

# Annual Report 2022/2023

City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership



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## ■ Foreword - Three Statutory Partners

This is the City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership (CYSCP) annual report which covers the period from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 and sets out the work that has been undertaken by partners and the subgroups of the CYSCP during that time.

This report also sets out our agreed priorities for 2023 and 2024, these include: Prevention: Early Support and Early Help, Child Exploitation, Children missing from Education and SEND, Working with Fathers and Male Carers and Mental Health and Wellbeing.

During the past year, we have gone from strength to strength as a Partnership. A significant welcome addition, has been the appointments to the key strategic leaders. The Local Authority have established senior posts within Children's Services, with a new permanent Director of Children Services and Director of Safeguarding. The Police have welcomed a new Assistant Chief Constable (with the lead of safeguarding) and have appointed a new Head of Safeguarding and have created an additional Detective Chief Inspector within the Safeguarding Team. Our health partners have gone from strength to strength and continuous support/continuity has been maintained through the Director of Nursing and the Designated Nurses Team. The Health arrangements have been strengthened through the newly formed Integrated Care Boards.

We were pleased to welcome Mel John-Ross as the new CYSCP Independent Scrutineer and Executive chair of the CYSCP in January 2023 who replaced Dr Maggie Atkinson. Mel brings a wealth of experience to the role, being a qualified Social Worker with over 30 years of experience and having served as an Executive Director for Children's Services at Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council in her previous role.

The CYSCP is committed to supporting the implementation of the new practice model 'Signs of Safety', which is a strengths-based approach to support families and ensure that children within the city are safe and their welfare is promoted.

The CYSCP fosters a culture of continuous improvement and has continued to seek assurance from our safeguarding partners to ensure that children and young people are safe and that their welfare is promoted.

During 2022/23, we have continued to work together, learn from each other and have shared best practice as well as maintaining our links with other Boards and Partnerships to ensure that 'Safeguarding is Everyone's Business' (Working Together, 2018). An excellent example of where Partners, Boards and Partnerships came together virtually was during Safeguarding Week in 2023. Our greatest asset is our incredible safeguarding workforce, who are committed to serving our communities in York and have continually worked through some challenging times within the past few years due to the effects of Covid-19.

As a partnership, we recognise the progress that has been made during 2022/23 and we will continue to work together, build on our successes, make improvements and to meet our priorities during 2023/24.

## ■ National Context

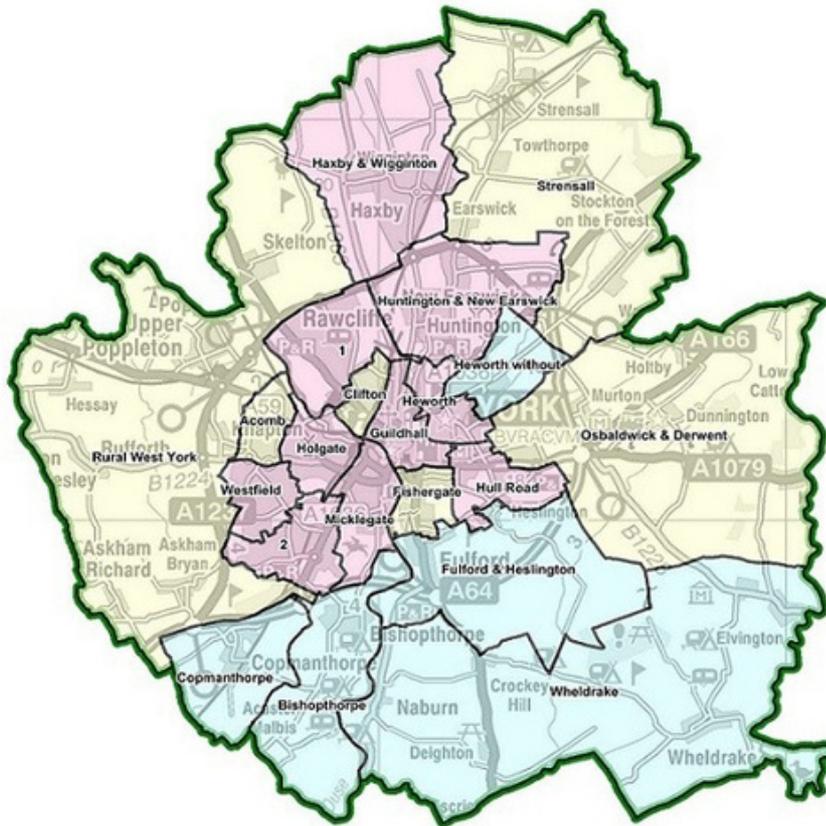
The Children Act 2004, as amended by the Children and Social Work Act 2017, and the associated statutory guidance *Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)* replaced Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) with new local Multi-agency Safeguarding Partnership Arrangements (MASA). The guidance legislates that all local areas are to publish their multi-agency safeguarding children arrangements. In York, these can be found on the [CYSCP website](#).

The MASA arrangements placed new duties on the three Statutory Safeguarding Partners (namely: the Local Authority, the Police and Integrated Care Boards) in local areas to make arrangements to work together, and with other relevant agencies locally: to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in their area for partner organisations and agencies to collaborate, share and co-own the vision for how to achieve improved outcomes for vulnerable children for organisations and agencies. to challenge appropriately and hold one another to account effectively where there is early identification and analysis of new safeguarding issues and emerging threats where learning is promoted and embedded in a way that local services for children and families can become more reflective and implement changes to practice where information is shared effectively to facilitate more accurate and timely decision making for children and families.

*Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)* also requires each Safeguarding Children partnership to publish an annual report in order to bring transparency for children, families and all practitioners about the activity undertaken. The report must set out what they have done as a result of the arrangements, including child safeguarding practice reviews, and how effective these arrangements have been in practice.



## Local Context Geographical Footprint and Demographics



York is a cathedral city and a unitary authority area located in North Yorkshire which is the biggest geographical county in England. Located at the confluence of the Rivers Ouse and Foss, it is known for its famous historical landmarks such as York Minster and the city walls, as well as a variety of cultural and sporting activities, which makes it a popular tourist destination.

The local authority is City of York Council and is responsible for providing all local services and facilities throughout the city. The population of the York which includes nearby villages is 211,012 residents (May 2022) which covers an area of 27, 194 hectares.



## ■ Local Demographics

- Children and Young People aged between 0 – 19 years make up 22% of York population (44,000)
- 9.8% BME population
- York is the second least deprived local authority within the Yorkshire and Humber region. However, one of the neighbourhoods in York is ranked in the top 10% of deprived areas nationally (2019)
- There are a total of 87,742 households (2020/21) of these 10.5% of households live in fuel poverty and 10% of children in poverty
- 280 children and young people in care
- 73.6% pupils achieving 9-4 in both English and Maths
- 25,781 pupils in maintained and academies
- 3,693 children eligible for free school meals
- 3,467 children with SEND.

### Services

There are a number of services within the City of York that deliver a range of services to children, young people and their families. Some of which include:

- Two Universities and two Further Education colleges with a population of 26,980 full time students (2020/21) and a total number of 62 maintained and academy schools:
  - 46 of which have been rated as 'Outstanding' or 'Good' by Ofsted
  - 50 primary schools (including 31 academies)
  - 9 secondary (including 6 academies)
  - 2 special schools (including 1 academy)
- 21 nurseries attached to primary schools, 1 standalone nursery and 9 children's centres.
- One police force, North Yorkshire Police (NYP) (which also covers North Yorkshire).
- One Integrated Care Board: York Place Health and Care Partnership Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board commissions health care across the whole of the City of York area.
- One hospital NHS Foundation Trust, York & Scarborough Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (which also covers Malton and Scarborough in East and North Yorkshire respectively.)

- Tees and Esk Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust who are commissioned to provide mental health care services for York.
- Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust who provide some inpatient mental health services including a Tier 4 inpatient CAMHS facility.
- As well as NYP, some partners work across York and neighbouring North Yorkshire or wider across the region, including Probation Services CAFCASS and NHS England.
- A list of other partners services are outlined within the Family Information Service and through our relevant agencies directory.

Source: [data.yorkopendata.org/dataset/york-at-a-glance](https://data.yorkopendata.org/dataset/york-at-a-glance) (May 2022)

## ■ Vision, Values and Principles

The CYSCP has a vision at it's core which is underpinned by its values and principles; these set out how the three statutory safeguarding partners works together with relevant agencies.

The overarching vision for the CYSCP is:

“For all the children of York to grow up in safety and to always feel safe”.

### Values

- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Children are safeguarded by a whole system, agencies, stakeholders, families and communities.
- The voice and lived experience of children and families is at the centre of everything that we do.

### Principles

**Empowerment.** We will support, respect and empower families to make their own informed decisions.

**Learning.** We are a partnership that reflects, learns and are committed to continuous improvement.

**Prevention.** We are committed to early help and early support, preventing harm from occurring.

**Relational Practice.** We will work in a strength-based way, in collaboration with families and with each other, to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and young people.



## ■ Our priorities for 2023/2024

The CYSCP Executive provides the strategic direction for the City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership (CYSCP). The Executive is chaired by our Independent Scrutineer and members of this group include the three statutory partners and other strategic leaders from relevant agencies including Public Health and Education.

During 2022/2023, the Executive have continued to drive forward the work of the CYSCP and have also led on the CYSCP Development Day which took place on the 6th March 2023. This event was well attended by a number of stakeholders from a variety of partner agencies. The day was enriched by presentations from the three key statutory safeguarding partners, workshops and attendance of young people who told us what is important to them.

The purpose of the day was to:

- Consider and contribute to the review of the Children and Young People's Plan
- Consider the priorities for the Safeguarding Children Partnership in the City of York

Following the Development Day, feedback obtained, through research and following the work of the subgroup, it has been agreed by the Executive to focus on the following five overarching priorities:

- Prevention: Early Support and Early Help
- Child Exploitation
- Children missing from Education and SEND
- Working with Fathers and Male Carers
- Mental Health and Wellbeing.

The CYSCP will develop a business plan which will provide further detail as to how these key areas will be actioned and addressed by the partnership. These will also align to the new over-arching children and young people plan when it is launched in 2023/24.



## ■ Key Achievements 2022/23

The CYSCP have continuously worked together throughout 2022-23 and have progressed a number of key pieces of work through the Executive and Subgroups. These are explored further within the report. Each subgroup has focused on specific workstream and have developed workplans which monitor the work of the subgroups. The report focuses on key areas including:

- Voice of Children and Young People
- Learning from Cases
- Child Exploitation
- Safeguarding Practice
- Quality Assurance and Training.

## ■ Sub groups

### ■ Voice & Involvement Subgroup

The purpose of the Voice and Involvement Sub-Group group is to ensure that the CYSCP seek assurance from our partners that Children and Young People are at the forefront of every conversation. This should include groups that may be at risk of not having a voice, in particular those that are pre-verbal or non-verbal or that would be identified as being at risk. The Voice and Involvement Sub-Group also ensure that young people have a voice and are involved in decision-making, planning, design and delivery of services.

This subgroup is responsible for implementing and monitoring the Voice Strategy which sets out the vision for children's voice and involvement across the city.

**Vision: Every conversation starts with the child. We commit that all partners across the city support children and young people to understand their rights, to have a voice and to realise their rights.**

When we refer to children's rights we mean so in relation to the United Nations Convention on Rights of the Child (UNCRC). This relates to all principles set out by the UNCRC, with a focus on the four 'general principles' of:

- Non-discrimination (article 2)
- Best interest of the child (article 3)
- Right to life survival and development (article 6)
- Right to be heard (article 12).

## What has the subgroup has achieved for 2022/23?

- Developed a dedicated new voice webpage on the CYSCP website including further resources and fact sheets for professionals to support their work with children and young people.
- A task and finish group continued to support the development of York's approach to children's rights including the development of a co-production toolkit. This group aim is also to support the implementation of the new voice strategy.
- A pre-verbal task and finish group developed new PRESENT Practice Guidance and a PRESENT Tool to support practitioners to capture the voice and lived experience of pre-verbal children. This guidance and tool had been developed by the CYSCP in response to multi-agency audits and reports identifying an absence of the voice of the pre-verbal child.
- A new SEND Outcomes Framework was developed by City of York Council and the Humber and North Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership who worked with parents, carers and young people with SEND to produce a set of outcomes that we all want to achieve for our children and young people. Updates were received at the Voice and Involvement Subgroup and the CYSCP support the implementation of this across the city.
- A Joint Partnership (co-production) Model and Audit Framework for Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities Services in York was developed. This guidance is for all services who work with children, young people aged 0-25 and their families across the City of York, and should be used across the system when working with individual children, young people and their families in the development of their education, health and care plans and also when improving, developing or re-commissioning services.
- Supported the development of family hubs and the model of co-production: City of York Council had been successful in applying to the Family Hub transformation fund and given one-off government funding of almost £1 million to transform how services work together. As part of this work a co-production lead would engage with children and young people to seek engagement from young people.
- The York Youth Council shared the outcome of their 'Make your Mark Survey results' which highlighted that the top three issues highlighted by young people in York which included:
  - Environment
  - Health and Wellbeing
  - Jobs, Money, Homes and Opportunities
  - The top 3 issues for young people nationally were:
    - » Health and Wellbeing with 93,023 votes
    - » Jobs, Money, Homes and Opportunities with 81,068 votes
    - » Education and Learning with 77,470 votes.

- Young People participated at the CYSCP Development Day in March 2023 which provided opportunity for young people to tell senior managers across the partnership what is important to them.
- Updates from partners received during 2022/23 around voice activity, have included:
  - » The Sexual Health Nurse, gave an update to members on the Young Persons Sexual Health survey which was carried out across North Yorkshire and York services. Questions focused on access to the service, attendance, what was good about service bookings and their experience of the service.
  - » Show Me That I Matter (SMTIM) and I Still Matter (ISM) Annual Reports were shared with the CYSCP.
  - » Speak Up, the York Children’s Rights and Advocacy Service produced information on Advocacy and the Child Protection Process for parents aged under 18, and a Child Protection Conference Information for children and young people leaflet, which are to be shared with children and young people before they attend a child protection conference by the IRO service.
  - » Updates received regarding Together with Young People which is a collective of organisations in York who are interested in working with young people and focusing specifically on hearing their voice. The collective was brought together by the Two Ridings Community Foundation, three strands of work have been developed by this group including: Youth-led action, Networking Events and Podcast, films and Social Media.
  - » Actively linking young people with the ICS wide children and young people’s co-production programme ‘Nothing About Us Without Us’. The aim of the programme is to establish a Humber and North Yorkshire wide network of children and young people’s engagement and co-production leads to maximise capacity and reduce duplication which builds on and compliments existing place-based activity. It also is recruiting a team of young volunteers with lived experience from across the ICS geography, who will act as advisory groups to relevant mental health and trauma informed steering groups.



## Impact

The evaluation of the previous Voice and Involvement Strategy gave the partnership confidence that children and young people felt listened to and that their voice made a difference. This feedback reflected the views of children already taking part in a number of participation groups in the city.

When looking at the wider population of young people, a Public Health survey of over 4,000 children and young people, demonstrated that 21% of children and young people thought that giving their views made a difference. This shows there is more to do to consistently hear and respond to the voice of children and young people across the city.

The Voice and Involvement Subgroup has continued to evidence how the voice of the child has impacted the work of partners across the city. Examples of evaluation toolkits have been shared including the [Young Minds Participation Toolkit](#).

The Voice and Involvement Subgroup members have also provided evidence to the partnership around actions that have been implemented having listened to the views of young people. Some Examples are included in the table below:

	You Said	We Did
<b>Care Experienced Young People</b>	Care experienced young people shared with the Corporate Parenting Board their views on support with housing. Young people shared their experiences and made a number of suggestions for how things could be improved.	Through the Corporate Parenting Board, the Housing Team worked with Corporate Parenting Advisors to develop a Housing Protocol for care experienced young people. This made some changes to respond to what young people said and draw together support into a single protocol. In addition, Corporate Parenting Advisors provided training to staff within the Housing Team to help them understand more about their role as a Corporate Parent.

	<b>You Said</b>	<b>We Did</b>
<b>Care Experienced Young People</b>	Care experienced young people shared with the Corporate Parenting Board how the current cost of living crisis is impacting on them and some of the challenges they are facing. Young people made a number of suggestions for different support that could help.	In the short term the Corporate Parenting Board are adapting information for young people about the range of different schemes and support that are available. The Corporate Parenting Board have created a cost of living fund for care experienced young people. This will be launched in March 2023 and will provide care experienced young people with some additional support on key necessities. Any future support from the council's reflects our responsibilities as a corporate parent.
<b>Sexual Health Young People Survey</b>	YorSexual Health carried out a survey of young people using York and North Yorkshire sexual health services. The young people who completed the survey told services that they were unaware of where to look for information about sexual health services.	All feedback from the survey was incorporated into a website redesign and website links shared with a young person's groups for design feedback. A review of services and opening times was undertaken and a young person's walk-in clinic was reinstated in Monkgate, York, every Tuesday evening. A social media campaign was developed to advertise the walk-in clinics on Twitter (@YorSexualHealth) and Instagram (@yshyorkn.yorks). Posters were sent to every high school and GP service in York advertising the services provided as well as the young person's walk-in clinic.

	<b>You Said</b>	<b>We Did</b>
<b>Access 4 All Young Persons Group</b>	<p>Access4All told us that their experience of hospital waiting rooms left them feeling nervous, bored and sometimes scared. They said that without TV's or games, the waiting rooms can be boring. Additionally when you have an appointment and you are waiting after the planned time, this can cause anxiety. Also seeing people with often graphic injuries in A&amp;E can make them feel scared.</p>	<p>The matron in charge of children's services at York Hospital is coming to talk to the group, to feedback and work in partnership with the young people to decide how we make these things better for young people.</p>
<b>Access 4 All Young Persons Group</b>	<p>Access4All also told us that getting public transport can be overwhelming for young people with additional needs. Getting the correct money out can be confusing, bus drivers not allowing time for this to take place can be frustrating and not knowing where to get off can be scary and the unknown is frightening. The young people have created a poster to bus drivers with their top tips to support young people with additional needs on buses.</p>	<p>Access4All met with Maxine Squire, the Assistant Director Education, City of York Council. They shared their feedback and the poster - Maxine felt that she could support by sharing the posters with bus companies in York via a City of York Council Connection. In addition, Maxine felt that creating a poster for taxi drivers too would be really helpful. She will support the group in sharing this with big taxi companies in York.</p>



## **Priorities for the Voice and Involvement Subgroup for 2023/24**

Priority One: To continue to develop how the CYSCP measures the impact of voice and participation work with Children and Young People across the city.

Priority Two: To continue to support the development of York's approach to children's rights including the launch of a co-production toolkit.

Priority Three: To seek assurance from the Raise York Family Hubs Network regarding the development and implementation of family hubs and the model of co-production and to seek assurance about how children and young people have engaged as part of this work.

Priority Four: To launch the newly developed pre-verbal PRESENT Practice Guidance and PRESENT Toolkit.

Priority Five: Young People told us that one of their priority areas is Mental Health and Wellbeing, the Voice and Involvement Subgroup will seek assurance from partners agencies as to how they involve young people as a route to improving accessing support and impact.

## **■ Case Review Subgroup**

The purpose of the Case Review Subgroup is to carry out the functions of the City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership (CYSCP) as described in Chapter 4 of Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2018 for improving child protection and safeguarding practice.

The Case Review Subgroup reviews serious child safeguarding cases, at both local and national level to identify improvements to be made to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The Case Review Subgroup is how the CYSCP makes arrangements for commissioning and publishing local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews.

Partners are also responsible for identifying and submitting cases to the Case Review Subgroup for consideration where the case may not meet the definition of a serious child safeguarding case but nevertheless raise issues of importance to the City of York that might, for example, include where there has been good practice, poor practice or where there have been 'near miss' events (Working Together, 2018).

During the period of 2022-23:

- Number of notifications made to the National Panel: 1
- Number of Rapid Reviews undertaken by the CYSCP: 1
- Number of Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews: 0<sup>1</sup>
- Number of Local multi-agency case reviews: 2

The themes from the multi-agency reviews undertaken included:

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<sup>1</sup> Due to the Rapid Review being comprehensive and learning identified the National Panel agreed with the decision not to initiate a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review.

- Repeat Referrals to Children’s Social Care
- Professional escalation
- Professional challenge
- Early Help
- Domestic Abuse
- Alcohol Misuse
- Engagement of Father/Partner
- Housing
- School attendance
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Multi-agency response to Neglect

### **Learning/Actions from reviews undertaken**

For each Rapid Review, Local Safeguarding Child Practice Review or multi-agency review detailed action plans outlining learning have been created and actions are progressed. (To note that these actions plans are available but not normally published).

All of the action plans are monitored quarterly by the Case Review Subgroup and regular reports on progress are provided to the Executive by the Chair of the Subgroup.

During 2022-23 the Case Review Subgroup signed off 4 actions plans and 3 action plans are continuing to be monitored whilst recommendations are addressed. These actions plans are regarding two Local Safeguarding Child Practice Reviews undertaken in 2021 and 2022 and one Multi-Agency Learning Lessons Review which was undertaken in 2022.

The themes from these reviews included:

- Sudden unexpected death in infancy
- Neglect
- Injuries to non-mobile babies

### **What has the subgroup has achieved for 2022/23?**

In addition to the review of cases the Case Review Subgroup has also:

- Reviewed the recommendations outlined within National Panel’s Review into the murders of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star Hobson. Additional published papers regarding Injuries to non-mobile babies and Domestic Abuse and the implications for local practice discussed.
- Reviewed further reports published by the National Panel including: Annual review of local child safeguarding practice reviews and the National Panel’s Annual Report 2021.
- Developed new Case Review Practice Guidance.
- Created and disseminated 7 point Briefings to practitioners: James, Rebecca and Walker Thompson Family.

<sup>2</sup> All of the names of children, young people and their families are anonymised if any documents are published

- Following a review of a previous case about Poppy; an action identified following this review was in regarding flagging of young people at risk of exploitation within health systems. A pilot process was implemented across the City of York Health economy to ensure health services were aware of young people of exploitation and this could inform their assessments.

## Impact

Whilst considering all Case Reviews, the voice of the child and lived experience is integral to all recommendations and actions. The chair ensures that the group members are reminded of the details of each case and the lived experience of the children related to it. The presentation of child case studies that have been given to the group throughout the year have been helpful in ensuring the group focus on the voice of the child, and the impact of abuse and neglect on the child's lived experience.

The Case Review ensure that following a review of cases, actions are progressed and monitored by the subgroup. Where possible learning from all cases is disseminated by the CYSCP to ensure that front-line professionals are aware of any local practice updates, Members of this subgroup also support with the dissemination of learning via their agencies. In addition, where it has been identified that further work is required for example, development of practice guidance, then this is taken forward by the relevant subgroup and updates are provided to ensure work is completed.

## Key Priorities for the Case Review Subgroup 2023-24

Priority One: Following national and local learning, the CYSCP has identified 'Engagement with Fathers' as a priority area and how we as a partnership engage with fathers and male carers.

Priority Two: To continue review, develop and disseminate learning resources following publication of National, Regional and Local Learning.

## ■ Safeguarding and Professional Practice Subgroup

The purpose of the Safeguarding and Professional Practice sub-group is to lead on the development of Safeguarding portfolio areas on behalf of the CYSCP. This group contributes to the development of strategic and operational child safeguarding practice in line with the local, regional and national priorities. The Safeguarding and Professional Practice sub- group reviews national, regional and local research to ensure that any learning identified is embedded within CYSCP multi-agency documents such as strategies, assessment tools, policies, practice guidance, procedures and forms. The Safeguarding and Professional Practice sub-group also receive updates from partners and other Boards/Partnerships/commissioned services in respect of wider partnership safeguarding work i.e. Domestic Abuse, Prevent, Self-Harm, Suicide, Early Help.

## What has the subgroup achieved for 2022/23?

- The Safeguarding and Professional Practice sub-group has received a number of updates from partners including:
  - » Violence against Women and Girls Strategy and Commissioned Services Progress Report (Office of Police Fire and Crime Commissioner.)
  - » An IDAS project regarding 'Whole family research around Domestic Abuse' and support for children and young people impacted by domestic abuse following the updated to Domestic Abuse Act (2021) where children are recognised as victims of Domestic Abuse.
  - » The implementation of Family Hubs.
  - » Single agency Inspections including the SEND Inspection, Local Authority Children's Services Inspection and the NYP Safeguarding Inspection.
  - » Assurance update regarding Safeguarding Disabled Children
  - » An audit report from the Healthy Child Service which provided good outcomes following a pilot of the HEAT Lite Tool in the City of York. As a result of this pilot and the audit presented the CYCP Adopted the Home Environment Assessment Tool (HEAT Lite Tool) as a multi-agency document.
- Developed a multi-agency task and finish subgroup regarding the development of the revised Self-Harm Guidance. This action was identified following a review of case by the Case Review Subgroup.
- Received assurance from the City of York Domestic Abuse Partnership regarding implications of the Domestic Abuse Act (2021) and progress made against those actions.
- Discussed and developed a multi-agency task and finish group in regard to Joint Targeted Area Inspection Preparation (JTAI).

In addition, the Safeguarding Professional Practice Subgroup also has reviewed and ratified a number of documents including:

- Early Help Practice Guidance
- Child Protection Medical Leaflet
- Non-Recent Organised and Complex Abuse Procedure
- Safeguarding Unborn Babies – Pre-Birth Guidance
- York and North Yorkshire FGM Practice Guidance
- PAMIC Tool
- HEAT Lite Tool
- Parental Conflict – One Minute Guide
- Multi Agency Protocol for Children and Young People Admitted to an Acute Hospital Trust with Self Harm and/ or Suicidal Ideation where there is need for a multi-agency discharge plan
- Escalation pathway and strategic planning meeting

- Children who go Missing from Home and Care: Joint protocol.

## **Impact**

Examples of impact have been shared with the Safeguarding Professional Subgroup such as the HEAT Lite Tool or the research regarding Domestic Abuse ‘Whole Family Approach’. However, due to other pieces of work being longer term such as the ‘Violence against Women and Girls’ Strategy and ‘Family Hubs’ the impact is not yet known. Where local procedures and practice guidance have been implemented and embedded the Safeguarding and Professional Practice subgroup need to undertake further work around obtaining feedback from practitioners as to understand if the document is working in practice and is effective in supporting professionals in their practice.

The Safeguarding and Professional Practice subgroup continue to consider the Voice and Lived Experience within all aspects of their work and are committed to ensuring that where possible to co-produce pieces of work with young people. In addition, the Safeguarding and Professional Practice subgroup ensure that the Voice Pledge is used by members at every meeting.

## **Priorities for the Safeguarding Professional Practice Subgroup 2023/24**

Priority One: To create a multi-agency task and finish subgroup which develops ways in which school attendance across York is seen as ‘Everybody’s Business’ and that improvements to school attendance across the city of York is improved. This action has been identified as a priority by the CYSCP Executive.

Priority Two: To continue with the multi-agency JTAI Task and Finish Group to ensure that the CYSCP is prepared for an impending Inspection.

Priority Three: To review the Multi-Agency Threshold Guidance and associated forms.

Priority Four: To develop a multi-agency task and finish group regarding engagement with the travelling community. This action has been identified through the Case Review Subgroup following a local multi-agency case review.

Priority Five: To continue to seek assurance from the Early Help Steering Group and to receive updates from this group to ensure that the Strategy is embedded throughout the partnership and actions within the strategy have been addressed.

## **■ Learning, Development and Performance Subgroup**

The purpose of the CYSCP Learning, Development and Performance Sub-Group is to continually monitor the effectiveness of the CYSCP and drive forward performance through reviewing data, commissioning audits and ensuring that multi-agency commissioned training is robust.

### **What the subgroup has achieved for 2022/23?**

- During 2022/23 undertook four multi-agency partnership audits regarding: ICPC and Core Groups, MASH, Strategy Meetings and Babies and Infants.

- For each multi-agency audit, detailed action plans outlining learning have been created and actions are progressed. (These actions plans are available but not normally published). 7-point Briefings of learning following the multi-agency audits are created and disseminated.
- All of the audit action plans are monitored quarterly by the Learning, Development and Performance Subgroup and regular reports on progress are provide to the Executive by the Chair of the Subgroup.
- During 2022/23 a single agency audit update was received from Sexual Health.
- The CYSCP have continued to develop a multi-agency data set. The first theme being Exploitation, Missing and Harmful Sexual Behaviour. Further work is currently being undertaken to produce a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and Early Help multi-agency data report.
- The CYSCP has continued to deliver a core multi-agency training programme of Working Together A & B and developed a multi-agency HSB training and new e-learning platform.
- Reviewed the recommendations outlined within National Panel's Review into the murders of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star Hobson. Additional published papers regarding Injuries to non-mobile babies and Domestic Abuse and the implications for local practice discussed.

## Impact

The voice of the child and lived experience is integral to all multi-agency audits. The multi-agency Audit Request Template includes a question as to how the child's voice/lived experience is to be captured within audits. This template is then used to develop the Terms of Reference for every multi-agency audit going forward. At the audit the voice and lived experience is captured through case discussion and the follow up audit report. The Learning, Development and Performance Subgroup ensure that following muti-agency audits, actions are progressed and monitored by the subgroup. Where possible learning from all cases is disseminated by the CYSCP to ensure that front-line professionals are aware of any local practice updates. Members of this subgroup also support with the dissemination of learning via their agencies. In addition, where it has been identified that further work is required for example, development of practice guidance, this is taken forward by the relevant subgroup and updates are provided to ensure work is completed.

It is recognised that the CYSCP need to develop a wider multi-agency partnership data set so that partners understand the safeguarding picture across York and use this data to inform areas of work such as multi-agency audits.

Although, the CYSCP evaluate multi-agency partnership training and further information is provided in the section below. Further evaluations are required 6 months following training to understand the impact of this and how this has made a difference when working with children and young people.

## **Priorities for the Learning Development and Performance Subgroup 2023/24**

Priority One: To develop further the multi-agency training evaluation process to understand the impact of how multi-agency training has made a difference when working with children and young people.

Priority Two: To develop a multi-agency data set and for this to be presented to the CYSCP Executive on a quarterly basis.

Priority Three: To continue to learn from research such as national reviews and continue to develop multi-agency resources such as seven-point briefings following multi-agency audits. To consider the re-implementation of Managers Masterclasses to share learning of the CYSCP with wider professionals.

## **■ Child Exploitation Subgroup**

The function of the Child Exploitation Sub-Group is to provide strategic oversight, scrutiny and challenge in response to how partners will work together to safeguard and promote those young people who are at risk of harm, exploitation and abuse.

The main way this is achieved is through the oversight of the monthly operational MACEM meetings, including updates to this meeting including information pertaining to Data, Trusted Relationships Project and Good Practice examples.

Also development of the data set ensuring that this group has oversight of performance management data to ensure efficiency and effectiveness of operational activity.

Through the work of partners at the Child Exploitation Subgroup we continue to capture the voice and lived experience of children and young people and as part of the development work of the subgroup.

## **What the subgroup has achieved for 2022/23?**

The Child Exploitation subgroup has:

- Continued to have oversight of the Adolescent Strategy action plan and assurance reports against the Adolescent Strategy Action Plan have been provided by the Youth Justice service, Prevent, the Healthy Child Service and Preparing for Adulthood.
- Received updates against the progress of NRM Pilot which has enabled partners to be able to make decisions in a more effective manner for children to safeguard when there is a concern of Modern slavery, exploitation and child trafficking.
- Carried out a survey in regard to Harmful Sexual Behaviour following the launch of the new Harmful Sexual Behaviour Protocol.
- Received an evaluation of the Harmful Sexual Behaviour Training by the Youth Justice Service.
- Regularly received updates from Partners in regards to Exploitation including:

- » Update on recommissioning of Support Service of Victims of Exploitation
- » YJS Inspection:
  - Received performance reports from the operational MACEM and RAM meeting including data, themes, patterns and trends.
  - Reviewed a number of nationally published documents and recommendations in regard to Child Exploitation including:
    - » 'Hidden in Plain Sight: A national plan of action to support vulnerable teenagers to succeed and to protect them from adversity, exploitation and harm'
    - » The Report of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse
    - » NSPCC IICSA Report:
  - Developed a good practice case study into a 7 point briefing.
  - Supported the local NotMyChild Campaign developed by the Office of Police Fire and Crime Commissioner in response to a death of a young person. The aim of the campaign was to encourage parents, guardians and care givers in York and North Yorkshire, to have early and positive conversations with their children about drugs and other substances to help prevent them from coming to harm.
  - Developed a multi-agency Online Safety task and finish group, as this was identified as an emerging trend through the MACEM and post Covid-19 recovery.
  - Continued to develop the CYSCP Multi-Agency Missing, Vulnerable to Exploitation and Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) Data Set.
  - Received a presentation regarding Operation Endeavour (whereby information regarding a child going missing and a notification is shared with the school) and consideration given as to how the CYSCP could implement this.
  - Introduced a pilot with health partners, flagging children at risk of exploitation on health records.

Additionally, there has been a Police HMICFRS inspection of Child protection in November 2021 and a CSC Ofsted inspection of children's service in March 2022 which have both provided recommendations to improve practice in relation to child exploitation and children who go missing from home.

## **Impact**

Following, the ongoing implementation of the NRM pilot in York, the feedback from the Home Office continues to be positive. The pilot has shortened decision time to an average of 45 days (previously it was taking the Home Office up to two years to decide). The pilot continues to make a difference for children by making children the centre of decision- making. In addition, the Home Office has agreed to extend the pilot and currently Ipsos MORI have been commissioned to undertake an evaluation of the pilot, which once received, the CYSCP will review and implement recommendations.

Following the Harmful Sexual Behaviour Survey an evaluation report was shared with the Child Exploitation Subgroup. This survey demonstrated that professionals working within the City of York had a greater understanding of Harmful Sexual Behaviour within the partnership, including the protocol and pathways for referral. A further survey and audit is scheduled for 2023/24 which will provide further evidence of impact of the implementation of the Harmful Sexual Behaviour Protocol.

The Youth Justice Service have continued to support the delivery of Harmful Sexual Behaviour training on behalf of the CYSCP. Overwhelmingly, training has been received well. Delegates who attended were asked eight evaluation questions in total. When asked how the course has made a difference to their practice? Delegates were able to demonstrate a better understanding of Harmful Sexual Behaviour, local protocol and where to seek further support. The further 2023/24 will also consider the impact of Harmful Sexual Behaviour training across the partnership.

The CYSCP Multi-Agency Missing, Vulnerable to Exploitation and Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) Data Set has continued to be developed. As this report is now a year old, the subgroup has been able to start to look at patterns and trends, and understand what the exploitation, missing from home, harmful sexual behaviour picture is in York. For example, the partnership are aware that males are more likely to be at risk of Child Criminal Exploitation and girls are more likely to be at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation in York. As a subgroup, the report has continued to be developed and data items regularly reviewed. Further work is currently being undertaken in regard to analysis and to ensure that the context in regards to the data is gained so that as a partnership we fully understand the true picture across the City of York.

The MACEM and RAM meeting structures are well established for York and there is good multi-agency attendance at these meetings. Case examples shared with the Child Exploitation members have demonstrated very effective and quick identification of exploitation risk and multi-agency working to reduce risk and safeguard children.

The Trusted Relationship Home Office project funding ended, and it was agreed that City of York council will continue to fund the staffing to continue with this project which has become established practice. The project has evidenced achieved outcomes for children and has provided a long-standing trusted adult for some of our most vulnerable children at risk of exploitation.

### **Priorities for the Child Exploitation Subgroup for 2023/24**

Priority One: To measure the impact of partner agencies understanding of Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) across the City of York following the implementation of the new procedure and roll out of multi-agency training.

Priority Two: To continue to develop and enhance the Multi-Agency Missing, Vulnerable to Exploitation and Harmful Sexual Behaviour Data Set to include analysis.

Priority Three: To review and update the current CYSCP Adolescent Strategy to create a new Contextual Safeguarding Strategy. In line with the review of the strategy, all multi- agency documentation will be reviewed alongside this to ensure that these are fit for purpose.

Priority Four: To receive updates against the National Referral Mechanism ‘Home Office’ Pilot from the NRM Panel meeting and to seek assurance that the implementation of this pilot is effective.

Priority Five: To implement ‘Operation Endeavour’ across the City of York.

Priority Six: To develop a campaign regarding Online Safety, following this area being identified by the subgroup as an area of importance.

Priority Seven: Continue to review any national, regional or local learning and develop earning resources such as briefings, one-minute guides and reports which can be disseminated to front line professionals, partners and stakeholders in respect of Child Exploitation.

## ■ Safeguarding in Education

The CYSCP has adopted a procedure which outlines the School Audit (Section 157 and 175, Education Act 2002) and assurance arrangements to the CYSCP Executive around safeguarding practice within the city’s schools. The procedure sets out the audit and assurance arrangements functions in respect of schools within the City of York.

The City of York Education Service has a Schools Safeguarding Advisor who provides safeguarding advice and supports all schools and colleges in the city. As part of their role, the School Safeguarding Advisor provides annual assurance updates to the CYSCP Executive regarding safeguarding in schools, which summarises safeguarding activity undertaken in schools and identifies themes and specific safeguarding concerns raised through audit and by colleagues in schools.

During 2022/2023 the Schools Safeguarding Advisor has provided training to designated safeguarding leads, school governors and Early Years and has carried out bespoke training sessions in schools. In addition, the School Safeguarding Advisor has continued to work directly with schools in the city to support strong safeguarding arrangements, by undertaking safeguarding reviews and providing an important link to the assurance function of the CYSCP. The School Safeguarding Advisor and colleagues from schools have continued to work in partnership with, and have actively contributed to, a number of multi- agency activities undertaken by the CYSCP over the period. These include:

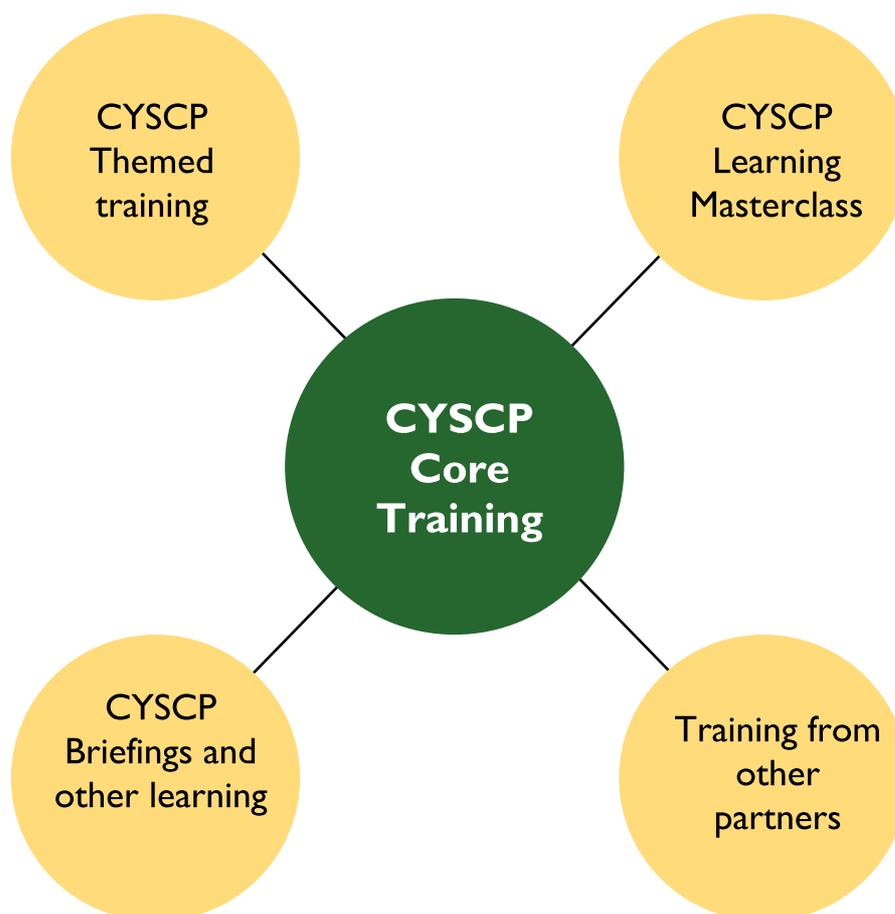
- Ongoing continuous development of the Multi- Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and contribution to multi-agency audits
- Work supporting prevention of Child Exploitation by attending the MACEM meetings and regular risk assessment meetings with partners

- Ongoing support of partner led Early Help processes
- Multi-agency learning reviews and audits
- Ongoing development of the CYSCP learning strategy and training
- Ongoing involvement at the CYSCP Subgroups as an Education representative
- Additionally, the Assistant Director, Education and Skills, City of York Council is a member of the CYSCP Executive and representatives from different schools and colleges contribute to the partnership via subgroups and task and finish groups.

## ■ Learning and Development

### CYSCP Training Brochure

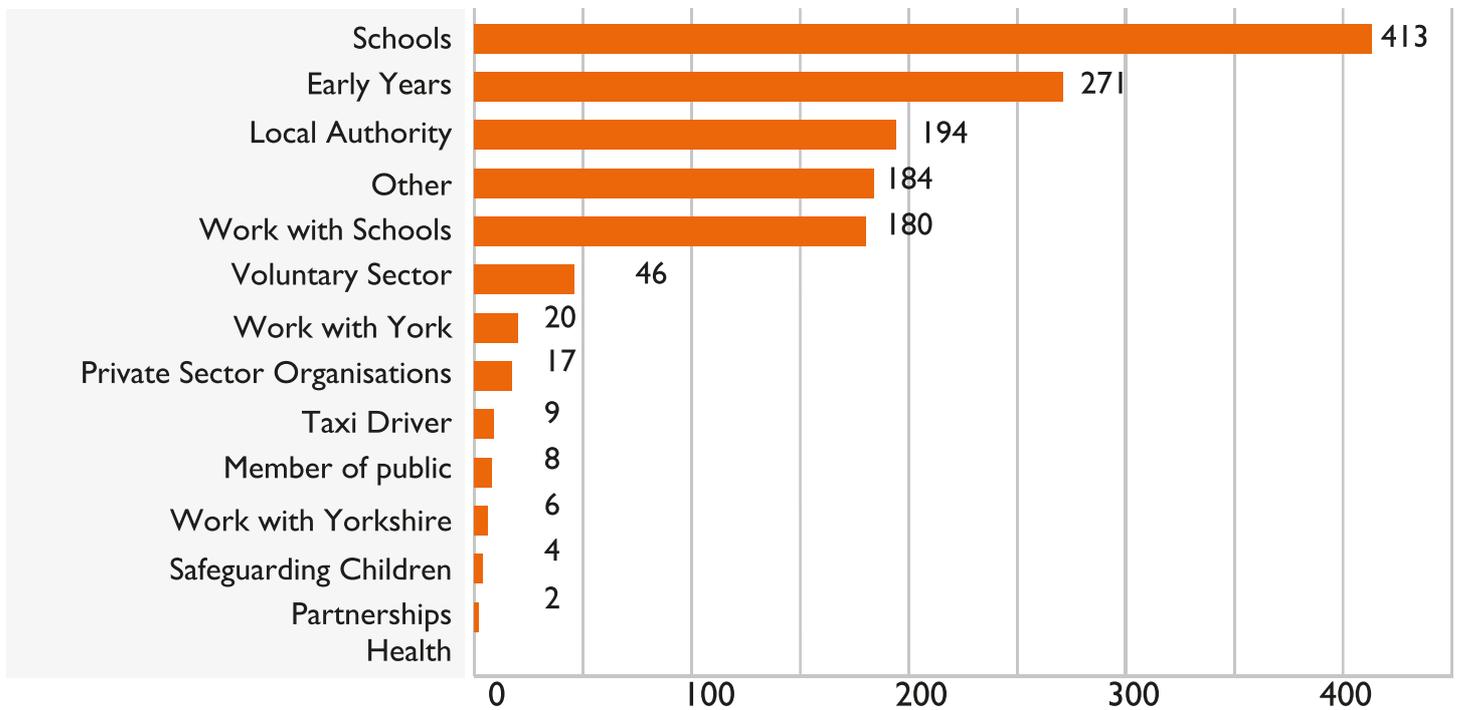
During 2022/23, the CYSCP developed a training brochure which provides an overview of the multi-agency training offer for all professionals and volunteers working with children within the City of York area. The CYSCP Training, Learning and Development Strategy sets out how CYSCP delivers and evaluates training and learning and can be found on the CYSCP Multi-Agency Training webpage. The CYSCP also disseminate learning from case reviews and audits and this information can be found on the CYSCP Learning and Development webpage. Our offer centres on our 'Core' Safeguarding training, but also covers other elements:



## Online Training

The CYSCP e-learning platform was launched in May 2022. Initially it only hosted the CYSCP Safeguarding Children Awareness E-learning course, but subsequently the CYSCP Private Fostering narrated power point presentation has been added, and the CYSCP PRESENT Tool narrated power point will also be included in the near future. Between May 2022 and 31st March 2023, 1709 users registered on the e-learning platform and 1354 learners completed the 'CYSCP Safeguarding Children Awareness E-learning course'. The table below provides a breakdown of agencies who accessed the training:

### Sectors of learners completing the safeguarding children awareness e-learning



To note that the majority of those registered on the platform as 'Other' are supply teachers.



## Virtual Training

During 2022/23, the CYSCP multi agency face to face training continued to be delivered via Zoom. The following information below only includes CYSCP multi-agency training and does not include training delivered by partners.

<b>CYSCP Multi-Agency courses delivered in 2021/22</b>	<b>Sessions</b>	<b>Total attendees</b>
Safeguarding Children: Working Together A 2022/23	8	160
Safeguarding Children: Shared Responsibilities and Procedures - Working Together B 2022/23	8	159
Developing an Understanding of Harmful Sexual Behaviour	10	63
The Child Death Review: Advanced Training for Professionals	3	28
Total	29	410

## Safeguarding A and B Evaluation

(Evaluation data is only available for the Working Together A and B courses)

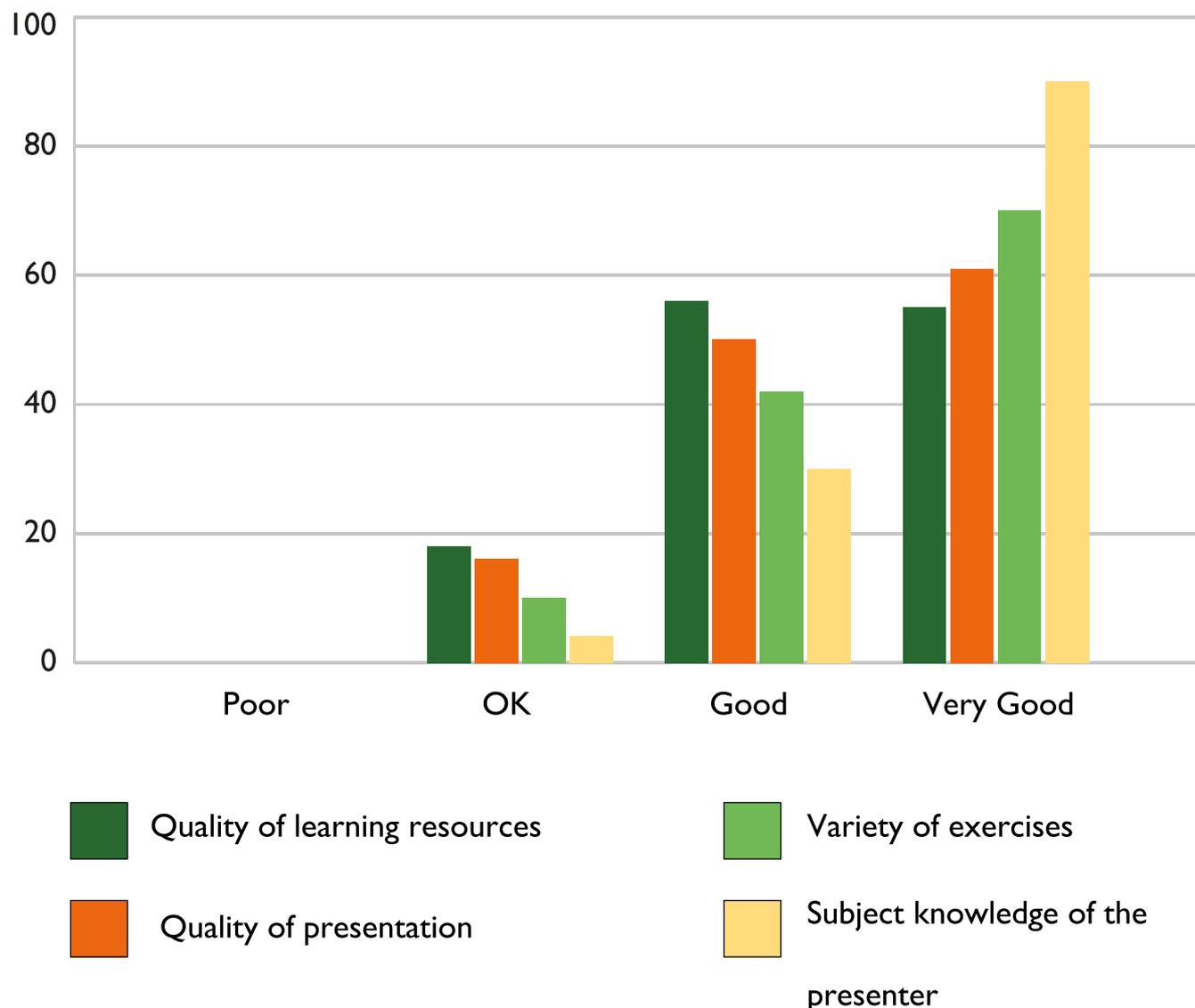
During 2022/23, Schools, Early Years Sectors and the local authority attendees on the Safeguarding Children: Working Together A and Safeguarding Children were asked to complete a course survey directly after taking the course.



## Safeguarding Children: Working Together A

Out of 160 delegates who attended the training 126 attendees completed the evaluation survey. Delegates were asked how they rated four elements of the course including quality, from poor to very good. The majority of delegates rated these aspects as good or very good.

### Elements of the course



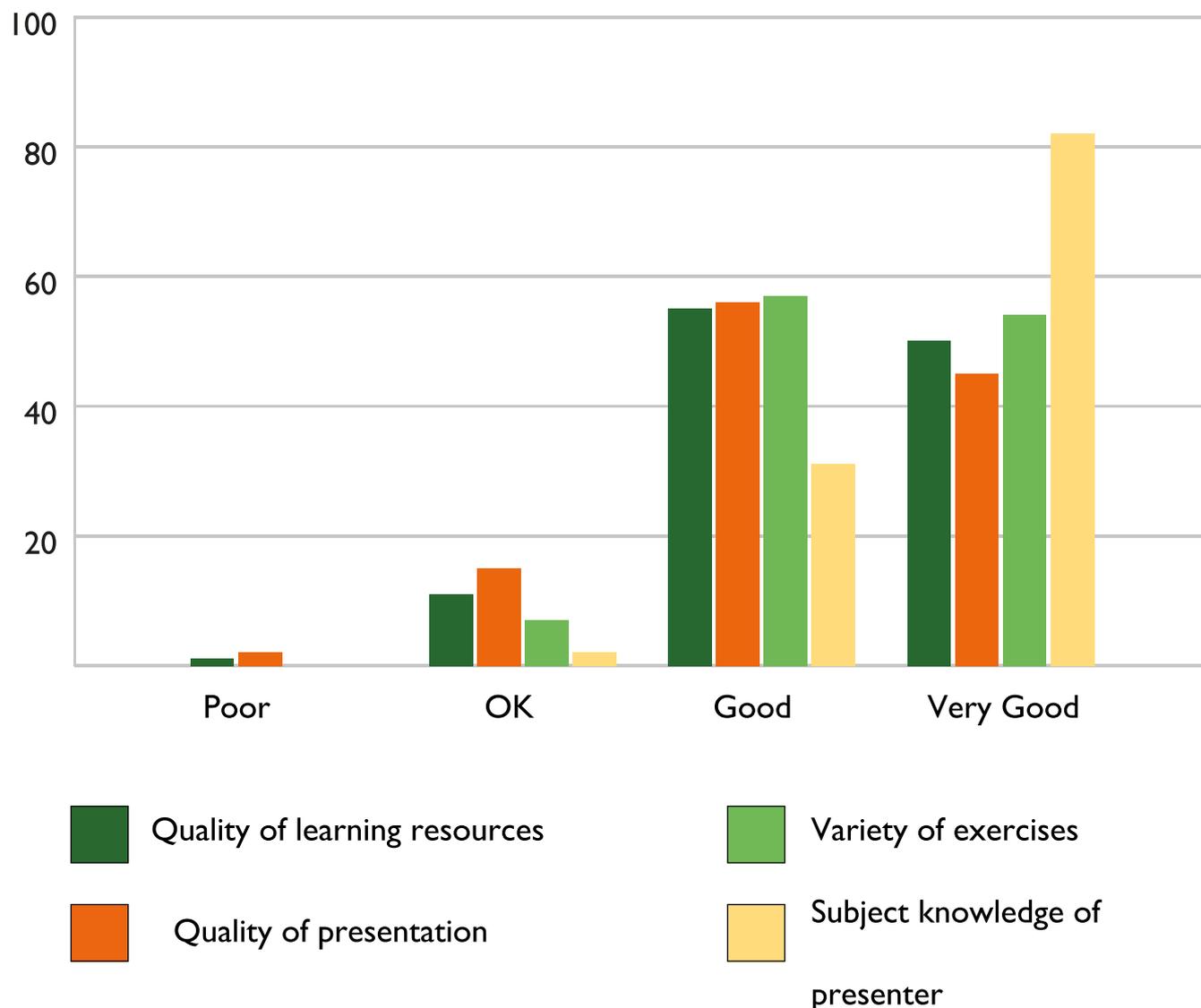
An important part of training is its impact on professional practices and whether these will improve the outcomes for children and young people. 76% of learners felt that it was likely or very likely that they would change the way in which they do things as a result of this training.



## Safeguarding Children: Shared Responsibilities and Procedures - Working Together B 2021/22

Out of 159 delegates who attended the training, 117 attendees completed the evaluation survey. Delegates were asked how they rated four elements of the course including quality, from poor to very good. The majority of delegates rated these aspects as good or very good.

### Elements of the course



Evaluation data showed that 79% of learners felt that it was likely or very likely that they would change the way in which they do things as a result of this training.



## **Yorkshire and Humber Multi-Agency Training Meeting (YHMAST)**

The CYSCP continues to be a member of the regional Yorkshire and Humber Multi- Agency Training Meeting (YHMAST). During 2022/23 the group held a virtual conference in November 2022 across the Yorkshire and Humber region for professionals regarding engaging fathers, partners and men in practice from various different viewpoints including: lived experience, attachment, bonding, mental health, learning from reviews, practice tips and sharing of knowledge and experience. Due to the success of this, it has been agreed by the YHMAST meeting to put further mini conferences on identified shared themes across the region throughout 2023/24.

### **■ Communication and Engagement**

#### **Social Media**

##### **Twitter**

The CYSCP Twitter account provides regular updates on local and national news, resources, initiatives, policy and guidance which you can find by following us on Twitter (@YorkSCP).

The CYSCP Twitter account has approximately 1,150 followers which includes professionals, schools, businesses, other safeguarding children partnerships and members of the public. The CYSCP's Twitter feed is used to provide important information such as changes to policies and procedures as well as links to information and resources. It also promotes campaigns, various safeguarding themes and activities of partners and other safeguarding organisations. Over the past year, CYSCP tweets have been viewed approx. over 243,000 times by users.

##### **E-Newsletter**

A new CYSCP newsletter was launched in September 2020 which is sent out electronically monthly. The newsletter contains useful information for professionals with contributions from our partner agencies. It is intended to improve our communication and engagement with our partners, professionals and stakeholders across the city of York and to keep them up to date with the latest developments in safeguarding children and young people in York.

Professionals need to sign up to receive the newsletter via the CYSCP website and Partners can also contact the CYSCP Business Unit for content to be included within our newsletter at: [CYSCP@york.gov.uk](mailto:CYSCP@york.gov.uk).

At the present time approximately 819 individuals have now signed up to receive this.

##### **CYSCP Website**

During 2022/23, the CYSCP website has continued to be updated and improved. The CYSCP website contains a wealth of information and averages approximately 2500 hits per month. The Concerned about a Child page alone averages over 450 hits per month.

## Campaigns

During 2022/23, the CYSCP have also continued to support a number of both local and national campaigns. Some of these included:

- North Yorkshire and City of York Sudden Unexpected Deaths in Infancy (SUDI) “Day or Night, Sleep Right” Campaign
- National Care Leavers Week
- ICON Week
- Lullaby Trust - Baby Summer Safety
- City of York Safeguarding Babies Practice Week 2022 (#everybabymatters)
- Safeguarding Week 2022
- Childline ‘We all feel it’ Campaign
- NSPCC Child Sexual Exploitation Campaign ‘The Full Story’
- Anti-Bullying week
- National Hate Crime Week

Following some of these campaigns, evaluation reports are shared with the partnership via the subgroups. The outcome of these is to help inform future campaigns, if further sign-posting is required, if further work needs to be undertaken by the partnership to promote specific safeguarding themes.

### ■ Child Death Review Panel (CDOP)

The death of a child is a devastating loss that profoundly affects all those involved. Since April 2008 all deaths of children, up to the age of 18 years, excluding still births and planned terminations are to be reviewed by a CDOP to accommodate the national guidance and statutory requirement set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018. The publication of the Child Death Review Statutory and Operational Guidance in 2018 builds 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.

As part of the new Child Death Review requirements set out in Working Together (2018), North Yorkshire and City of York Local Authorities and Clinical Commissioning groups created a Strategic Child Death Review Overview group to provide strategic oversight for the Child Death Process across North Yorkshire and City of York.

The collation and sharing of all learning from Child Death Reviews and the CDOP is managed by the National Child Mortality Database (NCMD). The NCMD is an NHS funded project, delivered by the University of Bristol, that gathers information on all children who die across England with the aim to learn lessons that could lead to changes to improve and save children’s lives in the future.

The purpose of the Child Death Review Process is to try to ascertain why children die and put in place interventions to protect other children and prevent future deaths wherever possible. The process intends to:

- Document, analyse and review information in relation to each child that dies in order to confirm the cause of death, determine any contributing factors and to identify learning arising from the process that may prevent future child deaths
- To make recommendations to all relevant organisations where actions have been identified which may prevent future deaths or promote the health, safety and wellbeing of children
- To produce an annual report on local patterns and trends in child death, any lessons learnt and actions taken, and the effectiveness of the wider Child Death Review Process
- To contribute to local, regional and national initiatives to improve learning from Child Death Reviews

CDOP produce an annual report each year which outline their findings and highlight their priorities. A copy of the annual report can be found [here](#). The CDOP Annual Report 2022/23 can be found [here](#).

## ■ CYSCP Finance 2022/23

The CYSCP budget is derived from contributions from a number of partners. As well as direct funding the CYSCP is also provided with services in kind by a number of agencies.

Income	2021/2022 £
CYC Children's Services including training income	£(49,520)
Vale of York CCG	£(78,991)
North Yorkshire Police	£(33,011)
North Yorkshire CRC	£(2,211)
Total Income	£(176,118)



