



Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2022



(September 2021 – September 2022)

Foreword

I am once again pleased to introduce this Annual Report on the work, co-ordination and effectiveness of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership. 2021 – 22 has seen a period of recovery for many following the significant and critical impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic. However, I have been proud and assured of the work of the frontline staff across the partnership as they continued to deliver vital services to safeguard our children and families.

Against the backdrop of these enormous pressures, partners have continued to strive to improve practices and services and maintained a focus on not only maintaining a high level of service delivery but equally on innovation and sector improvement.

As a product of the strengthened relationships with the Safeguarding Adults Board, the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership and the newly established Lincolnshire Domestic Abuse Partnership, we received the Strategic Needs Analysis which has informed our Strategic Priorities for the next three years. We have worked across the four partnerships to identify opportunities to collaborate, reduce duplication and ensure continued efficiencies in our work. The LSCP also maximises relationships within the East Midlands region and supports work in safeguarding children who move between Lincolnshire and our neighbouring counties.

The Lincolnshire partners have embarked on a commitment to improve responses to children who experience sexual abuse and over the last twelve months have successfully collaborated with the Child Sexual Abuse Centre of Expertise to develop and implement a pathway of resources to ensure that each child receives the support they need at the right time.

I was pleased to attend the Celebration Event for Lincolnshire school children who had attained their Junior Online Safety Officer (JOSO) awards and am keen to see this work develop with more schools taking part next year.

Here in Lincolnshire, we have a first-class partnership and I would like to thank all partners for their professional commitment to safeguarding children. I would also like to thank the Business Manager, Stacey Waller, and her staff for successfully coordinating a key business area ensuring high levels of support to our 'frontline'.

Chris Cook
LSCP Independent Chair

Introduction

2021-2022 has been a year of recovery for Services and establishing a new 'business as usual' following periods of immense demand and challenge for partners, frontline practitioners and our children and families in Lincolnshire. The full effects of the pandemic and further national and global crisis which are impacting on the day to day lives of our communities continue to be realised and present significant difficulties for families in Lincolnshire. Now, more than ever, it is critical that partners continue to work together effectively and efficiently to deliver excellent services to safeguard and promote the welfare of children across our County.

The purpose of the safeguarding arrangements, as set out in Chapter 3: Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 is to support and enable local organisation and agencies to work together in a system where:

1. Children are safeguarded and their welfare promoted,
2. Partner organisations and agencies collaborate, share and co-own the vision for how to achieve improved outcomes for vulnerable children,
3. Organisations and agencies challenge appropriately and hold one another to account effectively,
4. There is early identification and analysis of new safeguarding issues and emerging threats,
5. Learning is promoted and embedded in a way that local services for children and families can become more reflective and implement changes to practice,
6. Information is shared effectively to facilitate more accurate and timely decision making for children and families.

This annual report will showcase the work of the partners and reflect on the impact the arrangements have had for children and families across Lincolnshire.

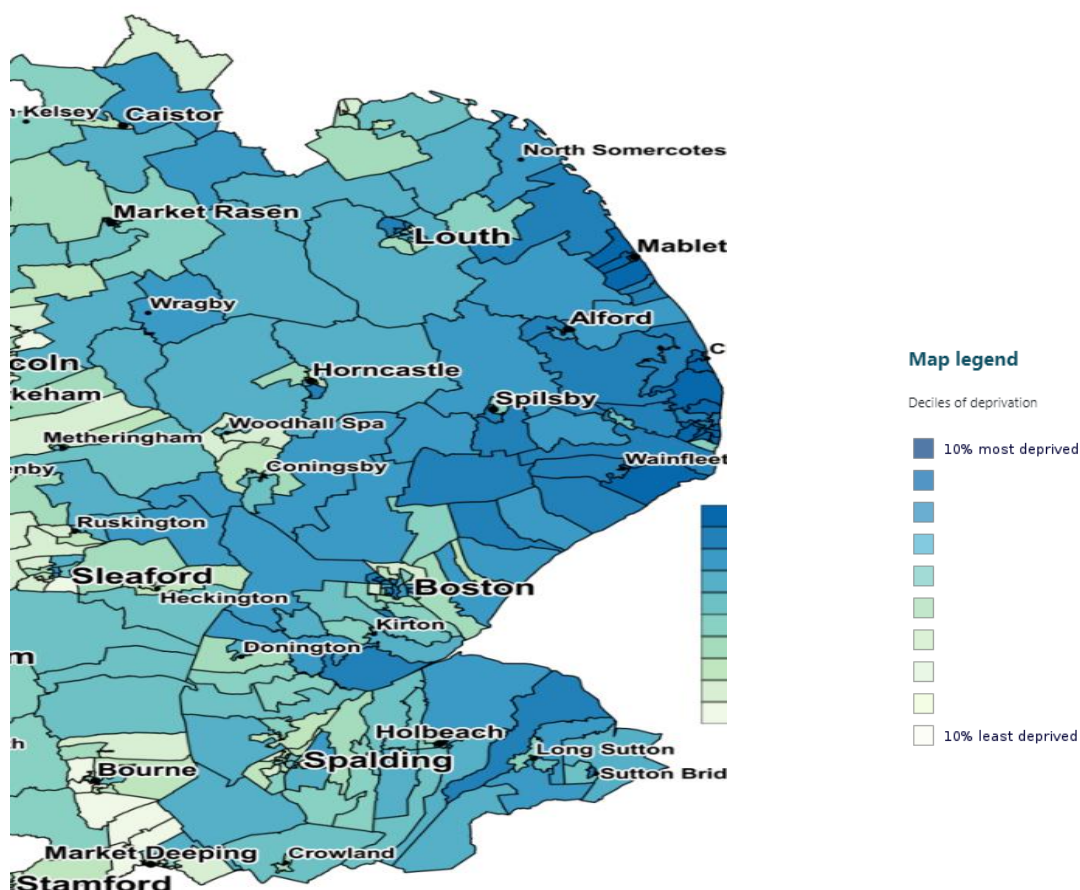
During 2021, the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership (SLP) completed the Q(quad) Collaboration Needs Analysis on behalf of all four partnerships in Lincolnshire (SLP, LSCP, Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board and the Lincolnshire Domestic Abuse Partnership). The findings from this analysis has informed the identification and confirmation of the LSCP Strategic Priorities for 2022-2025.

1. Tackling Child Exploitation
2. Enhancing the Emotional Wellbeing of Children and Young People
3. Promoting Healthy Relationships
4. To identify and reduce the impact of neglect on children and young people
5. To Identify and reduce the impact of sexual and physical harm

The establishment of the Lincolnshire Domestic Abuse Partnership (LDAP) provides a clear governance around domestic abuse and this will have implications for our own work and opportunities for future collaborations to ensure that children are safeguarded and their welfare is promoted. As a result, a joint area of assurance has been agreed between the two partnerships to ensure that they work collaboratively "To identify and reduce the impact of Domestic Abuse on children, young people and their families."

Lincolnshire Context

- The 2021 Census showed an increase in Lincolnshire's population from 713, 653 in 2011 to 768,400 in 2021. An overall increase of 7.7%
- Compared to 2011, the children and young people population (under 15s) has increased, most notably by 14.2% in Boston and 10% in Lincoln.
- There is a continuing growth in the diversity of the county's population, more than one in ten school pupils now have English as a second language.
- 109,270 children and young people attending education settings across the County.
- Lincolnshire has 388 schools (5 Nursery, 281 Primary, 53 Secondary, 18 Special, 26 Independent and 5 PRU)
- As of Spring 2021, more than 1 in 5 Lincolnshire school pupils are now eligible for free school meals.
- For 16 – 17 year olds known to the Local Authority, Lincolnshire has a higher than average number in education, employment or training, 94.9% locally compared to 93.2% nationally
- Areas of highest deprivation in Lincolnshire can be found in pockets of the major towns and along the coast. The map below highlights the Indices of deprivation for 2019 (most recent available data)



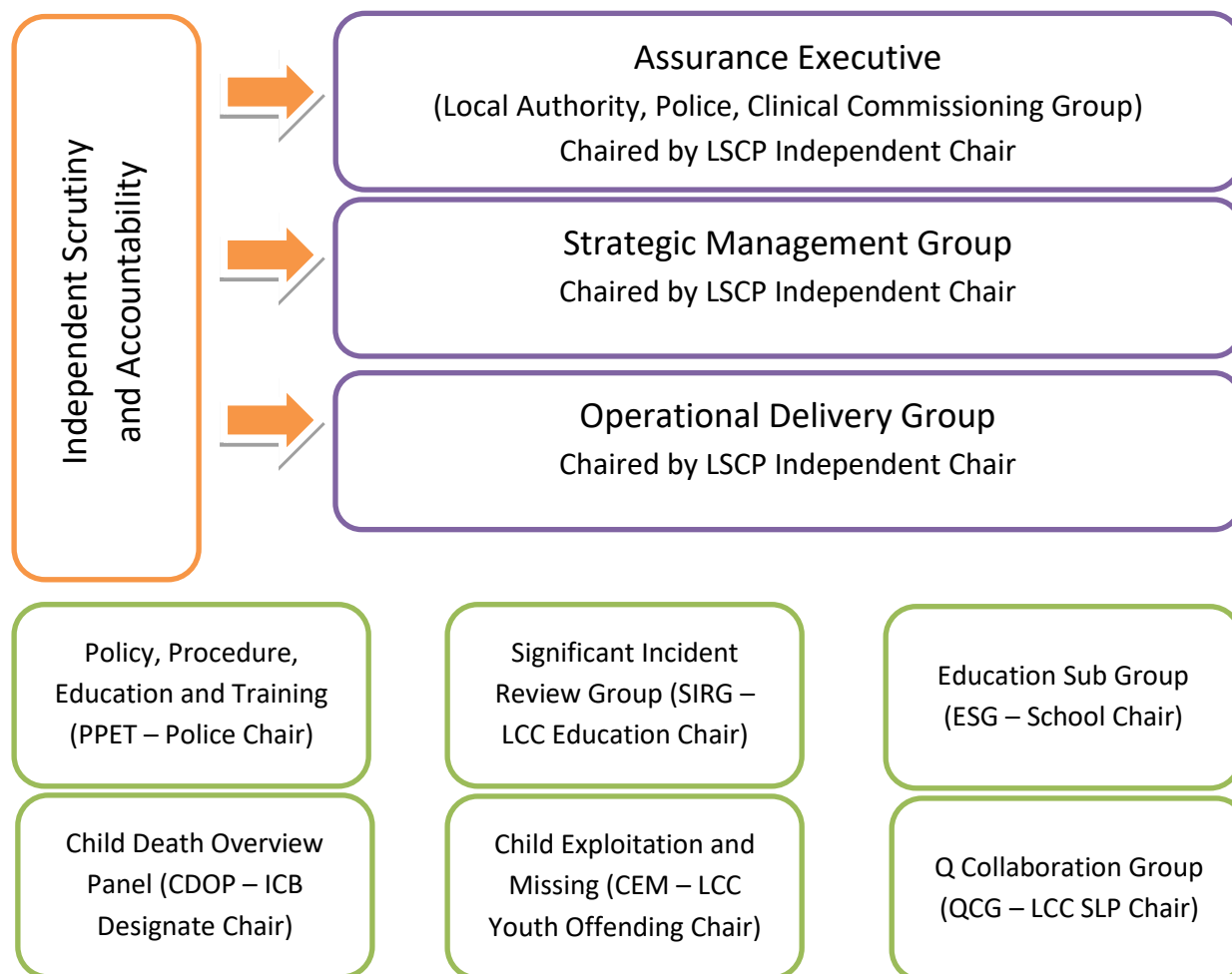
Our Partners and Partnership



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Lincolnshire prides itself on the strength of its Safeguarding Children Partnership to effectively work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children across the county. The LSCP extends beyond the three key statutory partners and welcomes contributions, challenge and support from a wide range of agencies, including faith organisations, charities, and education providers. Partners contribute to an active work plan and deliver across a number of agenda's and priorities. This work is co-ordinated and overseen by the LSCP Sub-Groups, Operational Delivery and Strategic Management groups.

¹ In July 2022, the CCG changed to form the NHS Lincolnshire ICB, for the purposes of this report the latter will be used throughout.



Scrutiny and accountability

Our Independent Chair continues to drive forward safeguarding collaboration and partnership working so that children are best protected and safe in Lincolnshire in their homes, schools and communities. Lincolnshire has maintained the role of the Independent Chair as an effective means of providing objective scrutiny of our local multi-agency arrangements as well as the presence of a critical friend who works to promote continuous improvements.

As well as chairing our Operational Delivery Group, Strategic Management Group and the Assurance Executive, our Independent Chair has also assumed chairing responsibility for the Child Sexual Abuse Steering Group. Through these responsibilities, and strong relationships across the partnership, our Chair is well positioned to provide challenge and scrutiny to ensure co-ordinated multi-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in Lincolnshire.

In April 2022, along with the Business Manager, the Independent Chair presented last year's Annual Report to the Lincolnshire County Council's Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee. Members of the Committee were very engaged with the work of the LSCP and offered robust challenge and support for the work being delivered. On conclusion of the

meeting, members confirmed that they were assured of activity by the partnership to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in Lincolnshire.

Scrutiny through Audit

The LSCP Quality Assurance Framework identifies the need to complete one multi-agency audit per year. The LSCP Multi-Agency Audit this year focusing on Improving Outcomes for 11-17 years old. The scope of the audit was extended to include a younger age range (initially 14-17) following a rapid review in 2021. The audit was conducted between October and December 2021 and included multi-agency auditing of 21 in scope case files, an observation of two Joint Diversionary Panels and 3 practitioner interviews. Due to challenges with national restrictions, it was not possible to engage children and families in the audit on this occasion.

The audit prompted a focus on the challenges and needs presented by this often-complex age for children. Adolescence is an age of great development and definition as children look for greater independence, autonomy and identity. Whilst it is a time of opportunity and potential for many, for some it can also be a time of vulnerability and engagement in new behaviours which also bring exposure to risks. This was highlighted through the evidence of the risk of exploitation and indicators of neglect across the sampled group.

The partnership is assured however, that services to children and families and Lincolnshire continued to be delivered to a high standard. Through the audit returns and the challenge day, many areas of good practice were clearly evidenced, and these are highlighted throughout the report in green. Partners should be proud of the work achieved during these difficult years to improve outcomes for adolescent children in Lincolnshire.

Good Practice: Across the 21 returns and within the 6 cases that were discussed in depth at the challenge day it was identified that at least one involved professional in each case had a strong and effective relationship with each child. This was particularly evident within C69 through the work with their LPFT Clinical Lead and within cases C68, C75 and C79 where the YPLP team demonstrated a persistence in their approaches to engage with the young people and listen and respond to their goals and aspirations.

Good Practice - In relation to good practice, it was noted during the challenge day that direct work undertaken by the team around young person C75 was solution focussed and based upon the young person's aspirations. The returns indicated concerns that the child could be vulnerable to exploitation and the direct work undertaken was in response to this and an excellent example of multi-agency intervention. It was also positive to note relationship-based practice with both the young person and their carers; a whole family approach was evident. Across several cases examples were found of the use of direct work, by a professional with the closest relationship with the young person, that built upon protective factors such as strengthening education, employment and training opportunities and setting of realistic goals based upon the young person's aspirations.

Recommendations from the audit have resulted in the policies and procedures linked to Child Exploitation being reviewed and streamlined as well as work being undertaken to

understand the barriers to engaging fathers/paternal figures and a policy on Supporting Separated Parents is being written.

Significant Incident Review Group (SIRG) – Input from John O'Connor, Head of Service for Education Support, Lincolnshire County Council and Chair of SIRG

Professionals and organisations in Lincolnshire, with a role in protecting children, need to reflect on the quality of services and learn from their own practice and that of others. Good practice should be shared so that there is a growing understanding of what works well. Equally, when things go wrong, there needs to be a robust and objective analysis of what happened and why. Lessons can then be learned, and services improved to reduce the risk of future harm to children. Our Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements facilitate this through our SIRG.

The group also review national publications that may contain learning for Lincolnshire such as reports produced by the National Panel for Safeguarding Children or other local area reviews.

The purpose of the SIRG is to oversee all open serious incident cases, make recommendations to the Assurance Executive for rapid reviews or local child safeguarding practice reviews, monitor the associated action plans and consider examples of good multi-agency practice. In this way the group is a contributor to the evaluation of the impact of our services and practice on each of the LSCP's priorities.

The group's membership has remained static, enjoying the stability of experience that this brings. At the end of the year, after a very long tenure, our representative from Children's Health left Lincolnshire to take up a promotion in another partnership area.

The group updated its guidance on the completion of rapid reviews and produced a practitioner guide for wider dissemination throughout partners as to what a rapid review is and why they may be asked to contribute.

All reviews that were started under the old partnership arrangements of serious case reviews (SCRs) have been published with their associated, and completed, action plans. All reviews are now conducted under the new arrangements.

Serious Incident Notifications

There were 8 cases considered by the group as serious incident notifications. One of these resulted in a rapid review which concluded that it should go on to be reviewed in greater detail as a dual local child safeguarding practice review and domestic homicide review. The other 7 did not reach the criteria for a rapid review, but 2 of them were reviewed as cases, 1 via a small working group and the other as a delegated health review. One of the cases led us to review an existing policy on dangerous dogs, leading to a rename of the policy to safeguarding children around dogs and a review of its content.

We have worked with 3 other local authority safeguarding children's partnerships on reviews this year and so developed a process for consistency when working with other areas. This

has been taken to the regional partnership meeting for sharing of good practice and comment.

Several reports have been published that the group considered and reflected on to make recommendations, or provide assurance, to the Assurance Executive of the practice in Lincolnshire:

- [‘The Myth of Invisible Men’](#) – the National Panel for safeguarding children’s thematic report in to safeguarding children under 1 from non-accidental injury caused by male carers
- [Joint Targeted Area Inspection](#) - inspection report of Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council in response to the death of baby Arthur
- [National Review in to Murders of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star Hobson](#) – a nationally commissioned review to consider whether their murders reflect wider national issues in child protection
- The LSCP’s Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) produced a thematic report on the recent suicides in Lincolnshire. This report was considered by the group and supported the recommendation that all Lincolnshire child suicides be considered for review until further notice.

Following the completion of the previous year’s rapid reviews the group published a learning bulletin for each one, for agencies to use to brief their staff on the reviews, their learning and areas of best practice. For those that have access, these are now stored securely on [Enable](#).

Practitioner Feedback – Learning Bulletins

The generation of the learning bulletins following rapid reviews that can be shared widely across the partnership has been well received. The impact surveys that partners can complete after each bulletin have been well received and rated significantly positive. Feedback from the survey has shown that the bitesize one-side of paper format is ideal for understanding the case quickly. Several comments have mentioned process/ organisations that readers have only just heard of, which helps practitioners understand Lincolnshire’s arrangements. Storing these, and future, learning bulletins in one place, on the training platform Enable, will help new practitioners learn from local reviews.

“We looked at this learning in a team meeting, spoke about all of the resources and links we had not been aware of, also raised awareness of the role of the LSCP and learning reviews.”

“Ensuring parents / carers are involved and their involvement recorded.”

“Joined up approach is crucial where multi agencies are involved with a family. Child development knowledge for the 10-14s.”

“Strengthen my knowledge and understanding.”

“The importance of following TAC procedures, and communicating with TAC Admin and/or escalating when parental consent is removed.

“There were lots of people looking out for Lucy and doing many good things for/with her, they just needed to ask more questions of her trauma as a child. Things were learnt as a result of her death.”

[Policy, Procedure, Education and Training Subgroup \(PPET\) – input from Insp. James Hoyes, Lincolnshire Police and Chair of PPET](#)

The Policy, Performance, Education, and Training sub-group (PPET) develops, reviews, and maintains the policies of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership. The purpose is to ensure that a fit-for-purpose manual is available for all professionals and the public. The sub-group is influential in what training and educational content is provided for professionals across the Partnership, including providing our own suite of training packages. By working together, the collective knowledge, skill, and expertise amongst its membership ensures that all documents, guidance, and training is usable by every professional.

PPET is attended by the three statutory partners and a vibrant and active membership of the wider partners. All members of the sub-group are engaged thoroughly with the work and offer support and insight to the Partnership. The diverse, professional experience of members is vital in the development and delivery of effective policy and procedure and the group works to ensure that the Partnership maintains a suite of documents that are easily accessed and understood by professionals and the public.

During the period covered by this annual report PPET has reviewed and refreshed 17 policies, procedures, and guidance documents. This is all published in the Partnership's [Policy and Procedures Manual](#).

Assessing the impact of the Safer Sleep for Infants Guidance, PPET completed a policy impact assessment. PPET received results from fourteen partners, with eight providing positive returns spanning across children's services, health partners, district councils, and organisations in the third sector. It is apparent the policy has had positive impact in the training on safer sleep and simplifying internal policies, by being able to refer to the LSCP's guidance. This impact has primarily been felt by practitioners within the partner agencies, but most agencies showed how the guidance has had an impact on parents and their infant children.

[Case Study:](#)

United Lincolnshire Hospital Trust provided further detail on how nurses were able to safeguard and support a mother of a three-week-old baby whose needs were not being met.

“The Safer Sleep Guidance was discussed with the nursing team and the team was signposted to the relevant resources, for both professionals and parents. Through advice and supervision, the nursing team were able to discuss and signpost the mother to all relevant information and guidance regarding the concerns [...] The nursing team contacted other agencies who can provide support to the mother including the allocated health visitor, an early help assessment was completed and a DPM [Discharge Planning Meeting] held prior to discharge.”

Through the policy impact assessment, PPET were able to establish the Safer Sleep for Infants Guidance is recognised by all partners as a valuable source of advice, information, resources and signposting.

Highlights in our programme of partner presentations have been Lincolnshire Community Health Service's (LCHS) presentation on the Dangerous Dogs and Safeguarding Children Policy and South Kesteven District Council's (SKDC) on the Joint Protocol for Missing Children and Young People.

The presentation on the Dangerous Dogs and Safeguarding Children Policy, coincidentally, followed shortly after the sad death of a baby in the east of the county due to a dog attack in March. LCHS provided a case study of a baby presenting at an urgent treatment centre with a cut to their lip after being bitten by a dog. The case study highlighted how the policy provides for effective safeguarding of the child and handover to the police for a criminal investigation. It did identify further work to ensure that all partners understand what fell into the policy, particularly in relation to the type and behaviour of the dog and age of the child.

SKDC's presentation on the Joint Protocol on Missing Children and Young People was notable as district councils are not routinely notified of a child or young person being reported missing. However, they consider the risk through other calls they received (noise complaints, neighbour disputes, ASB, etc) and are represented at MACE where they provide a suite of tactical options to disrupt the pull factors leading to children and young people being reported missing. It is apparent that the joint protocol supports internal policies and provide a useful go-to guidance document. The case study they provided has been captured in the Child Exploitation and Missing subgroup section, due to links with Operational MACE (Multi Agency Child Exploitation meetings).

Training Report September 2021-2022

The LSCP multi-agency training is an effective way of bringing together professionals from different agencies to gain a better understanding of each other's role and responsibilities for safeguarding and make a positive difference to frontline practice.

The pandemic challenged the team to ensure that the training delivery continued to provide multi agency interaction and learning. The training team responded quickly developing and delivering a wide range of easy access eLearning, virtual workshops and online briefings and webinars, that all embedding the multi-agency ethos. However, this year has set the team a new challenges as we begin to move forward post Covid. Partners all agreed that a blended approach was called for.

The team identified the courses that worked well as virtual workshops and those that needed to be face to face and then some that worked better as a combination of eLearning, workshops and face to face. In May 2022 the identified face-to-face training commenced. Attendance was poor to begin with, several partners were still unable to release staff to attend and illness was still an issue, leading to some courses having to be cancelled due to low numbers. However, since October attendance at all courses has increased, as has the demand for training. The team are reviewing and adding additional places and courses to meet demand.

The Inter Agency Safeguarding Children course is now in four inter linking modules, (previously this was delivered over 2 days). This approach has enabled the LSCP to continue joint delivery with the Early Help Consultants, an approach that is very much valued. There have been challenges, particularly practitioners being able to attend the courses in chronological order.

The evaluations have offered insight into how practitioners view a blended approach. Many have commented that they valued the face-to-face final session with comments including:

I really enjoyed the face to face activity about how a conference would look. I enjoyed the role-play activity as it really gives you an idea of what it would be like if you were to ever have to go to one.'

'The separate modules gave me time to review my knowledge. The Voice of the Child element of the training was very powerful and indicated that the child's voice could be "heard" in different ways to just listening to the words.'

The course was very informative and promoted discussion between individuals from different employment backgrounds which in itself was hugely beneficial, opening up discussions and enabling differing perspectives

November 2021-Nov 2022

Course Title	Number of courses		Number Completed/Attended	
	Nov 2020 - Oct 2021	Nov 2021 - Oct 2022	Nov 2020 - Oct 2021	Nov 2021 - Oct 2022
Inter-Agency Safeguarding Children and Young People module 1 (e-learning)	n/a	n/a	906	1046
Inter-Agency Safeguarding Children and Young People module 2	54	38	567	410
Inter-Agency Safeguarding Children and Young People module 3	54	38	539	399
Inter-Agency Safeguarding Children and Young People module 4	54	37	506	411
Child Exploitation	20	10	183	94

Recognise disguised compliance and disengagement within families	3	9	22	100
Reducing Parental Conflict	10	11	73	85
Domestic Abuse Virtual Workshops and face to face	0	15	0	123
Supporting Children with Mental Health in Lincolnshire	0	5	0	82
Safer Workforce (Recruitment)	3	4	61	63
Online Safety	8	6	62	51
Drug and Alcohol Awareness	3	3	35	24
Child to Parent/Carer Abuse Training	1	1	13	17

The LSCP training team have continued to work collaboratively with the Early Help Consultants, Domestic Abuse Partnership, Adult Safeguarding Board, Children Services, Special Educational Needs and Disability, Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services and We Are With. Many courses are co delivered, whether that is face to face, virtual workshops and briefings or pre rerecorded videos this has enabled a joined up approach. This collaboration has strengthened the delivery of the training courses and enabled the development of new courses.

The 6-year safeguarding children and young people training pathway was reviewed in the summer 2022 and a simpler format developed to assist practitioners to follow the pathway to develop their knowledge of safeguarding children. The pathway is mirrored in adults safeguarding with courses that go across both children and adults featuring in the same years. All core courses were reviewed in July and August 2022.

New courses 2021-2022

- 'Child to Parent/Carer Abuse', in partnership with The Domestic Abuse Partnership.
- 'Working with Parents and Young People that use Drugs or Alcohol' in partnership with We Are With You.
- 'Lincolnshire Paediatric Sexual Assault Referral Pathway', briefing.
- 'A Rough Guide To Not Putting Your Foot In It', in partnership with Lincolnshire Young Voices.
- 'Domestic Abuse in Practice' replacing Control, Coercive Behaviour and Stalking in an intimate relationship and Disguised compliance, in partnership with The Domestic Abuse Partnership.

The Safeguarding Managed Learning System, Enable, provides multi agency access to all Children and Adult Safeguarding and Domestic Abuse courses. All partners continue to

encourage staff and volunteers to access the training. There are now 57,000 learners registered, with 48,894 eLearning courses being completed during the last year, an increase of 13,145 from the previous year.

The Voluntary Sector Briefings that have been delivered jointly with the Adult Safeguarding Board during the last 2 years, are an excellent example of how the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Training has been promoted and there are now 6,974 Volunteers registered and completing a range of training.

Child Exploitation and Missing Subgroup (Input from Andy Cook, Head of Service, Youth Offending Team and Future4Me, Lincolnshire County Council and Chair of CEM)

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) outlines that it is the responsibility of all partner agencies to identify all children and young people at risk of exploitation to prevent them from becoming victims, and it is the responsibility of all partner agencies to protect and safeguard all children and young people who are experiencing exploitation from further harm.

The LSCP has placed a significant emphasis and investment on improving practice in relation to those children at risk of exploitation and within its response to missing children. The investment in a dedicated Child Exploitation Analyst role has given a strong focus around reporting and understanding of the profile of exploitation and in turn providing support to operational practice. The analyst works in close collaboration with all partners and Operational MACE to ensure that trends and issues are identified and resolved at the earliest opportunity as well as refining systems and process to assist in the identification and disruption of CE in the County.

The partnership response to child exploitation is managed through several groups and activities to ensure we are identifying, managing, and responding to risk. This starts at tactical/operational delivery level through the weekly Multi Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) meeting. The LSCP Child Exploitation & Missing (CEM) subgroup provides the partnership oversight and scrutiny and meets every six weeks reporting into the LSCP Operational Delivery Group

The partnership work related to children at risk of exploitation is strong and there is an ongoing commitment to innovate and consider best practice through both regional and national forums. Through the CEM subgroup we hold a preventative focus through our communications and campaigns provide key information related to the risks around exploitation for both parents/carers and children to ensure awareness of potential risks. During the summer, information on responding to incidents of children going missing was targeted at the East Coast of the County, due to the transient nature of the visiting population to local resorts and coastal attractions and previous elevated numbers of missing episodes during this time. Whilst teenagers at risk of exploitation were part of this group, the campaign provided safety advice for parents with children of all ages. This aimed to support key professionals in their ability to report concerns regarding exploitation but also to ensure there is community responsibility to safeguarding all children and young people.

There are strong links between children and young people being at risk of exploitation and other behaviours, in particular missing from home or care. Considerable evidence highlights that children and young people who go missing from home or care are at increased risk of being at risk of or experiencing criminal exploitation and or sexual exploitation. During 2022 partners self-assessed against The Children’s Society Missing Benchmark Tool to provide a greater understanding of our strategic response to children who go missing. The Tool identified a number of actions and steps we can take to improve our response and the partnership will continue to track progress against these outcomes during 2023.

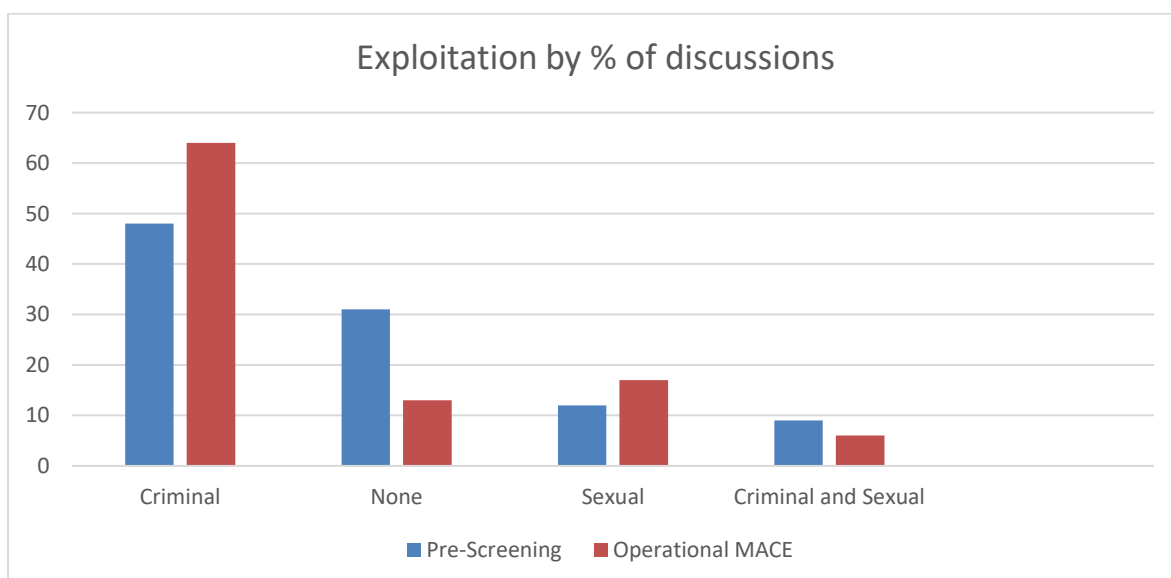
The partnership continues to support and encourage education placements to complete missing return interviews for those children who are not open to Children Services at the point of missing incident. It is really positive and a demonstration of our collaboration with schools resulting in a year-on-year increase in the number of return interviews completed by education placements. This now stands at 30% of the interviews allocated in 2022 through the front door which is a real success story of our approach in Lincolnshire.

The partnership is proud of the commitment demonstrated by all partners to tackle exploitation in Lincolnshire. 2022 saw the review of the Quality Assurance Framework to assure partners of the effectiveness of Operational MACE. The focus of activity going into 2023 will be on stakeholder engagement, audit activity, training and data analysis.

LSCP Analyst Role

Our ability to understand and respond effectively to the risks of CE necessitate a need for on-going analysis and expertise to support both the operational and strategic elements of MACE. The increase in referrals, return interviews and intelligence linked to child exploitation requires a cohesive and co-ordinated approach to capturing key themes and a clear picture of the profile of CE in Lincolnshire.

The recruitment of the dedicated CE analyst within the LSCP has generated a hugely positive impact of managing the available data and creation of reporting to highlight areas of concern and therefore a pro-active response.



Through training and practice development we are ensuring that all professionals are able to respond effectively to mitigate the risks of children going missing. The weekly MACE meeting reflects those children considered most at risk and works collaboratively to provide safety, instigate actions through disruption and enforcement against identified perpetrators and recognise and respond to locations of concern. As a result of recent changes, the focus of MACE is starting to consider more locations and persons of concerns, as opposed to being heavily reliant on victim referrals.

Senior Neighbourhoods Officer attends MACE – SKDC Policy Impact

- Location of concern identified relating to ‘young girls hanging around cars in supermarket carpark’
- Using local knowledge officer able to identify nearest Public CCTV
- Officer request further information from Children’s Services in relation to the incident that had been disclosed (i.e. date, time, descriptions)
- Officer reviewed CCTV footage of the timescales given
- In this case – nothing of evidential value observed
- As a disruption action, officer visited supermarket, liaised with managers and advice given around exploitation.
- Supermarket was given digital resources for The Children's Society **#LookCloser** campaign.
- Supermarket committed to giving staff a briefing and asking them to report any activity they suspect could be exploitation to the Police at that time.
- CCTV remain vigilant for any continued signs of possible exploitation.

Whilst all these developments continue to be taken forward, there is certainly no on-going complacency, and all partners share a clear commitment that all further learning will be assessed as practice evolves. This will ensure it provides us with a robust framework to support our shared goals in reducing the impact of children going missing and being placed at risk of exploitation.

Education Subgroup – Input from Kathryn Creaser, Safeguarding Lead for the Priory Trust, Chair of ESG

Development of school specific policies

Through the work of a task and finish group, the Education Sub Group has worked with partners from the Pupil Reintegration Team at Lincolnshire County Council to create a policy and a bank of resources to support schools and colleges with responding to incidents of sexual harassment and sexual violence. The information supplied to schools and colleges not only helps to bring consistency in practice, ensure compliance with statutory documentation, and provide invaluable guidance for safeguarding staff when they are presented with complex incidents to manage.

Stay Safe Survey

Once again this year, the Education Sub Group supported the delivery of the Stay Safe Survey for 2022. This year saw a record number of responses – 3,783 children took part in this year’s survey from 39 different secondary schools. The information garnered from the survey allows professionals to understand the lived experiences of children and young people in Lincolnshire, and will be used by the Stay Safe Partnership to help inform their resources and the Stay Safe Days moving forward.

YouTube remains the most popular app used by boys, while TikTok and Snapchat are now joint most popular with girls

The most striking difference in the proportion of bullying victims who took action can be seen by level of parental/guardian supervision

Stay Safe Partnership

The Stay Safe Partnership’s inclusion within the Education Sub Group continues to provide an excellent example of partnership working. Through the Sub Group meetings, education representatives are able to work with the Stay Safe Partnership to shape their work and ensure continued high quality delivery on topics that matter to children and young people. A good example of this is a request from the Sub Group members for the Stay Safe Partnership to work with CAMHS to look at putting together curriculum sessions that equip children and young people with the know-how to manage harmful content online, in order to help improve their mental health. Schools and colleges have seen an increase in children’s mental health deteriorating as a result of accessing harmful material online, e.g. content on self-harm and suicide. It was felt that a really useful piece of work would be to create curriculum sessions that support staff to deliver on this topic, whilst strengthening the messages delivered by the Stay Safe Partnership, CAMHS and school staff to children and young people. This work is ongoing.

A Date with Dan/Ask Dan Anything

Further to feedback received in the Stay Safe Survey, and the success of the events last year, Dan Hawbrook (LSCP eSafety Officer) has delivered a series of events for parents/carers on the topic of online safety, entitled ‘A Date With Dan’. On reviewing the success of these, a recommendation from the Education Sub Group was to replicate these sessions for practitioners. ‘Ask Dan Anything’ was created, which is an opportunity for professionals to listen to key updates from Dan and, as you may have guessed, ask him anything about online safety. The sessions have created a safe space for professionals to seek advice and guidance and improve their practice, as well as bringing together partners from across the county, providing an opportunity to discuss online safety within the context of the Lincolnshire.

Feedback received from professionals who attended the event was overwhelmingly positive, with many reflecting that it would impact their practices moving forward.

“Reassurance that there are parental controls, which can be put in place despite many parents believing there are not”

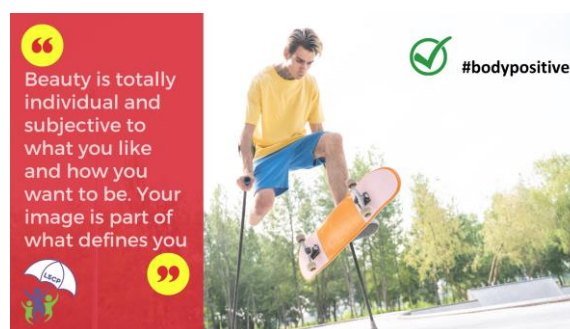
“Information about different apps and learning how to remove images from social media”
“Update on most trendy apps and their pitfalls”

“Great info and update”

Engagement in campaigns

Members from the Education Sub Group worked with partners from the LSCP to help put together the Positive Body Image campaign. Prior to its launch in August 2022, Sub Group members enabled the LSCP’s Audit & Policy Officer to meet with children and young people from three different educational settings, and the campaign was built around what these pupils said about body image and the resources they wanted sharing. As a result of this collaboration, an education resource pack was shared with schools and colleges to help them work with children and young people to promote a positive body image. Members of the Education Sub Group were unanimous in the value of the resources and the benefit they had brought to staff delivering on this topic.

The Positive Body Image social media campaign had a reach of 4612 over 7 x posts shared throughout August 2022. Additionally there were 49 post likes and 35 post shares, which only served to strengthen the campaign reach. The success of the campaign was a testament to the effective working relationships built within the Partnership.



Schools Safeguarding Assurance

The LSCP seeks assurances every year that schools and colleges are meeting their safeguarding responsibilities. The assurances are provided by a non-teaching member of the Governing Body or Board of Trustees. Historically, schools and colleges have provided their assurances in the autumn term. The Education Subgroup have been part of a consultation this year to review when the submission is made, providing feedback on the process and looking at the optimum response time. As a result, the submission time for the Schools Safeguarding Assurance has now moved to the end of the academic year, in line with maintained schools receiving sign-off from their Governing Body for their safeguarding self-assessment. Further to feedback from the Education Subgroup, a change has also been made to the submission form, to allow Multi-Academy Trusts to complete one return for all settings, with additional requests to make the process smoother under discussion.

Number of assurances returned for 2021-2022:

Returns across all provisions and phases: 309/388 – Total: 80% returned

Early Years/Nurseries – 4/5 – Total: 80% returned

(This only covers maintained nursery settings; no data available on private/independent EYs provisions.)

Primary – 233/281 (including 1 all-through) – Total: 83% returned

Secondary – 38/53 – Total: 72% returned

Special – 18/18 – Total: 100% returned

Independent – 11/26 – Total: 42% returned

PRU/Alternative – 5/5 – Total: 100% returned

Whilst this is not a statutory requirement of schools, and some academies may use alternative methods of assurance, we are striving to increase the number of returns year on year. As a result of the changes introduced this year, we have seen an increase in returns by 14% from 255 schools to 309. Through continued efforts and engagement with all schools, it is anticipated that there will be a further increase in returns for the 2022/23 academic year.

Junior Online Safety Officers (JOSO)

The Junior Online Safety Officer training (JOSO) is aimed at Year 5 pupils to provide them with the knowledge, skills and confidence to help spread e-safety messages throughout their school with pupils, teachers and parents, in their role as a JOSO (Junior Online Safety Officer).

Participating schools and pupils took part in two taught virtual sessions, delivered by Online Safety Officer Dan Hawbrook and a LSCP Training Officer. Through involvement of the Education Subgroup, the course remains relevant and up to date reflecting the key issues that have been identified nationally, but also locally by our partners in the Stay Safe Partnership through their direct work with children and young people in schools across Lincolnshire.

A drop in numbers for the take up for the JOSO course was noticed from late spring and summer term. This was explored with schools via our Education SubGroup members and we were assured that this was a consequence of school recovery from Covid 19 rather than problems or issues with the content, delivery or structure of the course.

Participating Schools Nov 2021 – Nov 2022 = 22
Total number of JOSOs trained = 79

At the end of last academic year in July, a face-to-face celebration and a virtual celebration were held for all JOSOs who had taken part in the scheme that year. JOSOs submitted their work and certificates were awarded at the event in acknowledgement of their 'Brilliant Engagement', 'Awesome Creativity' or 'Super Commitment'.

Examples of the work completed by JOSOs:–

- Holding debates and tabletop discussions in class around key safety issues such as age ratings, use of social media, screen time, fake news.
- Writing and delivering assemblies on e-safety topics and to promote the JOSOs role.
- Designing virtual and paper-based quizzes on e-safety topics such as fake news
- Creating e-safety leaflets and posters to be displayed in schools and shared with parents
- Creating worry boxes for students to anonymously post any worries or questions about staying safe online
- Holding whole school campaigns on e-safety-such as competitions to create JOSO E-safety mascot and taking part in the national Online Safety Day.
- Posting JOSO information and events on the school’s website
- Video produced and delivered by JOSOs aimed at parents on how to keep their children safe online. Link to video posted on JOSO webpage on school website
- Produced e-safety pack for parents

All schools that had completed JOSO for the last academic year were sent ‘We are a JOSO School’ certificate to acknowledge their commitment to promoting online safety in their school.

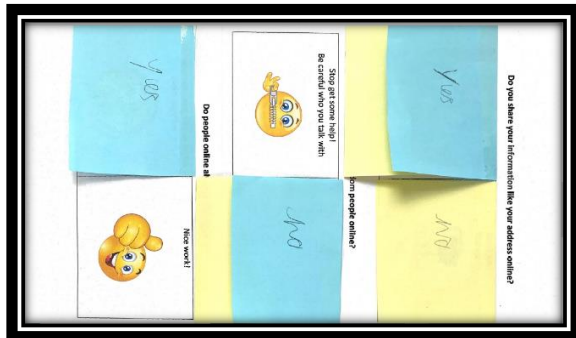
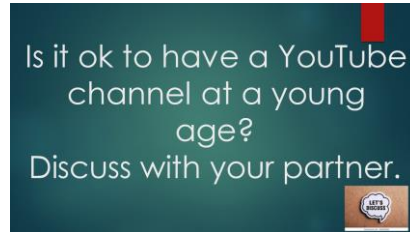
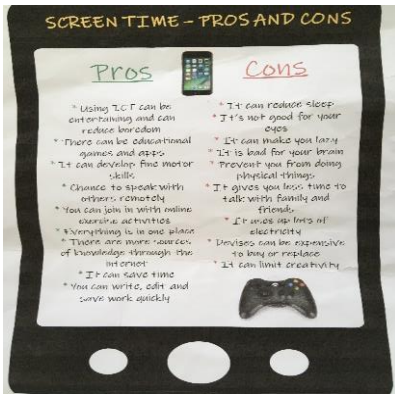


‘The certificates look great 😊’

‘Thank you very much, our JOSOs will be thrilled’

‘We’re looking forward to the celebration ’

Examples of submitted JOSO work



The JOSO course content has been refreshed and updated over the summer break this year by Dan Hawbrook (Online Safety Officer) and R T Friend (LSCP Training Officer) reflecting the key development in online safety resources nationally and taken on board themes specific to our region which have been mentioned in Education Sub Group meetings.

The refreshed two virtual training sessions and the 'Missions' for JOSOs commenced in September and reflect 'The Education for a Connected World Framework' which sets out the

knowledge children should know in relation to their age range, in terms of current online technology, its influence on behaviour and development, and what skills they need to be able to navigate it. Following completion of these sessions, pupils will need to complete 'missions' throughout the year to earn points which will be acknowledged at the Celebration Event at the end of the academic year.

Child Death Overview Panel (Julian Saggiorato – Chair of CDOP)

What is CDOP?

The Lincolnshire Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) reviews the death of every Lincolnshire child to see if any lessons can be learned. We are aiming to prevent future deaths where we can and to improve care and support for children, their families, and communities. The number of child deaths in Lincolnshire notified to CDOP between 1st April 2020 and 31st March 2021 was 33. Lincolnshire CDOP has completed 21 child death reviews during this period (a significant number of reviews are currently delayed whilst awaiting coroners' inquests).

Quick facts:

62% of all deaths reviewed were male

52% of deaths were under one year of age

71% of deaths were of white British ethnicity and 29% white other.

Commonest place of death was at home and the commonest cause of death was a neonatal or perinatal event, for example, being born prematurely.

4 children were known to have a disability and 19% children were known to social care, comparable to the national average of 23%.

Modifiable factors

These are factors where, if actions could be taken through national or local interventions, the risk of future child deaths could be reduced.

Modifiable factors were identified in 33% of the deaths reviewed. The commonest factor was cigarette smoking during pregnancy or within the household. This is also the commonest modifiable factor nationally.

Deprivation

Over 60% of deaths occurred in the most deprived 4 deciles. The national report *Child Mortality and Social Deprivation* found a clear association between the risk of child death and level of deprivation. Over 20% of all child deaths could be avoided if children in the most deprived areas had the same mortality risk as those living in the least deprived areas.

CDOP recommendations:

1. ICON, a programme that helps parents and carers develop coping mechanisms to deal with crying infants (and so reduce the risk of abusive head trauma) has been rolled out across health partners. It is now being offered to other agencies
2. Lincolnshire CDOP carried out its first themed panel looking at suspected teen suicides and has made recommendations to the LSCP
3. The LSCP to carry out a window safety campaign



7 Minute Briefing – CDOP annual report 2021/22



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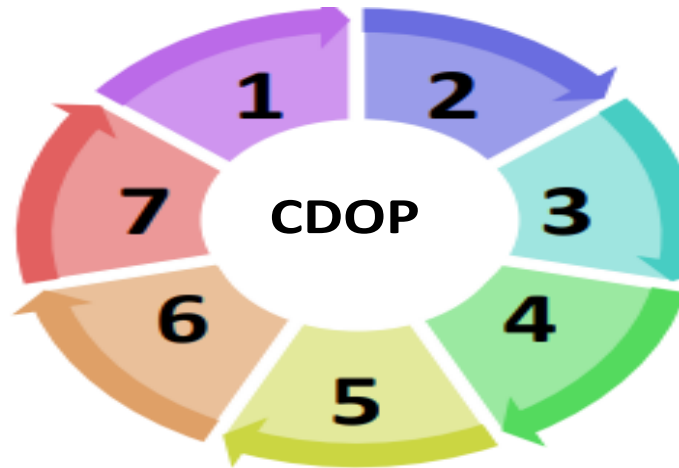
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Learning from Reviews

During the scope of this annual report, the LSCP has completed one Rapid Review following the murder of a child within the County. As a result of this Rapid Review, the LSCP made a recommendation to the national Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel that a local Child Safeguarding Practice Review was required. Due to the circumstances of the child's death, a joint CSPR and Domestic Homicide Review was commissioned and is underway, with the support of the family. We anticipate the report will be published in 2023 due to the requirement for Quality Assurance by the Home Office which can take several months.

Review of use of restraint – Lincolnshire Secure Unit

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, in which it states, *"Where there is a secure establishment in a local area, safeguarding partners should include a review of the use of restraint within that establishment in their report, and the findings of the review should be reported to the Youth Justice Board."* The review on the use of restraint within Lincolnshire's Secure Children's Home was undertaken by the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) and was received by the LSCP Operational Delivery Group in December 2022. The review covered the period 1st April 2021 to March 31st 2022.

LADO were assured, through the restraint reviews undertaken during the year and observations of training and record management, that there continues to be a significant amount of evidence of positive practice within the secure establishment. Restraint was demonstrably being used as a last resort and staff focused on how they can support the young person to minimise their distress and help them calm.

"Considering all the information checked during the reviews, information from Reg 44 visits and the insight provided by the LSU deputy manager during each review visit, we have no concerns about the culture and the practice related to restraints within the LSU."

