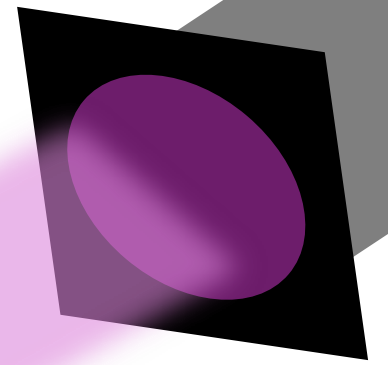


North Lincolnshire
**CHILDREN'S
MULTI-AGENCY
RESILIENCE &
SAFEGUARDING
BOARD**



In the Spotlight...

**Children's MARS Board
areas of focus 2023-24**

In this Spotlight...

There are specific areas of focus in which the Children's MARS Board wish to '**shine a light**' on and to maintain oversight of to ensure there is focused partnership action, system change and robust practice to contribute to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and families.

As well as our specific 'shine a light' areas of focus, the Children's MARS Board adopts a 'right to roam' approach and as such, will maintain a **line of sight** across the early help and safeguarding pathway in order to seek assurance, challenge, shape and influence partnership action and system change, some of which are the responsibility of other partnership and planning frameworks. As part of this, to orientate 'line of sight' activity, the Children's MARS Board will take account of performance, practice wisdom and voice and experiences on wider emerging need and harm.

In this edition of the Spotlight you can, find information about...

- What the Children's MARS Shine a Light areas of focus are for 2023/24
- What we have done to date and what further partnership action has been identified
- Contacts

Shine a Light areas of focus

Further develop the interface and relationships with the **Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE)** sector

Further develop the multi-agency approach to **child exploitation, specifically in relation to transitions**

Further develop the understanding of and the multi-agency response to the **impact of domestic abuse on children**

Further develop the multi-agency approach to **early help**

Further develop the multi-agency approach to **child exploitation, specifically in relation to transitions**

What have we done?

- Embedded the Risk Outside the Home Approach (including child exploitation) leading to raised awareness
- The Child Exploitation Lead Officer's Group has been embedded to focus on themes, partnership action and disruption activity
- There has been a focus on children and adults' transitions in the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) meeting

Further partnership action

- To hold a multi-agency thematic assurance event (to include line of sight event, desktop review of MACE triage/MACE, and review of safe and well checks for children who have been missing)
- Develop a transitions policy pre and post 18
- Develop transitions practice standards
- Explore further opportunities to utilise 'experts by experience' to develop resources to raise awareness and mitigate risk factors

What have we done?

- We have collaborated with Not in Our Community to develop resources aimed at children and young people
- A bespoke webinar on understanding coercive control and its impacts on children has been scheduled for 10 October 2023

Further develop the understanding of and the multi-agency response to the **impact of domestic abuse on children**

Further partnership action

- To hold a multi-agency case audit practice learning line of sight event focussing on the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people
- To review and refresh our partnership and assurance mechanisms to ensure oversight of the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people
- Further enhance our education and training offer

Further develop the interface and relationships with the **Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector**

What have we done?

- We have been developing relationships and the interface with VCSE representatives via bespoke meetings and through engagement in relevant governance arrangements
- A safeguarding children and adults training package has been developed for the VCSE sector
- Developed bespoke section on Children's MARS website for VCSE relevant information and resources
- Contributed to planning for VCSE event scheduled on 4 October 2023

Further partnership action

- Further develop bespoke VCSE web-based communications on the Children's MARS website
- VANL to roll out safeguarding children and adults training to VCSE and monitor take up and impact
- Attend and contribute to October VCSE event (with representation from Children's MARS Board, Safeguarding Adults Board and the Domestic Abuse Partnership Board)
- Link into established VCSE groups and forums to share messages and raise awareness

What have we done?

- Rolled out early help training across the partnership (including people with experience of services)
- Revised early help assessment form and launched new online system
- Ongoing early help audit activity is taking place which demonstrates positive practice and examples of fewest best interventions at the earliest point

Further develop the multi-agency approach to **early help**

Further partnership action

- Undertake independent audit activity pertaining early help, including the interface with the front door
- Further enhance our early help training offer
- Further develop and implement early help audit process and report into relevant governance processes
- Undertake consultation activity to inform the development of proposals for strengthening consultation and advice for early help work in the context of the neighbourhood approach and the integrated children and families offer

Contacts

The Children's MARS Board produces quarterly news updates which provide information on the work of the Board and includes updates on local and national guidance. We also promote new education and training opportunities, resources for professionals and volunteers, support for children and families and information relating to events and conferences through our communications email list.

If you wish to subscribe for Children's MARS communications emails, please complete the [communications sign up form](#).

A collection of our previous news updates can also be found on the [communications page](#).

The Children's MARS Board regularly post updates via the partnership social media pages Safe North Lincs. Support and advice for children and families can be found on our Facebook and Twitter pages.

Follow us on Facebook [Safe North Lincs](#) or Twitter [@SafeNorthLincs](#)



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