lincolnshire culture, values and beliefs, aiming to help us achieve our ambition – to keep children in their families, their schools and their communities.

We do so by building upon strengths, finding solutions in families and communities, building resilience and confidence, and enabling independence.

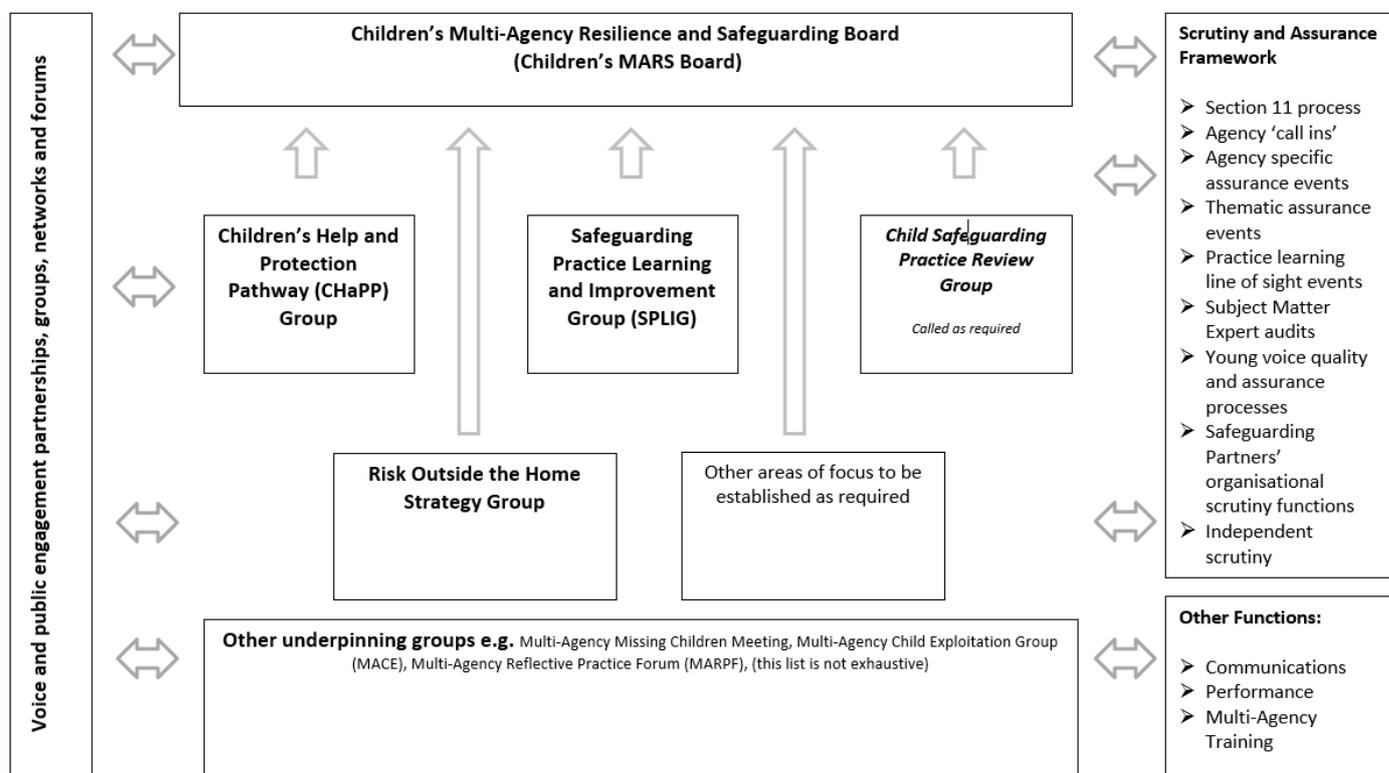


2 Partnerships

These Local Arrangements have been established in the context of wider partnership arrangements in North Lincolnshire. The North Lincolnshire strategic board partnership structure is detailed below:



Under the auspices of the Children's MARS Board, the Local Arrangements are underpinned by a robust partnership structure, which is outlined below:



The roles and functions of the Children's MARS Board and the underpinning groups and partnerships are detailed further in the **Children's MARS Board Memorandum of Understanding**.

3 Safeguarding Partners and Relevant Agencies

Leadership

In North Lincolnshire, the safeguarding partner organisations and the lead representatives are:

- North Lincolnshire Council – Chief Executive
- North Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group – Accountable Officer
- Humberside Police – Chief Constable

All three safeguarding partners have equal and joint responsibility for local safeguarding arrangements underpinned by equitable and proportionate funding including through any contributions from relevant agencies.

Locally, the lead representatives have delegated their functions to the:

- Director of Children and Community Resilience, North Lincolnshire Council
- Director of Nursing and Quality, North Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group
- Designated Chief Superintendent and South Bank Divisional Commander, Humberside Police

These safeguarding partners have the responsibility and authority for ensuring full participation with the Local Arrangements, though the lead representatives remain accountable for any actions or decisions taken on behalf of their respective organisation.

The lead representatives and those they have delegated their authority to, are able to:

- Speak with authority for the safeguarding partner they represent
- Take decisions on behalf of their organisation or agency and commit them on policy, resourcing and practice matters
- Hold their own organisation or agency to account on how effectively they participate and implement the Local Arrangements

Strong leadership is essential for the Local Arrangements to be effective in bringing together various organisations and agencies. They will be strongly led and promoted, specifically by local area leaders, including the lead representatives from the safeguarding partner organisations and those to whom they have delegated their authority to, the Cabinet Member for Children and Families and also through the commitment of chief officers in all agencies.

The Local Arrangements will be delivered through the Children’s MARS Board, which brings together the safeguarding partners, and other relevant officers, to oversee, innovate and develop the Local Arrangements and seek assurance regarding the standard of local implementation across the safeguarding system and to ensure children, young people and families are resilient and safeguarded.

The Children’s MARS Board is chaired by one of the safeguarding partners and is rotated on an annual basis. The core membership of the Children’s MARS Board is representative of the three safeguarding partners, as above. In addition, schools, colleges and other education settings are represented by the Director of Learning, Skills and Culture, North Lincolnshire Council.

The North Lincolnshire Cabinet Member for Children and Families is invited to attend Children's MARS Board meetings as a participatory observer.

More detail regarding safeguarding partners' roles and responsibilities is articulated in the [Children's MARS Board Memorandum of Understanding](#) and the [Children's MARS Board Terms of Reference](#).

Relevant Agencies

The strength of local partnership working is predicated on the safeguarding partners working collaboratively together with relevant agencies, whose involvement the safeguarding partners consider is required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The Local Arrangements will engage local agencies to collaborate and provide targeted support to children and families.

The local approach also enables joint identification of, and response to, existing and emerging needs, and to agreeing priorities to improve outcomes for children.

The [Child Safeguarding Practice Review and Relevant Agency \(England\) Regulations 2018](#) sets out the list of relevant agencies that are required to work under the auspices of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

It is important to note that:

- although safeguarding partner organisations are not referred to in the regulations, their staff are subject to the Local Arrangements
- that certain key agencies are not listed in the regulations, as their functions are commissioned or otherwise overseen by one or more of the safeguarding partners - for example, GPs, dentists and mental health service providers are already represented variously through the inclusion of CCG's NHS England, NHS Trusts and Foundation Trusts
- the list of local selected relevant agencies is intentionally focussed at an agency-based level - it is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all bodies and individuals which come into contact with children

The safeguarding partners have selected relevant agencies in North Lincolnshire based on those that are evident in the local environment, those with whom safeguarding partners have a relationship with and those who have responsibility for and who can actively contribute to helping and protecting children in North Lincolnshire.

There is an expectation that relevant agencies who are subject to Section 11 share their inspection reports and action plans regarding issues relating to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

Other agencies who are not named in the Relevant Agency (England) Regulations have been included in the Local Arrangements. Examples of these are Humberside Fire and Rescue Service, Ongo Homes, the voluntary, charity, social enterprise sector who provide activities, support and services for children and families, private sector organisations, faith-based organisations and other health providers. Agencies who are not named in the regulations, whilst not under a statutory duty, should nevertheless cooperate and collaborate with the safeguarding partners particularly as they may have duties under section 10 and/or section 11 of the Children Act 2004.

Where a relevant agency has a national remit, such as the British Transport Police and CAFCASS the safeguarding partners will collaborate and take account of that agency's individual responsibilities and potential contributions towards a number of local safeguarding children arrangements.

The safeguarding partners have secured the clinical expertise of designated health professionals for safeguarding and looked after children within their arrangements.

The full list of locally selected relevant agencies and other agencies not named in the regulations yet included are in the [Children's MARS Local Arrangements: Appendices](#). Relevant agencies who have been selected must act in accordance with the Local Arrangements.

The list of selected relevant agencies and other agencies included may change over time to reflect those present in our local footprint. The list will be revised and republished as appropriate.

Selected relevant agencies and other organisations and agencies included in the Local Arrangements are subject to our scrutiny and assurance arrangements. See section 5.

Early years settings, schools, colleges and other education providers

Early years providers play a crucial role in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, as defined by their duties under Section 40 of the Childcare Act 2006. There are robust arrangements in place at a strategic and operational level to engage with early years providers to ensure they are fulfilling their safeguarding responsibilities, for example through safeguarding audits and line of sight meetings focussing on safeguarding.

Safeguarding partners acknowledge the pivotal role that schools, colleges and other educational providers play in building resilience, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, as detailed in the statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018. There are established, collaborative relationships with schools and colleges, which are built on open and transparent partnership arrangements and well-embedded, innovative mechanisms for young voice. For example, Primary and Secondary Matters Forums, established mechanisms to engage with the Designated Safeguarding Leads forum and frameworks for undertaking safeguarding audits.

Through subject matter experts and the Children's MARS team, there will be opportunities to build on existing mechanisms and develop an even more unique, innovative approach to engaging with early years providers, schools, colleges and other educational providers in the new Local Arrangements.

Residential homes for children

All residential homes for children within North Lincolnshire, including those provided by North Lincolnshire Council and private sector organisations, are selected by the safeguarding partners as relevant agencies. There are mechanisms in place to engage residential homes in Local Arrangements for example through the local provider forum.

Subject matter experts and the Children's MARS team, where appropriate, will continue to engage with residential homes through the existing mechanisms to ensure ongoing engagement with all residential homes in the new Local Arrangements.

Geographical area

The geographical footprint for the Local Arrangements is the North Lincolnshire local authority area.

This footprint corresponds with that of the North Lincolnshire CCG. Humberside Police covers the North Lincolnshire local authority area and three other local authority areas.

The safeguarding partners and other agencies included in these Local Arrangements will fulfil their statutory and legislative duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children from North Lincolnshire who live or are placed outside of our local authority area.

Likewise, the safeguarding partners and other agencies included in these Local Arrangements will fulfil their statutory and legislative duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children who live within the North Lincolnshire local authority area including looked after children placed in North Lincolnshire by other local authorities or those who move into our local area.

4 Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

The responsibility for how the system learns lessons from serious child safeguarding incidents, lies at a national level with the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel (the Panel) and at a local level with the safeguarding partners.

Serious child safeguarding cases are those in which:

- abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected and
- the child has died or been seriously harmed

The three safeguarding partners must make arrangements to:

- identify serious child safeguarding cases which raise issues of importance in relation to the area
- commission and oversee the review of those cases, where they consider it appropriate for a review to be undertaken

In order to determine whether to carry out a local child safeguarding practice review, a Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group will be convened with the safeguarding partners' representatives as the core members.

Should a local Child Safeguarding Practice Review be undertaken, the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group will continue to give oversight to the action plan until completion or with agreement from the safeguarding partners the action plan will be monitored by the Safeguarding Practice Learning and Improvement Group. The action plan will be finally signed off by the safeguarding partners at the Children's MARS Board.

The [Children's MARS Board Policy and Procedures - Improving Child Protection and Safeguarding Practice](#) outline the local process for identifying a serious child safeguarding case, notifying the safeguarding partners and the Panel, undertaking a rapid review and decision-making on whether to undertake a review. They also inform on commissioning, overseeing and publication of a review and how the findings, learning and identified improvements are embedded in practice to make a real impact on improving outcomes for children.

5 Scrutiny and Assurance

The Local Arrangements have been developed to create an environment that is conducive to robust scrutiny and constructive challenge. They include opportunities to proactively catch local agencies before they fall as well as a partnership approach to learning and improvement across the multi-agency children's safeguarding system.

Locally, there is a culture of challenge and holding partners to account. There are embedded systems and processes for professional challenge across the safeguarding system and evidence of scrutiny and assurance arrangements in place at all levels across our safeguarding partner organisations.

There is an ongoing drive and commitment to ensure continuous improvement leading to better outcomes and experiences for our children, young people and families and we continue to develop innovative approaches relating to scrutiny and assurance. Through the [Children's MARS Board Scrutiny and Assurance Framework](#), a range of mechanisms are in place to ensure scrutiny and assurance including independent scrutiny, which are:

- Section 11 process through the joint safeguarding self-assessment (with Safeguarding Adults Board)
- Agency 'call ins'
- Agency specific assurance events
- Thematic assurance events
- Practice learning line of sight events
- Subject matter expert audits
- Young voice quality assurance processes

These mechanisms provide different opportunities for quality assurance, case tracking and deep dives into specific agencies, themes, cohorts and areas of focus.

In the spirit of continuous learning there will be ongoing review of the Children's MARS Board Scrutiny and Assurance Framework, including independent scrutiny arrangements. This reinforces the local ethos of being forward thinking and outward looking and the ongoing drive towards 'breaking the mould', while ensuring the approach to scrutiny and assurance continues to be transparent and inclusive.

The Children's MARS Board Scrutiny and Assurance Framework, which is developed in a contemporary context taking innovative approaches, enables safeguarding partners to:

- have assurance of whether all agencies are fulfilling their responsibilities to building resilience, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children
- have assurance of whether all agencies are joined up and working together
- have a direct line of sight to frontline practice
- have live conversations with frontline practitioners
- talk with and receive direct feedback from children, young people and families
- test the interconnectedness between performance, practice and the voice of the child, young person and family
- take account of independent scrutiny which helps to determine the effectiveness of our arrangements including arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding cases
- be confident about the authenticity of the report they will publish at least once a year

Independent Scrutiny

The role of independent scrutiny is critical to provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of the Local Arrangements.

Independent Scrutiny Officers play a significant role in the Children's MARS Board Scrutiny and Assurance Framework, as do safeguarding partners and representatives from selected relevant agencies, to engage in peer review processes and other opportunities for peer review processes at a regional and national level.

Safeguarding partners are jointly responsible for identifying Independent Scrutiny Officers who should have suitable attributes, skills, knowledge and understanding of the children's safeguarding system. There will be a small pool of Independent Scrutiny Officers from a range of backgrounds, which will ensure different perspectives and provide a degree of flexibility and capacity to contribute to the scrutiny and assurance arrangements as required.

Local arrangements for independent scrutiny will:

- provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of Local Arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in North Lincolnshire
- provide assurance that there is effective identification and review of serious child safeguarding cases
- act as part of a wider system which includes the independent inspectorates' single assessment of the individual safeguarding partners and the Joint Targeted Area Inspections
- consider how effectively the Local Arrangements are working for children and families as well as for practitioners, and how well the safeguarding partners are providing strong leadership
- provide objectivity, act as a constructive critical friend and promote reflection to promote continuous improvement
- report to the safeguarding partners any recommendations from their scrutiny and assurance activities
- scrutinise the Local Arrangements and Annual Report

Independent scrutiny can also assist in the event of a disagreement between the safeguarding partners and/or relevant agencies involved in the Local Arrangements. The role of the Independent Scrutiny Officers is referenced in the [Children's MARS Board Memorandum of Understanding](#) and detailed in the [Children's MARS Board Scrutiny and Assurance Framework](#)

Learning and Improvement

The key element of our scrutiny and assurance process is on learning and improvement. The Safeguarding Practice Learning and Improvement Group will have representation across the three safeguarding partner organisations and other selected relevant agencies. The group will be responsible for co-ordinating the outcomes of scrutiny and assurance activity that are multi-agency in nature. It will monitor, implement and review areas for development to ensure we positively impact on our commitment towards continuous improvements across frontline multi-agency practice. In addition, the group will disseminate learning from local child safeguarding practice reviews or multi-agency local learning reviews and from other areas local and national child safeguarding practice reviews, other national reports and research.

There are also learning and improvement opportunities through the Multi-Agency Reflective Practice Forum (MARPF) which feeds into the Safeguarding Practice Learning and Improvement Group. The MARPF meets on a monthly basis and provides a reflective practice forum based on prior multi-agency audit and quality assurance of practice at key points along the safeguarding pathway, focussing particularly (although not exclusively) upon:

- safeguarding intervention within targeted services (both informal and formal)
- the interface between targeted services and the Integrated Multi Agency Partnership
- the work of the Integrated Multi Agency Partnership.
- the work of children in need and child protection

Overall, the learning will contribute to further strengthening the safeguarding system, multi-agency practice and the nuanced approaches that services can develop.

6 Multi-Agency Education and Training

Locally, there is an ongoing commitment to developing multi-agency education and training, which is underpinned by robust evaluation processes to ensure that the education and training programme is clearly focussed on the needs of partners to deliver effective services. In addition to needs analysis, the education and training programme is informed by learning from local and national practice reviews, local scrutiny and assurance events and research. Through subject matter experts and the Children's MARS team as appropriate, there will be further developments to enhance the commissioning, delivery, monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of multi-agency education and training. The outcomes will be fed into partnership processes and included in the annual report.

A Children's MARS Board education and training programme is available on the website. Education and training is available at a basic, intermediate and masterclass level. The education and training programme is flexible, includes different methodologies e.g. e-learning, workbooks, face-to-face and virtual training, updated and republished as required to reflect local need.

Continuous learning, a collective understanding of new and emerging threats, trends and issues, familiarising ourselves with evidenced based practice about what works, utilising research and ultimately providing the multi-agency children's workforce with the knowledge, skills and mind-sets to transform the rhetoric of training into day to day practice is key to improving outcomes for our children, young people and families.

As outlined in [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018](#), multi-agency training is important for supporting the collective understanding of local need and for practitioners to be effective in universal services and across the early help and safeguarding pathway. To be effective practitioners need to continue to build their knowledge and skills and be aware of the new and emerging threats.

Individual organisations and agencies are required to ensure that their workforce is sufficiently trained and competent in safeguarding children and to meet the needs of the children, young people and families. The premise of multi-agency education and training is that it is 'added value' and 'better together' to provide a collective understanding of the local needs of children and families.

In addition to training, there will also be development opportunities focussed around information sessions, practice forums and conferences. These development activities promote putting theory and research into practice, developing evidence-based practice and expertise, sharing perspectives and learning and enhancing confidence in helping and protecting children and young people. Publications that support learning and that may be of interest will also be made available through communications routes and published on the website.

7 Funding Arrangements

Safeguarding partners will provide equitable and proportionate funding to the Local Arrangements. The funding will be sufficient to cover all elements of the arrangements and consists of actual funding and in-kind resources.

The safeguarding partners have also committed to providing in kind resources through subject matter experts.

In addition, safeguarding partners will contribute to the development and delivery of the training programme, communications, marketing and events.

In the event of a child safeguarding practice review, funding will be met by the three safeguarding partners and where necessary, each partner will contribute equitable and proportionate funding over and above the normal allocation in order to fulfil the full costs of any review.

8 Voice and Engagement

Voice, engagement activity, co-production and working collaboratively with children and young people's perceptions, aspirations and skills is an area of strength in North Lincolnshire, as was highlighted in the [2017 Ofsted inspection](#).

Building on this strong foundation of voice and engagement, safeguarding partners and agencies remain committed to engaging with children, young people and families at an individual, service and strategic level. We are adopting a new approach to working with children and young people that focuses on understanding strengths and assets, as well as contextual safeguarding issues. It also acknowledges individuals as the experts in their own lives and strives to manage risk facing behaviours in a positive way.

We work with established groups and forums where children, young people and families can have their say, share their views and experiences, challenge and support local decision makers and shape and influence strategic planning, commissioning and service provision at an individual, service and strategic level.

We also encourage and support children and young people to have their say through other mechanisms, including:

- Routine feedback from children, young people and families involved with services
- Children and Young People's Lives primary, adolescent and college surveys
- Staying Safe Conferences for schools and colleges
- Involvement of children, young people and families in the scrutiny and assurance framework
- Involvement of young people and families in commissioning and recruitment
- Involvement in young people's democratic processes
- Attendance at key boards and partnerships

Emerging issues, themes, impacts and outcomes of engagement are fed into Local Arrangements partnership structure and wider partnership arrangements as appropriate.

Through the subject matter experts and the Children's MARS team, as appropriate, there will be a strengthened partnership approach to understanding the views and experiences of children, young people and families, particularly the most vulnerable. There will also be opportunities to further develop new and innovative ways of working collaboratively leading to co-production that builds on individuals' strengths and assets.

9 Performance Data and Intelligence

The Local Arrangements makes use of performance data and intelligence to assess the effectiveness of the help and support being provided to children and families across the safeguarding system (from early help to children in need and in need of protection, looked after children and care leavers, including children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities).

Analysis and evaluation of performance data and intelligence, including the outcomes of scrutiny and assurance, enables an understanding and synthesis of the whole system and contributes to informed decision making. It also enables safeguarding partners and agencies to be confident that decisions and 'risks' are shared and helps to ensure high quality and safe practice.

Performance data and intelligence is routinely collated, analysed and fed into key partnership arrangement, as follows:

Children's MARS Board	A performance summary is available on a quarterly basis. This is inclusive of key performance data and intelligence, including analysis and evaluation, across the safeguarding system.
Children's Help and Protection Pathway Group	Performance data and intelligence report is available on a quarterly basis that focusses on the early help and safeguarding pathway including activity and impacts.
Safeguarding Practice Learning and Improvement Group	The group has oversight of the outcomes of scrutiny and assurance activity that are multi-agency in nature and disseminates learning from local child safeguarding practice reviews and from other areas local and national child safeguarding practice reviews, other national reports and research. The group also has oversight of multi-agency education and training and Children's MARS communication activity.
Thematic Groups	Data and intelligence profiles pertaining key areas of focus are available on a regular basis through key partnership groups, including the Child Exploitation and Missing profile (reported into the Risk Outside the Home Strategy Group)

This list is not exhaustive and there are other points within the Local Arrangements for performance data and intelligence monitoring and analysis.

The Children's MARS Board has a relationship with associated groups and there is an expectation that emerging issues and themes, annual reports or reviews, relating to safeguarding or promoting the welfare of children are communicated through the Children's MARS Board itself, its sub groups and/or through the Children's MARS team.

There is a flexible approach to monitoring and the analysis of performance data and intelligence to ensure that the information collated relates to current need and any new and emerging threats. Through the Children's MARS team, there are opportunities to further develop and analyse our performance data and intelligence across the Local Arrangements that will ultimately inform decision-making leading to better outcomes.

10 Annual Report and review

The annual report will set out what has been done as a result of Local Arrangements and how effective they have been in practice.

As part of this, the annual report will include:

- evidence of the impact of the work of the safeguarding partners and agencies on outcomes for children and families
- an analysis of any areas where there has been little or no evidence of progress on agreed priorities
- a record of actions taken by the safeguarding partners in the report's period (or planned to be taken) to implement the recommendations of any local child safeguarding practice reviews or national safeguarding practice reviews
- ways in which the partners have sought and utilised feedback from children, young people and families to inform their work and influence service provision

The annual report will be endorsed by the Children's MARS Board on behalf of the North Lincolnshire Council Chief Executive, North Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group Accountable Officer and Chief Officer of Humberside Police. Following endorsement, the report will be distributed through relevant routes across the three safeguarding partners (via North Lincolnshire Council's democratic functions, the Clinical Commissioning Group's Governing Body and Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner). It will also be distributed across relevant partnership arrangements.

The annual report will be subject to independent scrutiny by the Independent Scrutiny Officer(s) prior to final publication.

We will listen, learn, review and adapt as we embed our Local Arrangements. To reflect this, our Local Arrangements will be reviewed and republished as appropriate and will be subject to a formal review in June 2022.

Should you wish to get in touch or would like more information please go to:

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**North
Lincolnshire
Council**

NHS
North Lincolnshire
Clinical Commissioning Group

