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**South Tyneside Safeguarding Children and Adults Partnership**

**Annual Report**

**2021 - 2022**

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**Partnership Chairs Foreword**

The South Tyneside Safeguarding Children and Adults Partnership has witnessed yet another year of immense challenge and a changing context in which it has had to operate. 2021-2022 has still seen us very much living with Covid and with our communities, services and workforces continuing to feel the impact of this, with increasing demand, complexity of need against a backdrop of financial pressures as we are now facing a Cost of Living Crisis and the enormity of challenge that brings with it. In addition to this there have been changes nationally at a political level which has influenced policy direction and ways of working, significant reform agendas for both children and adults social care as well as changes for health colleagues in the move to the Integrated Care Boards which became statutory organisations within the year.

Even with all of these challenges, the partnership continues to work together and focus upon the priorities set within its plan and safeguarding the children, young people and adults of South Tyneside, we know we can always do more and our commitment to learning and continuous improvement is something that drives us to understand our strengths as well as our areas for development. This is particularly important as we continue to evolve our joint partnership arrangements, the understanding of what is working well, what we understand to be the benefits of working in this new way and the opportunities that lie ahead for us given the reforms for both children’s adults and the wider partners. The ability to focus on our Think Family approach, have a positive impact upon practice whilst understanding the effective of the safeguarding arrangements in place in South Tyneside have been of importance to the partnership and whilst we continue to develop our arrangements and form our functions, we seek to use our learning from our joint ways of working to support us with this. As a partnership we are continuing to review and challenge ourselves about our effectiveness as a partnership particularly in light of our new arrangements, we understand the need to keep this under review and we would expect this to improve further in the forthcoming year ahead as we know that we still have further to go but that is not to underestimate the work we have done to date and the collective ambition.

The greater use of our data and intelligence, and understanding the impact for our children, young people and adults within South Tyneside in respect of Safeguarding is something we continue to work on. This is not only in relation as to how we seek to prevent abuse but to ensure that where abuse and harm has occurred our work with those is informed by best practice. Our ambition remains about working collaboratively with people both operationally and strategically to understand lived experience and using this to shape our work as a partnership. Our approaches to practice need to take account of the changing landscape in which we find ourselves, recognising the new challenges brought about through the legacy of the pandemic, the cost of living crisis, workforce pressures, new ways of working all of which require a different response, new things to be alert to, new priorities for us to consider as a partnership and therefore working collaboratively with people will be critical within this.

The year that has gone has not been without its challenges, and all of our staff across the partnership have continued to be responsive to them but the year ahead I have no doubt will be another year that will see us being one of both opportunity and challenge with the reforms across Social Care and Health. As we seek to prepare for CQC assurance, Children’s Social Care Reforms, be responsive to the winter and pressures that will bring, the financial challenges and ongoing demands upon our scarce resources. The need to work together in partnership has never been more so and I am one for confident that in South Tyneside, we have good foundations from which to build on.

**Shona Gallagher & Vicki Pattinson**

**Chairs – South Tyneside Safeguarding Children and Adults Partnership**

**Partnership Arrangements and Key Priorities**

The South Tyneside Safeguarding Children and Adults Partnership (STSCAP) replaces both the South Tyneside Safeguarding Children Partnership (STSCP) and Safeguarding Adults Board (STSAB). Both children and adult safeguarding have had the advantage of successfully working in collaboration on key areas of work such and Learning and Improvement (now Practice Evaluation and Learning) and Workforce Development and Training. The collective partnership arrangements will further strengthen the Think Family model across South Tyneside.

The arrangements recognise that the STSCP and STSAB are underpinned by different legislation and statutory guidance, however, aims to make the most of the similarities and benefits that bringing safeguarding Children and Adults together can deliver whilst explicitly aware of the need to ensure we are meeting our statutory duties and requirements.

Working Together to Safeguard Children Guidance 2018 and the Care Act 2014 both set out requirements for all local safeguarding partners to work together to safeguard and promote the safety and wellbeing of local children and adults at risk of harm or abuse, including identifying and responding to their needs.

Whilst the responsibility for safeguarding is held equally between the Council, NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups and Police, for an Adult Board that responsibility remains with the Local Authority and includes those same statutory members, and any other partners the Local Authority considers, following appropriate consultation. The Partnership has representation on the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Community Safety Partnership.

The Partnership is underpinned by the three principles identified within the Strategic Plan 2021-2024 which are:

* Effective Safeguarding
* Prevention and Early Intervention
* Focus on Practice

The Safeguarding Partnership seeks assurances via the range of sub groups and meetings and evidence presented that safeguarding arrangements across the partnership are effective in helping to keep children, young people and adults with care and support needs safe from abuse and neglect and achieving positive outcomes:

The Safeguarding Partnership remains committed on the increased focus on practice across safeguarding issues for children and adults.

Multi-agency practice themes, learning from statutory case reviews from children and adults and independent scrutiny findings have supported the ongoing development in this area. The practice priority theme that was concluded in 2021 – 22 was that of financial abuse. The rationale for this theme was based on the multi-agency performance data and local intelligence.

The role of the Independent Scrutineer assigned to the Partnership continues to tentatively challenge and hold partners to account for their delivery of services that safeguard everyone. The Independent Scrutineer has observed all of the sub groups and has undertaken various pieces of work which can be found in the attached report.



The STSCAP arrangements are subject to continual development and revision as the working arrangements come to fruition. This is expected to be met by all partners and relevant agencies raising issues as they arise in a dynamic way and on a regular basis. Examples of this in practice include have a standard agenda item at all Partnership meetings called Safeguarding Updates from Partners including safeguarding in action – good news stories. A similar format is included within the subgroup meetings of the Partnership

As a Partnership we will continue to review and test how we are doing, challenging and holding one another to account. We will do this by:

* Tracking compliance with statutory duties
* Scrutinising data and performance indicators
* Seeking feedback from people who use multi-agency services
* Undertaking self-assessments and increasing use of bespoke audits
* Working more effectively in partnership

We will continue to work in an agile way, recognising the need to respond effectively to new agendas and ongoing challenges. This will be particularly important considering the Government’s Health and Care Reform Agenda, Child Protection in England the national review; CQC Assurance Framework for Adult Social Care and other significant, anticipated legislative changes including, for example, the introduction of Liberty Protection Safeguards.

**What is Safeguarding?**

Safeguarding means protecting people’s right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent both the risks and experience of abuse or neglect, while at the same time making sure that the individual’s wellbeing is promoted.

***Safeguarding children -***Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

* Protecting children from maltreatment
* Preventing impairment of children’s health or development
* Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
* Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

Key principles for effective safeguarding of children:

* **Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility** –For services to be effective each professional and organisation should play their full part.
* **A child-centred approach** –For services to be effective they should be based on a clear understanding of the needs and views of children.

**The legal framework**

Safeguarding both adults and children is about preventing the risk of harm from abuse or exploitation or having the ability to reduce it by raising awareness and supporting people in making informed decisions.

***Safeguarding adults –***Safeguarding duties apply to an adult who:

* Has care and support needs (whether the local authority is meeting any of those needs).
* Is experiencing, or at risk of experiencing abuse or neglect.
* As a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

Six key principles of adult safeguarding:

**Empowerment** –people being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and give informed consent.

**Prevention** –it is better to act before harm occurs.

**Proportionality** –the least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.

**Protection** –support and representation for those in greatest need.

**Partnership** –local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting, and reporting neglect and abuse.

**Accountability** –accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding.

**2021-202 Practice Priority Theme**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Theme** | **Adult / children** | **Determined by** | **Started** | **Completed** |
| **Financial abuse \*** | Adult | Underreporting / impact of shielding on the vulnerable / national and local data | June 2021 | November 2021 |

\* Further information & link to full report can be found on page 19

Due to the significant and sustained pressures placed upon the Partnership and in agreement with the Executive Board no further Practice Priorities were progressed from November 2021 – March 2022. There is every intention to continue this approach in 2022-23.

**Key Priorities 2021 / 2022**

| **What we said we would do** | **How we said we would do this** | **How do we know we have done it** | **Did we make a difference?** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Continue to develop implement and the evaluate the Governance arrangements Partnership to ensure that there are effective safeguarding arrangements in place**  **Key point from the Development Day**  **Given the unique Partnership arrangements some partners expressed a lack of confidence in terms of the** governance arrangements and their role within the Partnership | * Continue to build on the strong history of multi-agency working, with robust and well-established safeguarding arrangements in place across the Partnership. * Remain focused on a multi-agency practice model * Utilise and act upon the independent scrutineer’s findings for the partnership * Continue to participate and contribute to the regional and national safeguarding forums * Maintained the effective multi-agency safeguarding meetings that were so successful during COVID. They provided an additional layer of assurance to the Partnership in terms of effective safeguarding arrangements   Reintroduce the Partnership Induction Programme / Added clarity and consistency to the terms of reference for all subgroups as well as deliver training where appropriate. | * Updated, published, and circulated the revised South Tyneside Safeguarding Partnership Governance document * Updated terms of reference for all subgroups and reintroduced the induction process to the Partnership and all subgroups * Have a clear workable Child Safeguarding Practice Review and Safeguarding Adults Review process * Progressed and completed the work around the second practice priority – Financial Abuse * Maintained the role and input of the Independent Scrutineer * Maintained attendance and input, at regional and national safeguarding forums * Continued to progress the work of the Partnership via the respective subgroups   Evidence of induction programme attached to subgroup minutes  Shared the animated induction in order that this could be utilised within all partner organisations to create a wider understanding of the Partnership arrangements | **YES, WE DID!**   * The Partnership arrangements reflect the multi- agency learning gained during the ongoing development of the Partnership * We have maintained a level of commitment from partners * We have up to date CSPR /SAR protocols informed by statutory and national best practice guidelines * Completed the second multi-agency practice priority theme- Financial Abuse * Issues raised at the multi-agency safeguarding monthly meetings afforded the opportunity to address safeguarding issues timely and in a collective manner e.g. raising the issue of the increase in the homelessness figures and recirculating the learning resources from a previous learning event   **YES, WE DID!**  Feedback from Partners indicates that there is a better understanding and confidence about the Partnership arrangements. |
| **Continue to develop the multi-agency performance monitoring / quality assurance and scrutiny arrangements** | * Continue to improve the multi-agency performance frameworks and reporting mechanism across children and adults Performance Management and Evaluation subgroups (PME) * Develop the role of the Independent Scrutineer in line with the needs of the Partnership * Maintained the tracking sheet as a method of ensuring agreed multi-agency actions from children and adult reviews have been acted upon | * Introduced reporting by exception into both PME subgroups * Evidence of greater scrutiny and challenge around the multi-agency performance data at a local and regional level * Key pieces of work independent scrutinised and findings disseminated * Multi-agency Progress Events initiated | **YES, WE DID!**   * We have a better multi-agency understanding of what the pressing safeguarding issues are for partners which when collated can highlight bespoke themes for the Partnership to consider as future practice priorities areas for additional scrutiny. * Additional value and scrutiny applied to the Practice Evaluation and Learning meetings * From the Progress Event Assurance gained as to the completion of agreed actions and evidence of additional learning gained (specific progress includes spreadsheet for SARs, CSPRs and DHRs) * Progressed regional work around a children’s and adults bespoke performance frameworks |
| **We will be aware of the key local safeguarding areas of concern across children and adults and implement the appropriate multi-agency prevention and early intervention approaches** | * Awareness raising and preventative work around all areas of abuse with a focus on additional areas of both local, regional, and national concern: * Bruising in immobile babies and children * Peer on Peer Abuse * Maintain effective dialogue with multi-agency partners in terms of the increasing pressures and demands on service   Actively participated in Safeguarding Adults Week 2020/21 | * Developed a schedule of activity/awareness raising and suggested preventative actions based around the areas of concern * Addressed key areas for local learning in response to the murders of Arthur Labinjo Hughes and Star Hobson: * Contributed to the revised Northumbria Police Missing Adults Protocol * Developed effective resource for use by all partners in terms of Peer-on-Peer Abuse * In Partnership with the National Working Group, NWG engaged with the ‘Safe to Play’ national initiative * Created the space to have open and frank discussions with partners in term of responding to increasing service pressures and mitigating against increased risks   A comprehensive plan was circulated across the partnership and wider networks which incorporated the following themes linked to the national theme of Creating Safer Cultures and reflective of the local picture in South Tyneside:   * Exploitation of Adults (including grooming online) * Mental Capacity Act * Financial Abuse – Final Practice Priority Session * Domestic Abuse | **YES, WE DID!**   * Developed and circulated a multi-agency virtual / hybrid safeguarding training programme that threaded Think Family throughout * Facilitated extraordinary meetings in terms of seeking assurance s from the learning from the murders of Arthur and Star. This was delivered by the Designated Doctor with over 310 multi-agency attendees * Delivered 4 sessions about the Northumbria Missing Adults Protocol, attended by 15 professionals. The issue and implications of missing are more established in multi-agency thinking. Top 3 missing adults now discussed between Police and ASC to determine appropriate response / safeguarding measures. * Worked in partnership with Sunderland University and media students and developed a suite of 7 films based on the topic of Peer-on-Peer Abuse   <https://bit.ly/3OSaHTh>   * Improved the awareness of abuse in Sport via online engagement sessions and distribution of the campaign cards. 29 Professionals attended two sessions to introduce the initiative * All schools received information July 2021 about the campaign and a letter was sent to all parents / carers providing basic safeguarding guidance and link to cards.      * 103 Professionals attended sessions delivered across the week * The social media posts that went out had an average reach of 2000 * Positive evaluations. E.G., “*These sessions have been so useful, and I have learned loads. They help me understand where my organisation can help and where we need to focus any improvement activities.”* |
|  |  | * Learning Review – Chronic Disease Management * Missing Adults Across Northumbria * Show Racism the Red Card (Link to Safer Cultures theme) |  |
| **Enhance learning and improvement to positively influence and enhance multi-agency safeguarding practice** | * Ensured that the multi-agency safeguarding training programme for children and adults reflects the needs of the multi-agency workforce and the circumstances at the time   Held the annual MSET Roadshows – virtually | * Adapted most of the face-to-face training to virtual sessions * Improved and updated the multi-agency safeguarding training offer to reflect specific concerns and to reflect COVID-19 restrictions on face-to-face training   Maintained the E-Learning Safeguarding Offer  With the use of key speakers / experts in the field effectively raised the awareness of current local, regional & national themes included topics around Transportation and Trafficking/ Slavery / Honour Based Violence / Peer on Peer Abuse/ Incel (involuntary celibate) the local picture and the local protocols | Developed a virtual multi-agency safeguarding training programme.  The training engaged with 978 participants  Of the key topics that were of specific concern we had the following attendance at virtual sessions:   * Domestic Abuse P L1 -112 * Domestic Abuse P L2 - 1 * Exploitation of Adults - 5 * Exploitation of Children - 100 * MCA - 115 * Missing Children - 30 * Safeguarding Adults from Abuse - 256 * Safeguarding Children MA – Responsibility – 256   In addition, 799 participants attended the multi-agency briefing sessions held on the topics of   * Early Help * Knife Crime * Missing Protocol * MSET Paperwork * Safeguarding Policies & Procedures * SAR Protocol * CSPR Protocol * Sexual Violence   This engaged with **975** multi-agency partners. This was a decrease of 2110 **attendees** compared to 2020/21potentially due to the increased availability and scope of online training including briefing sessions  Engaged with 116 multi-agency partners |

**The Partnership Development Session**

The development session was convened in November 2021 to reflect on the past year and identify what has worked well, what needs to be strengthened and actions going forward. The session provided an opportunity to reflect on and discuss some of the key issues identified in the analysis of the Partnership survey.

From the Partnership survey 3 key areas were highlighted as topics for partners to focus on. These were

* Partnership Governance and Development
* Engagement with People
* Think Family

The format of the session allowed for partners to identify what was working well and what areas could be strengthened.

From the feedback an action plan was developed to support and inform the work of the Partnership going forward during 2022-23. It was acknowledged that the partnership arrangements are still unique and as such future work will be focused on strengthening the collaborative model whilst at the same time ensuring the statutory requirements for adults and children met.

**Practice Priority 2 – Financial Abuse**

Financial Abuse was an adult focussed safeguarding theme and following analysis of the multi-agency survey covered the following topics over four sessions:

* Overview of Financial Abuse
* Scams, Money Lending and Banking Protocols
* Cybercrime, Power of Attorney and Appointee ship
* Money Laundering, Hidden Harm, Reporting and Signposting,
* Practice Guidance

The sessions were delivered in partnership with experts by experience who really helped bring each session to life with their valuable input. The voice of the service user was threaded into each session through collaboration with members of Your Voice Counts who have provided input on Vulnerability and Advocacy.

The sessions were delivered virtually via Microsoft Teams and attended by 154 professionals from a range of multi-agency organisations.

To make the sessions as interactive as possible, STSCAP utilised the use of a range of mediums within the virtual sessions including polls, chat function online evaluations and Google Jam boards.

In all the sessions three key questions were asked of practitioners:

* What is the current practice, including good practice?
* What are the skills and service gaps?
* What additional support/resources would strengthen practice

From the analysis of the evaluations from each of the sessions it was apparent that attendees enjoyed the style and format of the presentations, the creativity to make the sessions interactive, the resources used, the knowledge and expertise of the facilitators and the ability to ask questions etc.

**Across all sessions practitioners stated they would like:**

* Further awareness raising for practitioners and members of the community
* Specific literature around Financial Abuse
* Regular Updates around the theme
* Contacts / Links to Support Services
* Practice Guidance / Seven Minute Briefing
* A Multi-Agency Approach where appropriate, with good communication and information sharing channels

There was a total of seven recommendations made to the Partnership. All received positive responses along with robust suggestions of how to develop the model further and to measure impact and outcomes. All agreed to the involvement of the Independent Scrutineer as added value to the process.

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**Multi-agency data and information – the highlights**

The past twelve months have offered little respite from the significant and sustained pressures placed upon the broad range of services across the partnership, and the heightened risk of these to safeguarding adults and children from abuse or neglect. The Covid-19 pandemic continued to compound existing challenges throughout the year and particularly over the winter months. The majority of partners faced ongoing recruitment and retention challenges alongside high demand, placing extreme pressure on services. Alongside this, our collective services supporting adults, children and families across South Tyneside have continued to see the new challenges presented post -pandemic notably the increase in late referrals in terms of complexity where cases are not referred until a crisis situation is in place

**Please see separate adult and children Annual Report templates for 2021-2022**

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**Highlights from the subgroups**

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| **Executive Board**  The Board has the overall safeguarding statutory responsibility, and strategic function to oversee the Safeguarding  Children & Adults Partnership. The membership consists of the three key statutory partners:  With the increasing development of the Partnership the Executive have increased the meeting schedule to bi-monthly to ensure an increased focus and consistency is able to be maintained. For 2021 -22 the Executive Board has met on five occasions. Highlights include:   * Improving the links with schools and the college by using existing links and ensuring safeguarding is a standard agenda item * Appointment of a secondary school representative on to the Partnership * Agreeing to a process to strengthen the role and accountability of the Executive in agreeing or not to the recommendations made by the PEL subgroup in terms of statutory reviews, * Reviewing and appointing new Partnership Chair for 2022/23 * Continue with the conversation around Partnership budget * Considered key national reports and initiatives and the potential impact on the Partnership e.g., Adult Assurance Framework; Integrated Care Boards / Partnerships |

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| **The Practice Partnership**  The aim of the Practice Partnership is to strengthen the focus on practice ensuring a direct link with practitioners to influence and fully understand frontline practice from both a practitioner and child and adult perspective. Members of this Partnership are expected to consider solutions and disseminate learning from shared good practice across the partnership and community and identify, agree, and support with the development and dissemination of the learning from the Practice Priority Themes. All partners are expected to raise safeguarding issues that their organisation is experiencing as well as share examples of good practice. As part of the development of the Partnership members views are sought in terms of the structure and proportionality of the agenda across adults and children to ensure fairness and transparency. Key highlights include   * Agreed the reintroduction of the training charging policy from the 1st of September * Participated fully in the Partnership Development session and suggested areas for development / progress * Provided regular multi-agency updates in terms of the impact of post Covid outcomes on safeguarding and risk management across   South Tyneside |

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| **Practice Evaluation and Learning Subgroup** |
| The aim of the subgroup is to:   * Make the recommendation to the Executive Board to undertake Safeguarding Rapid Reviews, Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews or Safeguarding Adult Reviews in line with national guidance * Initiate Safeguarding Rapid Reviews and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and Safeguarding Adult Reviews in line with Working Together 2018 and the Care Act 2014, and monitor their progress * Oversee and ensure action plans and learning from any of the above reviews are embedded and evaluated for impact on multi-agency practice   In addition, the group has the authority to determine and agree multi-agency learning reviews should any cases not meet the statutory criteria but clearly highlight learning for multi-agency partners.  **Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPR)**  **There have been no cases referred in to be considered for a CSPR.**  The lack of cases for consideration is a key area of focus with work in progress. This has included the reintroduction of CSPR Briefings for all multi-agency partners staff and the development of a multi-agency audit tool. The work of which will be concluded in late 2022. Following the tragic murders of Arthur Labinjo Hughes and Star Hobson the Partnership were proactive with briefing sessions around assurance and bruising in immobile babies and children of which 310 multi-agency practitioners attended.  **Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR)**  **10 cases were considered for a SAR.**  Only one case met the SAR threshold. The themes of the case include self-neglect, sepsis, and mental health. The SAR process continues in terms of this case with the final report to be concluded and the Learning Event facilitated. In 2021-2022 no SARs, CSPRs or appreciative enquiries were published.  In addition the Partnership have been proactive in the regional SAR Champions network and have now finalised the SAR Library and Quality Marker Checklist which has attracted national interest . |

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| **Workforce Development and Training** |
| The aim of the subgroup is to develop a multi-agency safeguarding training programme across children and adults and to implement a robust quality assurance process across all the training:   * Successful Hybrid training programme developed. This included a proactive response to themes triggered or made more evident from the impact of the COVID restrictions and post Covid issues. These included Responding to Domestic Abuse; Problem Gambling for young people; multi-agency responsibilities for safeguarding Adults and Children. * The accredited E-Learning offer remains for all multi-agency partners who work with adults, children and families in South Tyneside including the Third Sector. * There was an increase in multi-agency briefing sessions around current issues which included the statutory Child Safeguarding Practice Review process, Bruising in immobile babies and children and the missing adult’s process |

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| **Overall Attendance Headline Figures for the year April 2021 - March 2022**  Virtual Training 978  Additional training, roadshows 799  E Learning, children, and adults 975  **TOTAL 2,752**  **Comparison with 2020 /21 figures**  **Overall Attendance Headline Figures for the year April 2020 - March 2021**  Virtual Training 305  Additional training, roadshows 1202  E Learning, children, and adults 3085  **TOTAL 4592**  **Note:**  The Virtual Training sessions were popular and became a preferred option for many partners. |

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| **Pre-Missing, Slavery Exploitation and Trafficked (MSET) and MSET** |
| The pre MSETwas set up to ensure that robust and appropriate screening is undertaken on cases put forward for consideration at MSET. This involves ensuring oversight of all Stage 1 screenings submitted for data/local exploitation profile purposes, and in the context of information sharing between the police, children and families social care and adult social care. In addition, consideration is given to the Top 10 missing children and locations of concern as highlighted from Police intelligence and those referred in following stage 2 and 3 completions. Adult Social Care is a key representative on the Pre MSET to offer the appropriate support, advice, and guidance to those young people 17+ who remain vulnerable and at risk of exploitation. In addition, work is currently progressing around the process to address missing adults. |

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| The Pre-MSET process was strengthened during the Covid-19 Pandemic, with robust discussions held and assurances provided that appropriate safeguarding measures are put in place where necessary meaning a reduction in the number of full MSET meetings. During 2021 - 22 there have been a total of 8MSET meetings.  **MSET** is responsible for ensuring the effectiveness of multi-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of those children, young people and adults who have been identified as medium/high risk on the Exploitation Framework for Screening, Assessment, Safeguarding and Disruption, and Review. In addition, the group provides advice, learning, and signposting to additional support to those frontline workers responsible for medium/high risk young people / adults. A representative from Adults Social Care supports the MSET process with advice and intervention, where appropriate with young people aged 17+.  Key areas of concern identified:   * Exploitative online activity including the sharing of explicit images and unsafe relationships * Alcohol and substance misuse |

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| **Strategic Exploitation Group (Children and Adults)** |
| This group ensures that the Partnership has a strategic oversight and assurance that appropriate actions have been taken in response to the exploitation of children, young people, and adults at risk in South Tyneside. The group seeks assurance from the operational progress of the South Tyneside Missing, Slavery, Exploited and Trafficked (MSET) subgroup. Through a ‘live’ multi-agency action plan the group can contribute and measure the impact of partners actions against the key elements of the plan. These include:   * Prevention creating an increased awareness and understanding of Exploitation with children, young people, parents, vulnerable adults, their families, and multi-agency partners * Developing a robust multi-agency Exploitation data set * Support the improvement of multi-agency responses to the identification of exploitation, missing and trafficked incidents * Improve multi-agency disruption activity with the Police * Improve multi-agency working to increase the effectiveness of prosecution   To date there has been tangible evidence of progress with the multi-agency exploitation data set and the increased awareness by all partners of the range of exploitation of adults and children. |

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| **Policies and Procedures** |
| The aim of the Policy and Procedures subgroup is to develop and maintain up to date multi-agency policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and adults in South Tyneside. These have been successful and effective virtual groups for some time.  Successful virtual sessions have been held for partners to raise the awareness of the online regional safeguarding policies and procedures across children and adults.  There has been an increased uptake with the online safeguarding policies and procedures, particularly from single agencies.  A link to the online safeguarding policies and procedures is included at all multi-agency training sessions. |

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| **Performance Management and Evaluation (PME) – Children and Adults** |
| These groups receive, monitor, and analyse multi-agency performance data on a quarterly basis in line with statutory returns which help inform the Practice Evaluation and Learning Group highlight strategic issues and provide the Partnership with additional information for further consideration. To date key pieces of work have included:   * A greater emphasis within the multi-agency training around neglect and self-neglect due to the increase identified within the multi-agency data * A clear rationale for the topic of Financial Abuse as a practice Priority given the increase in the data around this subject. * An agreement and implementation to Report by Exception in terms of Safeguarding issues |

**Partner Highlight Reports – What have we done? What will we do next?**

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**Looking ahead to 2022-23**

This annual report references a range of ‘green shoots’ – new beginnings which we must seek to nurture and grow over the coming year. These include, for example,

* Continually reflect, revise and improve the Partnership Governance arrangements and Development with a particular focus on the statutory duties and responsibilities the Partnership has in terms of Safeguarding Adults Boards and Childrens Safeguarding Partnerships
* Develop an effective engagement and co-production approach with people in the local community
* Strengthening our approach with schools and the college in terms of their inclusion and participation as equal partners
* Continue to ensure that we draw on a wide variety of national and local information sources to support evidence-based decision making.
* Develop and embed Think Family across the Partnership
* Enhance the Partnerships assurance role within the range of inspections across organisations
* Strengthen the multi-agency Practice Priority model

**Appendix A – Representation at STSCAP Meetings 2021-2022**



**Appendix B – Contributions and Summary of 2021-22**

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**Appendix C - Glossary of Terms**

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| ASC | Adult Social Care | NEAS | Northeast Ambulance Service |
| APVA | Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse | NPS | National Probation Service |
| CDOP | Child Death Overview Panel | P&P | Policies and Procedures |
| CDR | Child Death Review | PME | Performance Management and Evaluation |
| CFSC | Children and Families Social Care | S42 | Section 42 Enquiry |
| CPC | Child Protection Conference | S47 | Section 47 Enquiry |
| CPP | Child Protection Plan | SAR | Safeguarding Adults Review |
| CSE | Child Sexual Exploitation | SBP | Strengths Based Practice |
| CSPR | Child Safeguarding Practice Review | SiPT | Safeguarding in Partnership Team |
| CSU | Children’s Standards Unit | STH | South Tyneside Homes |
| IRO | Independent Reviewing Officer | STSCAP | South Tyneside Safeguarding Children and Adults Board |
| ISIT | Integrated Safeguarding Intervention Team | STSFT | South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust |
| L&I | Learning and Improvement | WD&T | Workforce Development and Training |
| MDS | Modern Day Slavery | WT2018 | Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) |
| MSET | Missing, Slavery, Exploited and Trafficked |  |  |

**Appendix D – Contacts**

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**If you, or someone you know, would like this document in another format/language please contact the communications team on:**

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