

Gateshead Safeguarding and Community Safety Newsletter

Safer Gateshead
Safer People, Safer Communities



Welcome to our new quarterly Gateshead Safeguarding and Community Safety Newsletter. The newsletter will provide a round-up of the news from the safeguarding and community safety boards and partnerships, along with other relevant pieces of recent local and national information.

If you have information on safeguarding (adults and children's) or community safety, including domestic abuse, that you would like to see featured in our newsletter, please email our [Safeguarding Board Business Unit](#).

Learning and development

NEW! We now have the following online training programmes available to anyone living or working in Gateshead.

Working with the eLearning training platform Me-Learning, anyone that wishes to, has the ability to access training from work or home at a time that suits you.

To complete any of the following e-learning courses, click [here](#) to self-register and enroll using the online form for courses including:

- Cultural Awareness in Safeguarding
- Hate Crime
- Hidden Harm: Parental Substance Misuse, Parental Mental Ill Health and Domestic Abuse
- Neglect
- Online Safety – Risks to Children
- Online Safety for Parents and Carers
- Safeguarding Children Level 1 and Level 2
- Self-Harm
- Sexual abuse and recognising grooming
- Substance Misuse

Courses are delivered in easily manageable 'chunks' and can be paused and completed in your own time. These are intended to ensure that as many people as possible in Gateshead who wish to, have access to safeguarding training, and complement our wider offer for our safeguarding partners.

- The Gateshead Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) and Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) are pleased to announce that Lawnmowers Theatre Company will be running two of their Mate Crime Forum sessions on Friday 18 October 2024 (live) and Wednesday 20 November 2024 (online).

Further details and information on how to book will follow soon.



Gateshead Community Safety Board

- Gateshead Community Safety Board (CSB) agreed in January the Gateshead Serious Violence Action Plan, in accordance with the new statutory duty
- The CSB and Northumbria Strategic Adult Safeguarding Board have agreed streamlining of the processes for Anti-Social Behaviour case reviews, reducing the number of appeal stages from two to one and putting Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) in charge of those appeals.
- Work is underway to draw up a new CSP plan, covering April 2024 to March 2026, with the provisional priorities emerging from the Strategic Assessment being violence, domestic abuse, alcohol and drug-related offending and preventing violent extremism, and subject to public consultation during February and March, The Community Safety Board on 22 March agreed to add a fifth priority, Antisocial Behaviour, in response to the consultation process.
- The strategic review of domestic abuse was reported to the Domestic Abuse Partnership Board on Friday 9 February and a task and finish group was appointed to do further work to support decision-making at the next Domestic Abuse Partnership Board meeting on Wednesday 8 May.
- Domestic homicide reviews are continuing to occur at unprecedented levels, challenging capacity.
- An additional Community Safety Coordinator has now joined the team, and interviews took place for an apprentice in late March.

Northumbria Police

- The new Northumbria Police structure, reverting to six Area Commands aligned with local authorities' boundaries, took effect on Monday 4 March. Gateshead will once again have a dedicated management team, rather than sharing with Newcastle, consisting of Chief Superintendent (Area Commander) Paul Stewart, Superintendent (Deputy) Lisa Laverick and three chief inspectors (Neighbourhoods – Tom Hart, Response/Shifts, - Christopher Farish and Crime – Gillian Becroft).

Safeguarding Adults Board

• Safeguarding Adult Reviews

A Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) was commissioned in 2023 following the death of a Gateshead resident who was found dead in their home. Further information, a copy of the final report and a short PowerPoint presentation are available on the [Safeguarding website](#).

• Strategic Plan 2024-27

The Gateshead Safeguarding Adults Board's revised [Strategic Plan for 2024-2027](#) was published on Monday 1 April.

The plan identifies five priority areas which the board will be working on over the next five years.



- **Safeguarding Adults Board's multi-agency policies and procedures**

The updated Tri-X platform which hosts the Safeguarding Adults Board's multi-agency procedures was relaunched on Thursday 25 April 2024.

There are two hour-long relaunch sessions in May to demonstrate the new platform on:

1. Wednesday 8 May 2024, 11am
2. Thursday 16 May 2024, 2pm

To book a place, email safeguardingboardsbusinessunit@gateshead.gov.uk

- **'Pressure ulcers: how to safeguard adults' – Department of Health and Social Care guidance**
[The revised Pressure ulcers: how to safeguard adults](#) guidance was published in January 2024. The board will be using the guidance to update its own practice guidance.

Safeguarding Children Partnership

- **'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023'**

This updated guidance, published in December 2023, introduces a set of multi-agency expectations for all practitioners involved in safeguarding and child protection, specifically: police, local authorities, health services, probation services, youth offending services, education providers and childcare settings, and voluntary organisations.

This revision to the guidance focuses on strengthening multi agency working across the whole system of help, support and protection for children and their families, keeping a child-centred approach while bringing a whole family focus, and embedding strong, effective and consistent multi-agency child protection practice.

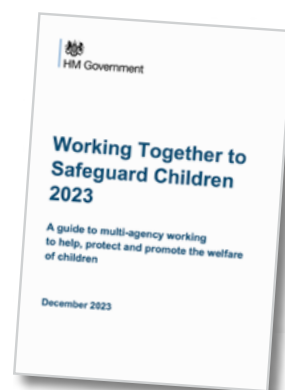
The update includes:

- Principles for working with parents and carers that centre the importance of building positive, trusting and co-operative relationships to deliver tailored support to families
- Expectations for multi-agency working that apply to all individuals, agencies and organisations working with children and their families, across a range of roles and activities
- New national multi-agency child protection standards that set out actions, considerations and behaviours for improved child protection practice and better outcomes for children

Further information can be read in our [briefing note](#).

A briefing session delivered by the Department for Education's national facilitator, working to assist local areas with implementing the changes required will take place on **Wednesday 8 May, 3.30 to 5.00pm** on Teams.

This is aimed at anyone working in any organisation who wishes to understand more about what the changes will mean. To book your place, contact SafeguardingBoardsBusinessUnit@gateshead.gov.uk.



- **Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel – annual report 2022/23**

The panel published its [fourth annual report](#) on Tuesday 30 January.

This is their most comprehensive report to date and provides detailed analysis about the lives of children and families at the heart of local and national learning reviews, and about patterns in practice.



Children's experiences

53%

of rapid reviews recorded that a child had experienced **neglect**.

11%

of 4-15yr olds in cases the panel saw were **not enrolled in a school**.

29%

Of 4-15yr olds who were enrolled in a school, were **regularly absent**.

21%

of children in cases the panel saw had **one or more mental health conditions**.

Ethnicity

95%

of rapid reviews recorded **ethnicity data** (an increase on last year). Though this did not always lead to the review considering cultural impact on practice.



0-17yr olds from 'Mixed' and 'Black/ African/ Caribbean/ Black British' ethnicities were **over-represented** within rapid reviews.



But children from 'Asian/ Asian British' ethnicities were **under-represented**.

Reviews

89%

of the time, the panel agreed with Safeguarding Partnerships' decisions as to whether an **LCSPR** was needed.

But (as found in previous years) the recommendations from reviews are too often not clear, robust or measurable.

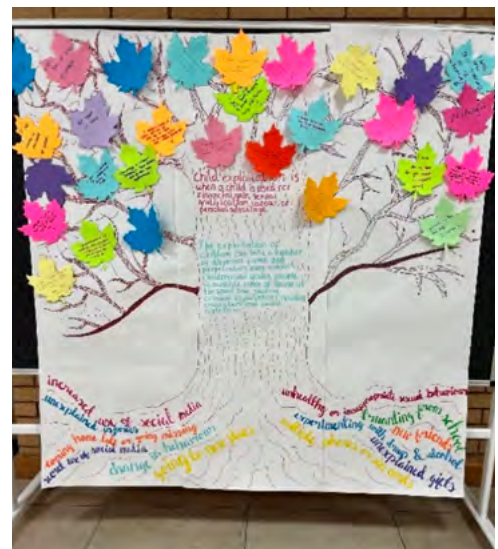
This impacts on their ability to lead to changes in practice.

- **National Child Exploitation Awareness Day**

On Monday 18 March, the council was proud to support the 10th anniversary of Child Exploitation Awareness Day. This day encourages everyone to think, spot and speak out against abuse and to adopt a zero-tolerance approach to adults developing inappropriate relationships with children or children abusing their peers.

Young Women and Girls Exploitation Worker Lyndsy Richardson led activity to raise awareness about this important day.

To find out more about her role, contact her at LyndsyRichardson@gateshead.gov.uk.



Keep up to date with us online at

Website: www.Gatesheadsafeguarding.org.uk

X: @Gatesheadsafeguarding