



Manchester Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2023-2024

**“Working together to create a place
where all children and adults in Manchester
are safe, free from abuse and neglect and
supported to live happy and healthy lives.”**

Foreword

Welcome to Manchester Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report for the period covering 2023-2024. It has been written with the partners that make up our Safeguarding Partnership. [MSP](#)

Over the last year, several changes to the partnership arrangements have been introduced. The aim has been to strengthen safeguarding leadership across children and adult services and improve multi-agency safeguarding practice. Over the past year we have been working towards developing a more outward facing role to ensure an effective response to the many challenges of safeguarding children and adults.



Manchester Safeguarding Partnership would like to take this opportunity to thank all our frontline practitioners. It is the commitment, dedication, care and passion that they give to children, families and adults on a daily basis by working together to safeguarding the children and adults of Manchester and that is the reason we are able to celebrate the positive impact the Partnership has each year.

Paul Marshall
Deputy Chief
Executive
Manchester City
Council

Tom Hinchcliffe
Deputy Place Based
Lead, Manchester
Locality, NHS
Greater
Manchester
Integrated Care
Partnership

David Meeney
Chief Superintendent
Greater Manchester
Police

The Partnership

Manchester Safeguarding Partnership is responsible for ensuring that safeguarding arrangements in Manchester work effectively and function in line with the following key safeguarding legislation for both children and adults:

- The Child and Family Social Work Act 2017 and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023.
- The Mental Health Act 1983
- The Care Act 2014
- The Human Rights Act 1998
- The Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Domestic Abuse Act 2021
- Modern Slavery Act 2015

The statutory arrangements for the children's multi-agency safeguarding arrangements (MASA) and adult safeguarding board are covered by a single Manchester Safeguarding Partnership.

Manchester Safeguarding Partnership brings together local statutory, voluntary and independent sector agencies to work together as a system supporting and protecting individuals and families across the City of Manchester. Representatives from Social Care, Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board and Greater Manchester Police are the three core

members who have a statutory responsibility to lead and oversee the safeguarding arrangements in the City of Manchester.

The City of Manchester is one of ten local areas that form the Greater Manchester (GM) Safeguarding Alliance who aim to bring together the ten Local Authority Chief Executives, the Police and GM Integrated Care Partnership for children's safeguarding. The partnership is also a part of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) who work with other local services, businesses, communities and partners to improve the city-region and finally we make up one of the ten Greater Manchester Business Managers and Chairs network.

In the past year we have worked together on collaborative projects to help partners share best practice and work better together to provide a more consistent service to safeguard children and adults.



How We Work

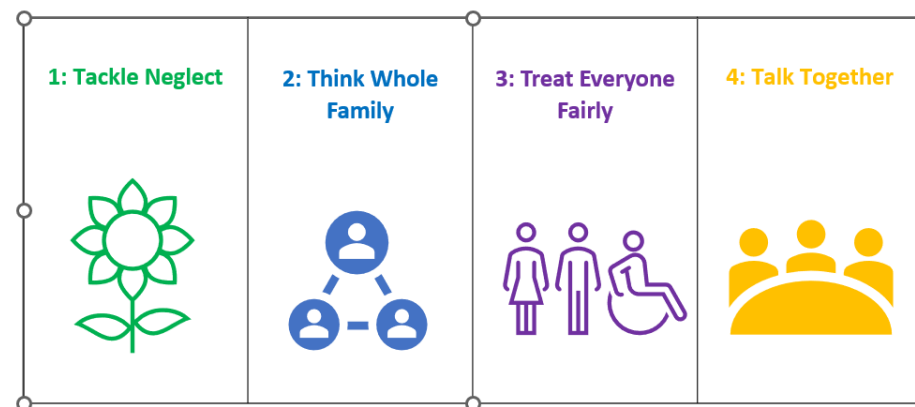
The following report provides an overview of the safeguarding themes in 2023-24, how agencies have responded and the effectiveness of the local safeguarding arrangements over the last year.

Manchester Safeguarding Partnership is driven by our vision, core business and four priorities set out in our three-year strategic plan. We work flexibly to develop actions to respond to emerging safeguarding trends and learning from the children's and adult safeguarding reviews, quarterly data and insight from our quality assurance audits.

As a Partnership we deliver our programme of work through a combination of practice review panels, core business subgroups and task led subgroups. These have good represented from each of our partners. Our Executive meetings receive a quarterly report from our subgroups which highlights contributions and actions taken.

Our subgroup agendas and work programmes actively support Manchester's Think Whole Family, Treating Everyone Fairly and Talking Together ethos and aim to ensure continuous improvement in multi-agency safeguarding practice across Manchester.

Strategic Priorities



Governance

Strategic oversight, challenge and assurance of the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership is the responsibility of the Children's Executive Partnership and Adult Executive Board. The joint Leadership and Accountability Board oversee both strategic meetings and is responsible for agreeing the finances and plan of our Partnership.

Our Independent Scrutineer drives continuous improvement and provides assurance that arrangements are working effectively for our children, families, adults and at risk and practitioners. They consider learning from local child safeguarding practice reviews, safeguarding adult reviews, national reviews and thematic reports.

Our Safeguarding Partnership is made up of the following:

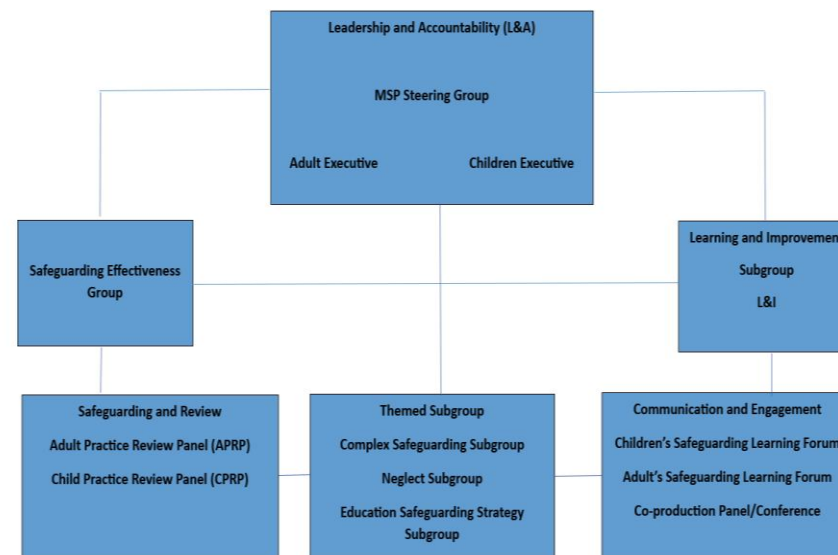
- **Leadership and Accountability Board:** Chaired by the Independent Scrutineer, the Board brings together Chief Executives from each agency and is designed to set the strategic intention and priorities; ensure system wide developments that improve the safeguarding of the children and adults of Manchester, hold agencies to account and unblock issues that cannot be resolved within the wider Partnership. To drive forward improvements across all areas of safeguarding, the Board receives monitoring reports and updates on a quarterly basis from the subgroups.
- **Steering Group:** The Steering Group is responsible for facilitating improvement through the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership and supporting the infrastructure and integrated working that helps partners work together to effectively progress our business and priorities. It is

responsible for generating thinking and activity in relation to the 'Think Whole Family' priority and what this means for the people of Manchester and the our Safeguarding Partnership, it guides the work of the Business Unit, including the review of the budget and facilitates and supports the work of the Independent Scrutineer to ensure there is effective joint working and flow of information from the Subgroups to the Executives and Leadership & Accountability and vice versa.

- **Children's Executive Partnership:** Chaired by the Director of Children's Services and scrutinized by the Independent Scrutineer. The Executive is the responsible body for agreeing the priorities of the partnership and ensuring that the partnership is working effectively across Manchester.
- **Adult's Executive Board:** Chaired by the Director of Adult's Social Care Services and scrutinized by the Independent Scrutineer. The Executive are the responsible body for agreeing the priorities of the partnership and ensuring that the partnership is working effectively across the city.
- **Children and Adult Practice Review Panels:** These are the bodies responsible for screening and conducting mandatory and discretionary safeguarding reviews on behalf of the Partnership. Findings and recommendations from the reviews feed directly into the work programmes for both Learning & Improvement Subgroup and Safeguarding Effectiveness Group.
- **Learning and Improvement Subgroup:** This group translate the learning from safeguarding reviews, audits and data into practice through the production of multi-agency policy, procedures and guidance, training resources, and learning events. Communication and Engagement is a key element of this group and through the work of the safeguarding Fora's we ensure two-way communication with frontline managers and practitioners. The Fora provides an accessible platform to share findings from safeguarding reviews and audits, promote training opportunities and provide updates on the latest safeguarding guidance and best practice from local and national perspectives.

- **Thematic Subgroups:** These are the working groups set up to address the key safeguarding priorities identified by our Partnership and cover Neglect subgroup and Complex Safeguarding subgroup (exploitation of children and adults).
- **Education Safeguarding Strategic Group:** Education is a key partner for Manchester Safeguarding Partnership. This subgroup is comprised of representative headteachers and Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) from across the education sector, that is from Early Years to Post-16, including Special and Alternative Provisions. The subgroup contributes to single and multi-agency practice in Manchester through providing feedback and challenge to partners via Manchester Safeguarding Partnership. Specifically, this group reviews the Section 175 audit and recommendations, including appropriate training and signposting for settings. This subgroup reports quarterly into the Children’s Executive meeting and ensures representation across other Manchester Safeguarding Partnership subgroups so that education can inform strategy and ensure best practice in multi-agency working. This group are represented on our children’s Executive as our ‘fourth statutory partner’.
- **Subgroup Chairs Meeting:** Ensure connectivity and maintain a think family approach between the subgroups the subgroup chairs meet every six months, this is chaired by our Independent Scrutineer.

For the majority of 2023/2024 most groups have continued to meet virtually. However, the Children’s Executive Partnership and the thematic challenge events have returned to face-to-face meetings.



The Children of Manchester's Safeguarding Conference

Each year Manchester Safeguarding Partnership support our children to hold **'The Children of Manchester's Safeguarding Conference'**. The conference is an opportunity for our children to inform the partnership what they think needs to be addressed in Manchester.

Over the past 2 years we have had some amazing work that has been completed by our children.

In June 2023 four schools came back to present the incredible work that they had done over the year with the support of their champions. The following schools tackled some important issues:

Peace Mala by **St. Agnes CE school** and supported by champions Youth Justice and Community Safety Partnership, the children taught their school, other schools and other services that worked with children about the peace mala, what it represented and what it hopes is to achieve, that is, to spread the word of peace and working together. Their message to us was if you value and support difference the lives of all children and citizens will improve.

Internet Safety by **St Catherine's RC primary** they felt the best way to keep them safe was for their parents to understand the risks and how to manage them better. They completed six workshops for parents, 587 parents have attended these workshops and in June 2023 2,795 parents had accessed the Online Safety Hub, there link champion was Sharon Gardner from Education and Katherine Howard from Smoothwall.

Being Happy, Healthy, Safe, Successful and Independent in Manchester, by **(Beaver Road Primary School, Haveley Hey Community School, St. Marys**

CE Primary School, The Willows Primary School) the Pupil Parliament was supported by the Champion from the Manchester Foundation Trust, they developed an online tool that supports child mental health this can be found on our [website](#). They considered that children's mental wellbeing needs to be supported and addressed and they explained after research this was the best way to do this.

Peer on Peer Abuse Campaign by **Chorlton High School**, the school developed a survey and work plan to check how effectively their school was addressing the issue, this tool can be used across any school in Manchester.

In **October 2023** five different schools took part and highlighted five new areas of work that they wanted to address. These included:

An online anti-bullying campaign by **Bridgelea**.

The cost of living crisis by **Whalley Range High**.

Sexual Harassment campaign by **Loreto High Chorlton**.

Safer Communities (with a focus on knife crime) campaign by **Wright Robinson**

Dean Trust who took on child on child abuse and unwanted touching.

These children will celebrate their success in June 2024 and their successes will be highlighted in our next annual report.



Listening and Learning from the adult's voice

Over the past year the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership has been working with adults to understand their experiences of our partnership working. Gill took the time out to talk to us about how she received help when she was struggling following the death of her husband. In her own words Gill explains what has happened and how she got support to move forward.

The Manchester Safeguarding Partnership would like to thank Gill for her words and hope that they give help and support to another person who is experiencing a similar situation.

Listen to Gill's experience <https://youtu.be/5NS8mMu2wc>



Gill advised us that sharing her story would be emotive. However, Gill wanted to help people working in this area, and most importantly give hope to others who have had similar experiences.

Play (k)

Inter-Partnership Working

Manchester Safeguarding Partnership sits within wider Manchester Partnerships and Boards.

The key Manchester partnerships include:

- Children's Strategic Board (CSB)
- Manchester Safeguarding Partnership (MSP)
- Manchester Community Safety Partnership ([CSP](#))
- Health and Wellbeing Board ([HWBB](#))

The lines of connectivity between the partnerships are two-way and the joint working arrangements are underpinned by an Inter-partnership Protocol which was reviewed and agreed by partners in June 2023. The protocol highlights how the partnerships work together, which partnership will lead on the different safeguarding issues and which partnership will seek assurance and hold others to account for the delivery of key actions.

In addition to these joint working arrangements, annual reports on the work and findings from the Child Death Overview Panel and Homelessness Partnership are shared with our Executives for scrutiny and assurance.



Safeguarding Themes in 2023/24

The following safeguarding themes were identified in 2023/24 as areas of focus within Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPR), Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SAR) and within multi-agency safeguarding data.

Safeguarding themes for children, young people and families in 2023/24:

- Serious Violence
- Neglect
- Inter-familial Child Sexual Abuse

Safeguarding practice concerns for services in relation to these themes:

- Trauma informed practice
- Importance of Critical Moments
- Assessing Childhood Neglect
- Think whole Family
- Professional Curiosity
- The importance of multi-agency SMART plans

Safeguarding themes for adults and carers in 2023/24:

- Self-neglect and highly vulnerable dependent drinkers.
- Domestic Abuse.
- Cases involving the combined characteristic of drug/alcohol dependency, homelessness, mental health issues, the legal removal of a child as risk factors to adult suicide.
- Impact of childhood and adult trauma and the risk of suicide.

Safeguarding practice concerns for services in relation to these themes:

- Multi-Agency Risk Management processes to safeguard adults at imminent risk of harm
- Supporting adults with serious long term health conditions who choose not to access medical services or take prescribed medication
- Consistent application of the Mental Capacity Act and understanding Executive Functioning in decision making
- Making reasonable adjustments in Care Act Assessments
- Safeguarding refugees and asylum seekers

Safeguarding Reviews

LOCAL SAFEGUARDING ADULT REVIEWS (SARs)

The Adult Practice Review Panel, on behalf of the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership, has a statutory duty to conduct a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) where there is evidence to suggest that someone has experienced serious harm because of abuse or neglect.

Safeguarding Adult Reviews are conducted in line with Section 44 of the Care Act 2014 guidelines and further shaped by the Greater Manchester Safeguarding Adult Review guidance. We aim to ensure that all Safeguarding Adult Reviews reflect the six principles for adult safeguarding:

1. **Empowerment** – Personalisation and the presumption of person-led decisions and informed consent.
2. **Prevention** – It is better to act before harm occurs.
3. **Proportionality** - The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.
4. **Protection** – Support and representation for those in greatest need.
5. **Partnership** – Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.
6. **Accountability** – Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding.

The last year has seen an increase in the number of Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) from eight in 2022/23 to 12 in 2023/24. Despite this the proportion of referrals deemed to be eligible for a SAR has remained consistent, with three SARs being commissioned in both 2022/23 and 2023/24. This number is consistent with the Greater Manchester average.

Review findings feed directly into the Safeguarding Effectiveness Group (SEG) and Learning and Improvement Subgroup (L&I) who ensure that lessons are learned, good practice shared, and improvements undertaken as appropriate.

What have we done?

In the 2023/24 financial year five Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) were completed and approved by the Adult Executive. Of the reviews:

- One was a joint Safeguarding Adult Review and Domestic Homicide Review
- Two met criteria for conducting a Mandatory Safeguarding Adult Review
- Two were Discretionary Safeguarding Adult Reviews. These were commissioned as thematic safeguarding reviews that focused on the experiences of more than one adult. One of the Thematic reviews was commissioned jointly with Trafford Safeguarding Adult Board.

Summary of the reviews completed in 2023/24:

1

SAR Keith - Safeguarding highly vulnerable dependent drinkers

This SAR focused on Keith, a 63-year-old man who had a history of alcohol dependency, social isolation, bereavement, and self-neglect. The report explores the multi-agency support offered to Keith and considers the use of legal frameworks, alcohol assessment tool and assertive outreach support for highly vulnerable dependent drinkers.

2

SAR Gabriel - Domestic and Financial Abuse

This SAR focused on Gabriel, a refugee who came to the UK and who went on to experience significant domestic and financial abuse by his female partner. Gabriel was diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and the report focuses on the impact of trauma experienced by refugees fleeing violence and the need for professionals to be culturally curious to help explore presenting behaviours.

3

Intergenerational Trauma Thematic Review

This SAR focused on the suicide and attempted suicide of a mother and daughter. Drawing on a range of cases across Greater Manchester, as well as academic research, learning from the review highlighted that trauma could affect those who are directly exposed to it **as well as** those around them. It found that parental trauma can impact on their children through their parent's mindset, behaviour and emotions.

4

Contextual Suicide Thematic Review

This SAR focused on the deaths of five adults due to suicide. The review explored how the presence of multiple factors including drug/alcohol use, homelessness, domestic abuse and the legal removal of a child/children from a parent should be considered as risk factors for potential suicide. The review was commissioned jointly with Trafford Safeguarding Adults Board.

5

Rose - Joint SAR and Domestic Homicide Review

The review focused on Rose following her drug related death. Rose had been in an abusive relationship with man who was a foreign national who successfully appealed against deportation from the UK after falsely claiming to be Rose's carer. The report highlighted a lack of understanding by professionals of the current UK asylum system and the need to improve the sharing of information.

Adult Practice Review Panel: How Did We Do?

What went well?

- ✓ Meaningful engagement with all partner agencies, including Public Health.
- ✓ The panel completed and the executive signed off five Safeguarding Adult Reviews.
- ✓ Linked to the Learning and improvement group to share learning of reviews and include in training and bulletins.
- ✓ Linked to the Safeguarding Effectiveness Group to test out previous learning to see if this has been embedded.
- ✓ Reviewed the commissioning and running of out of area SARs.

What can we do better?

- Raise awareness of how and when to make a Section 44 referral for a SAR and how learning from SAR processes can actively support the work of frontline practitioners.
- Better measure the impact that the recommendations and action plans have made to our adults at risk.
- Better measure the impact that the recommendations and action plans have made to our multi-agency systems and frontline practitioners.
- Develop clear processes for overseeing single agency safeguarding assurance processes where referrals do not meet criteria for a SAR
- Improve the way we align and join up review processes and learning from parallel reviews such as LeDeR and Domestic Homicide Reviews to reduce duplication and support joint problem solving across different systems.

What difference did we make?

- There is a greater awareness of the signs and responses to self-neglect and the legal frameworks available to practitioners because of the roll out of the MSP Self-Neglect toolkit and 199 practitioners attending the Self Neglect Conference in 2023/24.
- Raising awareness of SAR learning and value has resulted in an increase in referrals.
- Presentations and resources produced to explain immigration and asylum processes. Where to find advice and guidance is improving practitioners understanding of the UK Asylum System in order to help safeguard those seeking asylum and prevent the abuse of the system.
- Contextual Suicide Thematic Review has resulted in a series of Think Family meetings designed to improve the identification of parents at risk of suicide and connect them with the most appropriate support.

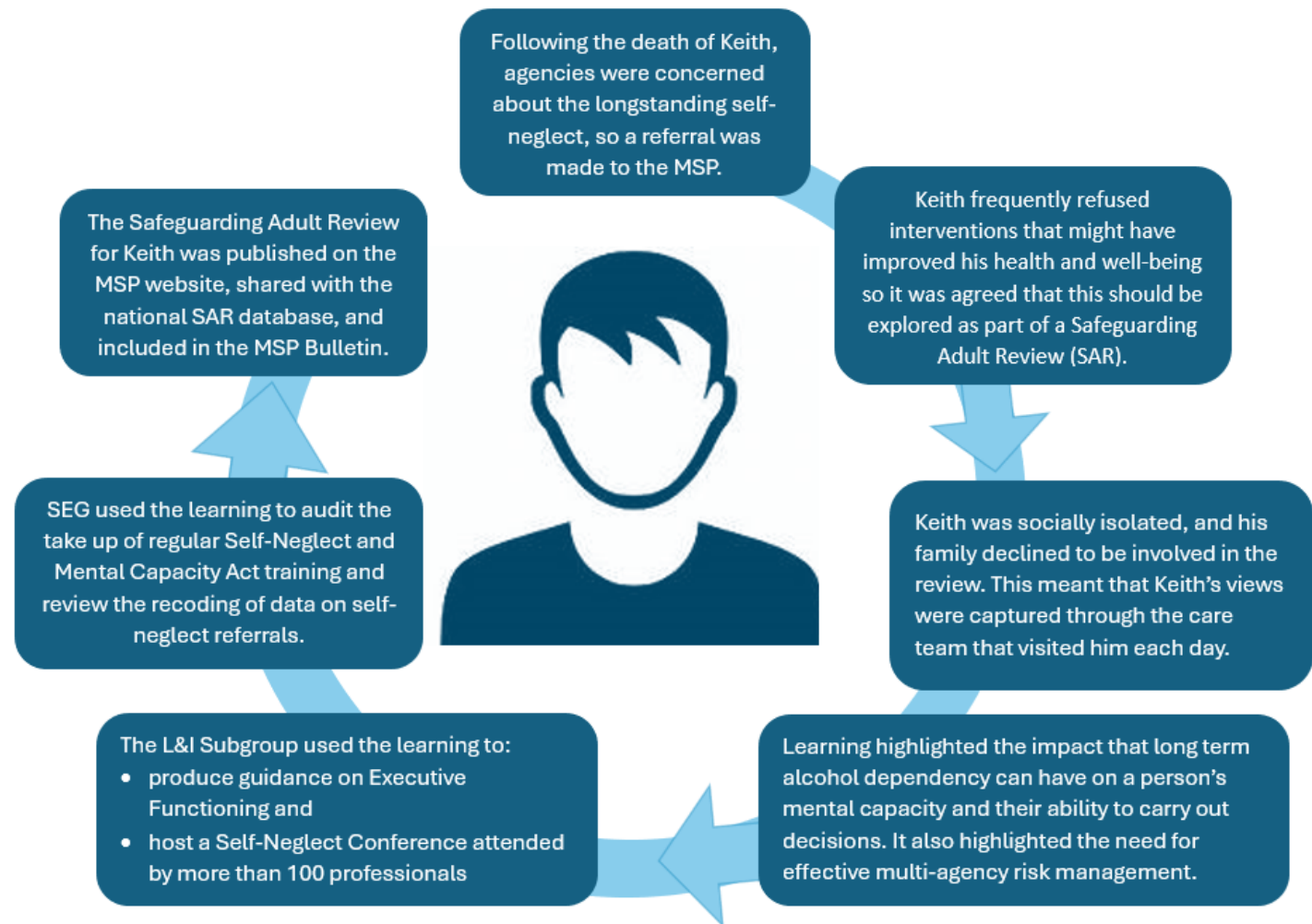
SAR Keith

In 2023/24 a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) was completed for Keith. Keith lived alone and had a history of chronic alcohol dependency. Following the death of one of his brothers who he was very close to, carers noticed a significant increase in his use of alcohol. He also became more socially isolated.

Described as being a “strong character” who liked listening to Elvis Presley. Keith had been involved with the criminal justice system. Professionals felt this experience made him wary of agencies offering support, with the result that services struggled to engage him in a structured programme of care.

The review found that professionals needed to be more professionally curious and consider involving assertive outreach services where an adult is at risk of harm is declining support.

This diagram describes the Safeguarding Adult Review process for Keith and how learning is shared and embedded through our Subgroups, Forums and resources.



Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPRs)

Local Children's Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPRs) are undertaken in accordance with statutory review requirements set out in the Working Together to Safeguard Children Guidance (2023).

In 2023/2024 there has been 11 children referred to the partnership for consideration for a Rapid Review, this is a slight increase from the previous year. The proportion of referrals eligible for a LCSPR has remained consistent over the last two years with two LCSPR's commissioned in 2022/23 and again in 2023/24, due to the nature of the reviews in 2023/24 it was agreed that Manchester would complete one thematic review regarding Intra-familial Child Sexual Abuse. The number of LCSPRs conducted is consistent with the number conducted across Greater Manchester as a proportion of the population.

Findings from the Child Practice Review Panel are reported directly into Safeguarding Effectiveness Group and Learning and Improvement Subgroup to ensure learning is embedded into frontline practice in a timely manner.

The Children's Executive is responsible for the commissioning and quality of local child safeguarding practice and learning reviews, it agrees action plans and media statements and through the work of the CPRP it actively tracks the actions arising from learning via a quarterly monitoring report.

Reporting directly to the Children Executive, The Child Practice Review Panel is responsible for progressing decisions, recommendations and notifications to the National Panel and responding to the requirements to conduct a local child safeguarding practice review.

Throughout 2023/2024 Manchester Safeguarding Partnership has been working hard to implement learning from our reviews and evaluate the impact of activity in improving outcomes for children. We have continued to address the recommendations from our serious violence thematic review action plan and Child S1 published in February 2024. We are also addressing lessons from our unpublished review.

Our reviews are published (when appropriate) on our website for frontline practitioners to learn from, we also deliver the lessons learnt through our [training](#) and Safeguarding [Fora](#).

There are several issues that have arisen from our reviews, including rapid reviews and learning circles, these include:

- Child Sexual Abuse
- Serious Violence
- Professional Curiosity
- Adultification
- Cultural Confidence
- Trauma informed practice
- Importance of Critical Moments.
- Assessing Childhood Neglect
- The importance of multi-agency SMART plans

Child Practice Review Panel: How Did We Do?

What went well?

- ✓ Meaningful engagement with all partner agencies.
- ✓ Learning Circles undertaken with people with lived experience as experts.
- ✓ Linked to the Learning and improvement group to share learning of reviews and include in training and bulletins.
- ✓ Linked to the Safeguarding Effectiveness Group to test out previous learning to see if this has been embedded.
- ✓ Undertake training in relation to leading a Rapid Review for our Senior Managers.
- ✓ We received independent scrutiny of from our Scrutineer in relation to the process of our criteria panel. The scrutineer stated that 'the information prepared for and discussed in the rapid review. It was clear that the fact a criteria meeting had taken place enhanced the rapid review's focus on the key issues and enabled additional clarity about the initial key lines of enquiry'.

What can we do better?

- Improve the timeliness of disseminating learning from our learning circles, rapid reviews and LCSPRs.
- To ensure that action plans are reviewed in a timely manner, identifying what impact each action has had.
- To ensure that the action plans are written with an Equality Impact Assessment (including UNICEF Children Rights model)
- Partnership is developing and delivering further training in relation to cultural competency, the training will be delivered in 2024.
- Reviewing the processes for our cross boarder learning reviews

What difference did we make?

- The serious violence review influenced the Community Safety Partnerships Serious Violence Strategy.
- We have undertaken briefings in relation to Child S1 highlighting lessons to be learnt.
- One of the Key learning points was Health and Social Care professionals working with children about whom there are concerns may benefit from opportunities to increase their awareness of FASD to improve diagnosis of this disorder and help to develop FASD targeted support for some children. Our website has factual information now on FASD and is linked into work on midwifery.
- Our unpublished review has resulted in re-implementing the Graded Care Profile 2 to bring continuity assessing neglect.
- We have raised awareness of water safety when bathing babies and toddlers, information shared by Manchester Foundation Trust for all new parents.

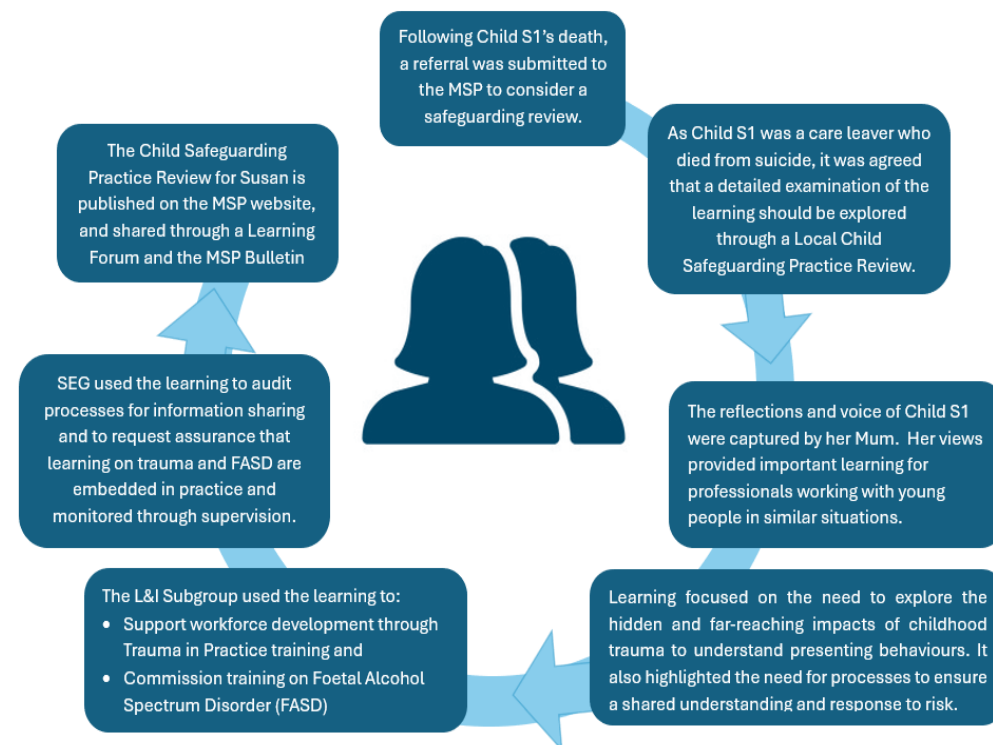
LCSPR for Child S1

In 2023/24 a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review (LCSPR) was completed for Child S1. Child S1 was a child who had neurodiverse conditions along with other significant challenges in her early years and was exploited in her teens. This had a significant impact on her mental health, and she moved into a therapeutic residential placement.

Known to be fun, loving and affectionate, Child S1 lived in a specialist residential care where she benefited from the support and therapy. However, she was always clear about wanting to return to live with her mother and moved back home just before her 17th birthday. Child S1 sadly died a few months later.

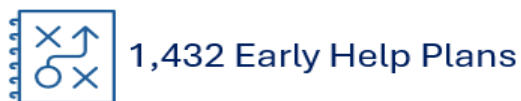
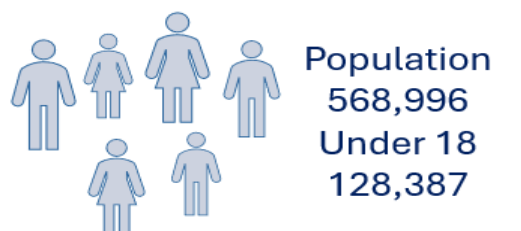
Child S1's mother shared her experiences of the support offered to her daughter. The learning has shaped service improvements and informed priorities within Manchester's Suicide Prevention Strategy.

This diagram describes the Child Review process for Child S1 and how learning is shared and embedded through MSP Subgroups, Forums and resources.



Safeguarding Data

The core business of safeguarding in Manchester covers several needs and risks, such as child neglect, sexual abuse, exploitation, domestic abuse, and modern-day slavery; all of which can happen at home, in the community or within a care setting.



7,279
6,525 Referrals

1,195
1,075 CIN Plans

460
571 CP Plans

1,332
1,303 Looked After Children

CIN = Child in Need / CP = Child Protection, Light blue figures are 2022-23, dark blue figures are for 2023/24. Figures are provisional until the DfE publish the data in November 2024

Safeguarding referrals are made where an individual or agency has concerns about the need for additional support or risks for a child, family or adult. The following information shows the high-level child and family safeguarding activity at year end March 2024. The analysis on the effectiveness of the Partnership in safeguarding children in Manchester is covered below.

Children's Dataset Activity Summary Q4 2023/24 (Jan - Mar)

Manchester Population:
Children (0-17 inclusive): 126,953

Safeguarding Activity – How much have we done

Contacts to the Front Door

↑ 16,425

Referrals to Social Care

↑ 1787

Children in Need

↑ 5628

Children subject of Initial CP Conference in the period

↑ 215 (178)

Children subject of CP Plan at period end

↑ 572

Children in Care

↓ 1307

Children in private fostering

➡ 13

Presenting Needs

Number of Domestic Abuse Callouts where children were present and were identified as part of Operation Encompass

(Awaiting data)

Re-Referrals

↓ 16.0%

Child Protection Plans (01/01/2024)

Neglect 295 ↑

Emotional Abuse 236 ↓

Physical Abuse 35 ↑

Sexual Abuse 4 ↓

Multiple 3 ↓

How well have we done it

% of early help assessments completed by Partners

↑ 53%

Children subject of repeat CP Plan

↑ 21.39%

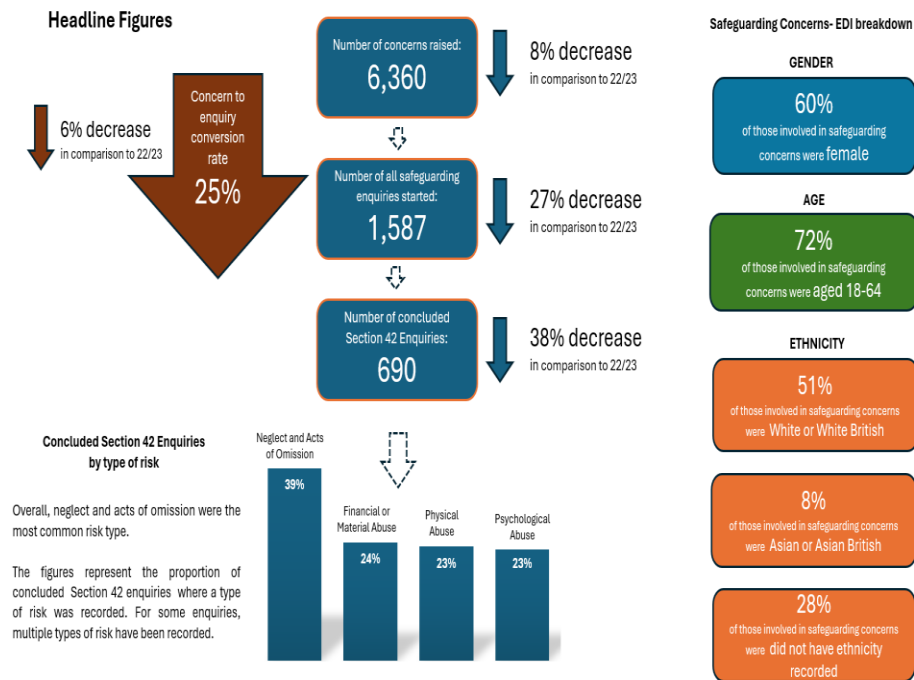
Children subject of CP Plan for 18 months+ at quarter end

↓ 34

Source for all data is MCC Performance, Research and Intelligence unless otherwise stated.

1. Adult Safeguarding Activity Figures (April 23- March 24)

The below figures are official figures SAC (Safeguarding Adults Collection) submission figures. The figures include both MCC and GMMH data.



2. Adult Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Activity (April 23- March 24)

The below figures have been presented to MSP as a part of quarterly Adult Services Performances Report. GMMH figures are not included in this.



Safeguarding Effectiveness

Our multi-agency quality assurance activities allow us to monitor, evaluate and identify good practice and areas for improvement in the effectiveness of how our partners perform.

The Safeguarding Effectiveness Group (SEG)

Safeguarding Effectiveness Group (often referred to as SEG) offers the assurance to the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership Executive meetings by using our safeguarding effectiveness framework, which included performance data, audits and other assurance mechanisms. Over the last year we have refocused our meetings into themed meetings allowing us to reflect the 'Think whole Family' approach, the themes were:

- Performance Data
- Audit
- Assurance and recommendations.

Our Independent Scrutineer provided scrutiny of our data, audits, reports and reviews, where she identified good practice examples, that is, our infrastructure is in place to ensure the voice of children, adults and staff are heard across the different organisations and across the partnership, an improvement in the impact of multi-agency audits and effectiveness criteria panel and highlighted areas that could be better were in relation to adult exploitation and private fostering.

Of significance in 2023/24 the SEG also identified that Manchester had a low number of children in Manchester who were living in Private Fostered Arrangements. As a result, Private fostering arrangements awareness-

raising campaign was reviewed and an action plan put in place which highlights the importance of awareness-raising efforts across the partnership and community. Partners have been asked to review mechanisms to ensure they were doing all they could to identify these children. This has not yet seen an increase in referrals in relation to children living in private fostering arrangements and the numbers of children remain low (13) for a city the size of Manchester, although it is comparable in relation to the Greater Manchester context. This will remain an area of focused activity including working with other local authority areas to promote best practice.

In respect of the effectiveness of our Partnership in safeguarding the children of Manchester, the performance data is telling us that, the rate of referrals to children's social care has fallen by around 60 per 10,000 to 514, continuing the trend that has been seen over the past 5 years. This figure is below the national rate of referrals but needs to be viewed in the context of a rise in support through Early Help, with the inference that more families are being identified for help and support at the earliest opportunity. From this figure 6.3% of these referrals have resulted in no further action, a reduction of 2.5ppt since 2022/23 which reflects a good understanding across the Partnership of when families might benefit from more formal intervention from children's services. The data shows that 18.7% of referrals are repeat referrals within the past 12 months. This is now better than all the comparator groups for 2022/23, which may suggest that family's needs are being recognised and changes sustained. The rate of Children in Need has increased throughout the second half of the year to 438 per 10,000 which amounts to around 5,630 children. The rate

of child in need remains well above the national average for 2022/23 as you might expect for an area with significant levels of need like Manchester.

There is assurance that the multi-agency child protection process is effective at safeguarding children in Manchester. The rate of Initial Child Protection Conferences has increased to 60.3 and is now above the year end position for 2022/23. The percentage of section 47 investigations converted to Initial Child Protection Conferences is 22%, higher than the year end position for 2022/23 of 18.3%. The timeliness for Initial Child Protection Conferences has improved to 86% and is above all the comparator groups for 2022/23 and 97% of children subject of a Child Protection plan for more than three months had an up-to-date review. This is at least 9ppt higher than all the comparator groups for 2022/23. However, activity is underway for the Partnership to look together at the decision making that brings families into formal process through strategy discussions and section 47 enquiries to evidence that judgements are in line with Working Together Safeguarding Children 2023.

There are 20% of Child Protection Plans in the year which are repeat plans, but with only 7% occurring within two years of the last Child Protection episode. This is now better than the national average for 2022/23 and would be indicative of effective multi-agency child protection planning in sustaining positive change for the child. At the end of 2023/24, of the children on Child Protection plans that ceased, 25 had been open for more than two years, representing 4.5% of the total discharges. While this is higher than in 2022/23 it is less than the proportion in 2021/22 and not suggestive of drift and delay. There are monthly reporting mechanisms for those children who have been on child protection plans for longer than 15 months and a multi-agency solution focused approach to ensuring the activity remains on ensuring changes remain in the timescale right for the child. The analysis has prompted the Safeguarding Effectiveness Group to ask the Independent Scrutineer to look at the effectiveness of our core groups in driving the family plan for change and improvement for the

child in a timely way, and this will also be an area of focus for multi-agency audit next year.

Data and thematic local children safeguarding practice review has highlighted, that in line with National findings, the number of children on Child Protection Plans with concerns regarding sexual abuse has decreased, and this figure has steadily reduced over the last 14 months. The learning from the review identified some key practice issues that are also reflected in national learning and highlighted in the work of the Child Sexual Abuse Centre, this includes:

- A recognition that that there is a need to drive confidence, knowledge, and skill in responding to sexual abuse across the partnership including understanding the risks where there is no disclosure.
- There is benefit in promoting tools that support the assessment of the emotional attachment of non-abusing parents as well the risk presented by an alleged offender.
- Professionals need to be exceptionally mindful of the position of retraction over that of an allegation, ensuring strong analysis of all available information is adopted in defining whether sexual abuse is a current risk to a child.
- Children who experience sexual harm need to be supported in the right way at the earliest opportunity, with agencies working collaboratively to understand need and determine the most appropriate way to protect the child and where possible achieve criminal outcomes.

The identification of the need for this work also resulted in engagement of the Partnership with the NSPCC in undertaking a SNAPSHOT on Child Sexual Abuse. This gives us a solid basis to develop our Child Sexual Abuse Strategy and toolkit to improve our effectiveness in this area.

The other area of safeguarding effectiveness was in determining the impact that the thematic Child Safeguarding Practice Review on Serious Youth Violence has had. This took two forms:

- A self-assessment conducted in September 2023 which included the views of 26 children involved with services where serious youth violence was a risk
- A JTAI on serious youth violence which was conducted in October 2023 and included the multi-agency audit of seven children.

Both the independent inspection and our self-assessment work recognised some key strengths in the Partnership:

‘Effective and mature partnership arrangements between agencies are supporting a coordinated and comprehensive multi-agency response to serious youth violence. A strong learning culture enables the partnership to identify when improvements are needed and to work together to address these. There is a well-understood strategy in place and much purposeful activity that is reducing risks to children’.

‘For children with high levels of risk and need, the Complex Safeguarding Hub (CSH) promotes and supports an effective multi-agency response. There is a strong commitment to relationship-based practice from professionals across the partnership which is enabling good engagement with children’.

As well as the need for continued developments:

‘While the strategic intent is well established, in several areas, agreed interventions and actions are not fully embedded. For example, the commitment to child-centred policing has not yet been fully realised’.

‘Areas of practice that need to be improved include developing, reviewing and implementing effective multi-agency plans, accurate recording and information-sharing’

The Inspection letter can be found in full here: [JTAI](#)

Adult data is suggestive that Manchester is an outlier in GM in relation to lower conversion rates to s42 enquiries. Adult Social Care are exploring this further to ensure that concerns are progressing to enquiries when appropriate and will be a part of the workstream next year. As Local authorities across GM have different processes and different measurements of safeguarding data it is challenging to compare accurately.

Data indicated delays in response times by Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) service. Significant improvements have been noted in 2023/24 following the implementation of a service improvement plan and data now suggests an improvement in response times with the majority of referrals receiving a response within 48 hours.

Our partners have undertaken a Section 11 and adult assurance audit facilitated by the Safeguarding Effectiveness Group. This ensures that all organisations and any services they contract/commission have effective safeguarding arrangements in place. Along with this the workforce survey was undertaken, the analysis of this will go to the Executives in December 2024 when challenge meetings will take place with the Independent Scrutineer.

We have undertaken an audit in relation to self-neglect, which highlighted that there was good evidence of good practice in our partnership, but highlighted where we could improve in relation to think whole family approaches, triangulation of information with GPs and housing providers, professional curiosity, and application of the Mental Capacity Act 2005. These findings were shared with partners and included in the Learning and Improvement subgroup agenda and has resulted training on Mental Capacity Act and Self Neglect.

Safeguarding Effectiveness: How Did We Do?

What went well?

- ✓ Reviewed our data set, highlighting good practice and areas for improvement.
- ✓ The SEG has developed and implemented its Safeguarding Effectiveness Framework and Scrutiny Plan. As part of this a plan of audit themes for 2024-2025 are in the process of being finalised.
- ✓ Undertaken section 11 and adult assurance audit along with our workforce survey.
- ✓ Established a new way of working to review our data, undertake our audits and receive our assurance from partner agencies. Allowing closer scrutiny.
- ✓ Undertaken two multi-agency audits.

What can we do better?

- Improvements could be made to triangulate data with wider intelligence from quality assurance activity including feedback from service users, residents, and communities.
- Introduce the use of critical summary narrative to support constructive challenge via Executive meetings and Leadership and Accountability Board.
- Undertake audits in a timelier manner sharing lessons with frontline staff.
- Frontline Visits have been developed and will be implemented in 2024/25, so that the MSP understands and hears the voice of our frontline staff.

What difference did we make?

- Recommendations from the Self-neglect Audit have improved the processes and practice of our frontline staff through the development of a tool to measure and record levels of Hoarding consistently across different agencies and practitioners.
- Strong links have been developed with GM partnerships which is already improving the scope and detail of shared data and insight around assurance activity.
- Assurance from the section 11 audit and adult assurance on changes in SARs and LCSRPs.

Learning & Improvement

The Learning and Improvement Subgroup reviewed how it was working in June 2023, it was agreed that the subgroup would be split into monthly meetings lasting an hour focusing on the work of the subgroup, that is:

- Locality Practice Fora
- Training
- Policies and Procedures
- Communication.

It takes the learning from quality assurance activity, the Adult and Child Practice Review Panels and Safeguarding Effectiveness Group to determine the plans and arrangements for effective action to deliver learning and system wide improvement. This is achieved through our bulletins, learning events, training courses, policies, procedures and Guidance and the dissemination of practice issues / tools

Our quarterly Locality Practice Fora aim to ensure that new strategies and learning are shared with a wide range of managers and frontline practitioners across Manchester and strengthens the links between the partnership learning and frontline practice. We have shared lessons from all of our published SARs and LCSPR. Child S1 was one of these briefings at the Fora. The briefing was followed by a session in relation to Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). This was welcomed by frontline practitioners one of whom stated that it enabled them to understand how to get a diagnosis for one of the young people they were working with.

Following the briefing on SAR Keith one practitioner stated, 'A big part of my role is safeguarding, this session has helped me to have access to other organisations and how we can work together to Safeguard vulnerable adults and another said, 'it is always a learning space to improve practice', it is 'very useful for joint learning and discussion'.

The [training offer](#) will be reviewed in 2024/25 and include not only face to face day training but explore different ways of sharing messages with frontline practitioners and volunteers.

The Partnership provides a free learning programme to anyone who works in Manchester with children or adult. At the beginning of the year the take up of training was low, this was being reviewed and raised in the quarterly reports to the executive which resulted in the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership not having to cancel any courses due to low take up. Over the last year 650 practitioners have completed training on a range of topics including Working with Domestic Abuse, Childhood Neglect, Child Exploitation and Mental Capacity Act.

In addition, a total of 2794 practitioners have completed Levels 1 to 3 of the mandatory Children and Adult Safeguarding training commissioned by Virtual College.

Courses related to our priorities and emerging learning and themes from reviews are made immediately accessible without having to go through an approval process.

The Learning and Improvement Subgroup has reviewed the look and feel of the [Safeguarding Bulletin](#). This is now themed and is shared monthly to all of our partners. The feedback is that they are easy to read and full of useful and interesting up to date information.

To communicate better with the public and professionals we are continually reviewing our website making it easier to use and access important and useful information.

Policies, procedures and Guidance are in important part of the Learning and Improvement subgroup, ensuring that all practitioners have access to up-to-date processes and procedures. Many of our children's policies, procedures and guidance are written by all ten Greater Manchester Safeguarding Partnerships and are hosted by TriX. We are also working hard at getting the adult policies, procedures and guidance reviewed in line with our SARs and audits finding. All of our policies, procedures and guidance can be located on our website [Manchester Safeguarding Partnership](#).

The screenshot displays the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership (MSP) website. At the top, it says 'Sept, Issue 1' and 'Press Esc to exit full screen'. The MSP logo is in the top right. The main heading is 'Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Awareness Month'. Below this, a paragraph explains the significance of the 9th day of the 9th month as International FASD Day and September FASD Awareness Month. It mentions that on the 9th of September, they will join the rest of the world in celebrating International FASD Awareness Day. A link for 'FASD Factsheet' is provided. Below that, a link for 'GREATER MANCHESTER FASD NETWORK ONLINE FASD ROADSHOW Tickets' is shown. The '#FASDGiveMe5' hashtag is featured with a graphic of a hand with five fingers, each labeled with a number 1-5. A paragraph explains the hashtag: 'The hashtag is designed to represent taking 5 for FASD, whether that's taking 5 minutes to explain FASD to someone new, taking the time to learn 5 new things about FASD, or giving someone with FASD a high-five to celebrate their achievements! It can be used as creatively as you like, so why not join us and raise some FASD awareness this month with #FASDGiveMe5?'. To the right, a tilted image shows a flyer for 'The Manchester Safeguarding Partnership (MSP) Practitioner Safeguarding Fora'. The flyer lists 'Up and coming Training' including 'Understanding Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements Teams Training' and 'Family Led Children Conference'. It also lists 'Fora Dates' for 'To share learning and good practice' for Children's and Adults' forums. The Children's forum dates are North: 17.10.23, South: 01.11.23, Central: 19.10.23. The Adults' forum dates are North: 19.09.23, South: 14.09.23, Central: 07.09.23. A link 'Click to book' is also present.

Learning and Improvement: How Did We Do?

What went well?

- ✓ Policies and procedures have been reviewed in line with research and national policy.
- ✓ The L&I e-bulletin has been produced and sent out monthly to share learning from serious incidents and good practice.
- ✓ Children's and Adult Fora meeting linked more pro-actively with the strategic improvement areas arising from APRP, LCSPR and L&I training plan.
- ✓ Provision of a comprehensive e-learning package with Virtual college with an agreed contract until 2026.
- ✓ The video for the Self-Neglect conference 'Gill' and 'Intergenerational Trauma'
- ✓ Refreshed training pool next steps to refresh training calendar

What can we do better?

- To continue to increase take up of all training by all agencies.
- To develop a process to review the impact of our training.
- Review the children's multi-agency training pool and calendar.
- Include a wider range of learning and improvement information and training resources on the new MSP website.
- To review the impact of the quarterly Fora and Bulletin.
- Use of videos to disseminate lessons and information to frontline staff.

What difference did we make?

- We have trained 3,444 frontline staff increasing their understanding of safeguarding children and adults resulting in a more skilled workforce that can meet the needs of the citizens and know how to respond to concerns raised.
- We delivered the Self-Neglect conference including Gill's Story a first-hand experience of hoarding.
- We have sent out monthly bulletin's sharing lessons from SAR and LCSPR.
- We have facilitated quarterly locality FORA for frontline staff.

Communication

The Manchester Safeguarding Partnership is committed to listening to our children and adults (as highlighted with the Children of Manchester Safeguarding Conference and Gill's Story) and to learning from the firsthand experiences of frontline professionals across the system. We recognise that this will continue to be an area for improvement in 2023/24 and is an important part of our Strategic plan 'Talking Together'.

Partnership Communications

The Partnership actively communicates with Manchester organisations through the monthly safeguarding bulletin, 7-minute briefings and publication of reviews, policies, and procedures. A review of the Manchester Safeguarded Partnership website was completed in 2022 and since then website has subsequently been updated and redesigned and relaunch in 2023.

Engagement with professionals

The quarterly Locality Fora continue to meet and are well attended. As well as providing a vehicle to keep frontline staff up to date with the latest resources, training, and safeguarding reviews, the Fora enable the

Partnership to hear what is working well for them in their locality and any additional support they are looking for, to address training and knowledge gaps. Feedback mechanisms designed to improve the way we gather opinions was introduced in 2023. These views are feedback into the Learning and Improvement Subgroup and have highlighted the need for further information in relation to exploitation (including serious violence), impact of neglect, gambling related for example.

Engagement with children and adults

The Care Act 2014 and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 describes how agencies need to work together to help individuals and families live free from abuse, harm, and neglect.

The partnership recognises that whilst anyone can become a victim of abuse there are some who, due to their situation or the environmental factors around them, means that they are at greater risk of experiencing harm. In addition, Manchester has an ethnically diverse population and areas with high levels of poverty. We are committed to working together to make sure that safeguarding is everyone's business, and we are committed to working with local communities to listen to and understand their experiences.

Communication and Engagement: How Did We Do?

What went well?

- ✓ The website has been reviewed and was be launched in 2023
- ✓ A successful Celebration Conference and Children's Conference was held (June & September 2023) by our children on safeguarding topics that matter to them.
- ✓ A Challenge Events held in relation to Complex Safeguarding and priorities shaped by Manchester residents with lived experience of exploitation.
- ✓ Continued involvement with front line practitioners and managers in shaping policy through consultations and information sessions such as reviewing and updating the communication and engagement strategy.

What can we do better?

- Ensuring that we maintain our focus and aim to communicate with professionals via different methods within an understanding of operational demands.
- Proactive program of awareness raising about safeguarding in the wider community, especially 'harder to reach communities.'
- Measure more systematically the impact of the work that the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership has for the people of Manchester and its practitioner.

What difference did we make?

- By capturing the voices of children and adults within safeguarding reviews, their firsthand reflections have been used to change the way services work together and communicate with adults.
- The children have designed projects that relate to peer-on-peer abuse, online safety, Peace Mala and nourishing Mental health. Making children safer and understood in Manchester.
- Feedback from people with lived experience of exploitation have shape our exploitation strategy and work priorities for Manchester.

Themed Subgroups

Manchester Safeguarding Partnership has three themed subgroups to focus on the work of our priority Neglect Subgroup, Complex Safeguarding and our Strategic Schools Subgroup

The Neglect Subgroup agreed to reimplement the use of the Graded Care Profile2 (GCP2) after careful consideration of other tools and reviewing research. Twenty-two people across the partnership have been trained as trainer and the plan to roll out the training has been developed from April 2024.

The Subgroup is developing an all-age Universal Neglect Awareness Tool which will go live in October 2024. There are over fifty Neglect Champions identified to take the lead in Neglect for both adult and children's partner agencies, making sure that Neglect is well understood and hopefully ensuring that early help is provided to those that want the support.



The Complex Safeguarding Subgroup has worked jointly work with Community Safety Partnership on serious violence. In October 2023

Manchester was inspected in relation to our multi-agency responses to serious youth violence. The inspection was carried out by Ofsted, Care Quality Commission (CQC), HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) and HM Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP).

The Inspection focused on how the police, children's social care, education, youth offending services and relevant health services in local areas work together to address and prevent serious youth violence. The inspectorates considered interventions in Manchester with individual and groups of children to see how well we help them and reduce the risk of serious youth violence.

The JTAIs also considered multi-agency interventions in places such as parks, streets and shopping malls, where individual or groups of children are at risk, to improve safety for children and for communities.

The inspectors summarised the strengths and areas for improvement of the joint targeted area inspection to Manchester in their [letter](#).

The Complex Safeguarding Subgroup seeks assurance from the Community Safety Partnership that the actions from the JTAI and the [Serious Violence Strategy](#) are being driven and achieved.

The Complex Safeguarding subgroup has produced an all age '[Tackling Exploitation Strategy](#)' 2024 and 2027, it was developed though our Challenge Events and our priorities were shaped by Manchester residents

with lived experience of exploitation. The impact of this will be reviewed throughout 2024/2025 and beyond.

The Education Safeguarding Strategic Subgroup has worked during 2023/24 with partners they have engaged with GMP [Child Centred Policing strategy](#), an outcome of which was ensures all schools have access to the partner intelligence form. They have engaged with CAMHS and School Health-provided feedback on the GM Crisis Pathway. They contributed to the JTAI review. And finally, they have received regular support for DSLS through scenarios and strengthening practice from the Safeguarding Education team.

Independent Scrutiny

Messages from our Independent Scrutineer

Our independent scrutineer joined Manchester in January 2023 and in January 2024 she ended her tenure to take up a Senior Leadership role in another Local Authority. The next part of the report is from the scrutineer's last quarterly report to the partnership.

The sub-group chairs' meeting is continuing to develop at its second meeting and has the potential for continuing to promote connectivity of the business across all areas and support mutual and constructive scrutiny and challenge across the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership (MSP).

All sub-groups are now clearly focussed on what they need to achieve over the next few months and are continuing to make progress against their objectives. This includes the work by CPRP group to clear any historical work and to strengthen both qualitative and quantitative impact measures as any new reviews are concluded.

As part of my role, I was invited to provide feedback on the effectiveness of children's criteria panel meetings where a decision is required as whether an incident is notifiable to the National Panel and whether a rapid review should be undertaken. I was impressed by the quality of information, the thoroughness and the structure of the meeting. Whilst there is potential for

some duplication with the content of the rapid review itself, this is in my view more than compensated for in the thoughtful reflection opportunity

the criteria meeting provides for the partnership. In addition, it provides the opportunity for additional focus and clarity about the initial key lines of enquiry to inform the rapid review.

'The business unit team has unfortunately experienced further instabilities as key staff have been absent or left for a number of reasons. There is a need to expedite recruitment and team development to ensure the partnership reaps the maximum benefit from its investment.

The issue of the financial viability of the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership support arrangements were escalated to the Leader of the Council, who wrote to the Deputy Mayor. However, no firm commitments from all partners have yet been reached in respect to their contributions. Further challenge is to take place.'

Strategic Plan and Future Priorities

A Review of the Key Areas of our Strategic Plan

Our business plan was reviewed at the Development Day in February 2024, this allowed partners to see what progress had taken place (highlighted in this report and on our timeline) and agree the next steps towards achieving our objectives.

- As described previously, there is significant activity to ensure the voice of children, adults and staff are heard and embedded in the work of the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership. Further work in relation to focusing on ensuring that these are coordinated through our Communication and Engagement Strategy will take place in 2024/2025 enabling them to feed into strategic planning more effectively enhancing the partnership's ability to evidence what is a positive picture of dialogue at all levels of the individual organisations and the partnership.
- Work has been undertaken to promote the equality and diversity ambitions of the partnership. However, further work is required to ensure that it is fed more consistently into every subgroup meeting and strategic discussion.
- The Think Family priority has enabled the partnership to have a more joined up way of thinking especially in relation to audit, SARs and LCSPRs

However, further thought to how this could be embedded into practice in the coming year will take place.

- Whilst the Safeguarding Effectiveness arrangements are continuing to develop, there are significant opportunities arising from the child friendly policing ambitions to achieve more outcome focused and partnership triangulated data and performance information.
- Given the recent publication of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023, a piece of work has been undertaken to ensure that the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership and more specifically the arrangements that are covered by the new guidance are compliant. Whilst much of the preparation for the strategic arrangements have developed as part of the work of the partnership in 2022, the Greater Manchester Safeguarding Alliance are reviewing their role in relation to the new role of our Lead Safeguarding Partners.

Future Plans and Priorities

Manchester Safeguarding Partnership has developed an action plan and undertaken a development day to ensure that it is compliant with Working Together 2023 and to consider the opportunities following the publication. This includes further work in relation to:

- Multi-agency Safeguarding Arrangements that will be published in December 2024.
- Further work with the voluntary, faith and community sector to ensure that they are engaged in the work of the partnership more effectively.
- Review the work in relation to section 17 of the Children Act.

At the development day and subsequent Executive and Leadership and Accountability meetings it was agreed that Think Family, Talking Together and Treating Everyone Fairly would become a part of our everyday business and that there would be evidence within each work plan for our subgroups and our strategic plan that these areas are not only been considered but a part essential part of our plans.

The Priority for 2024-2026 will continue to be to Tackle Neglect.

Tackle Neglect
1. We will ensure that communities and professionals are knowledgeable, skilled, confident and supported to identify, assess and tackle key risk factors and vulnerabilities that can lead to neglect and self-neglect. 2. We will support children and adults to thrive through provision of support at the earliest opportunity and aim to reduce the prevalence and impact of neglect and self-neglect. 3. We will recognise and respond to the many forms of neglect, whether intentional or unintentional. We will be supporting adults to change and recover, and when children have experienced neglect, we will support children to recover so that the impact of neglect is reduced.

Monitoring of our priorities indicates that there are lots more things to do before we can say we have achieved our current priority of neglect and to ensure it has had the impact that we require. Whilst a new Neglect subgroup was created during the year 2022, we know that:

- Neglect remains one of the biggest reasons for demand on services. 50.3% of child protection plans were under the category of neglect, and 36% Section 42 concluded by adult social care were due to self-neglect and omission
- Recent reviews of practice (SARs, LCSPR and audits) provided learning and recommendations around neglect and self-neglect.
- Neglect is a risk factor for all other types of abuse, including exploitation.

Manchester Safeguarding Partnership Strategic Plan 2024 – 2026

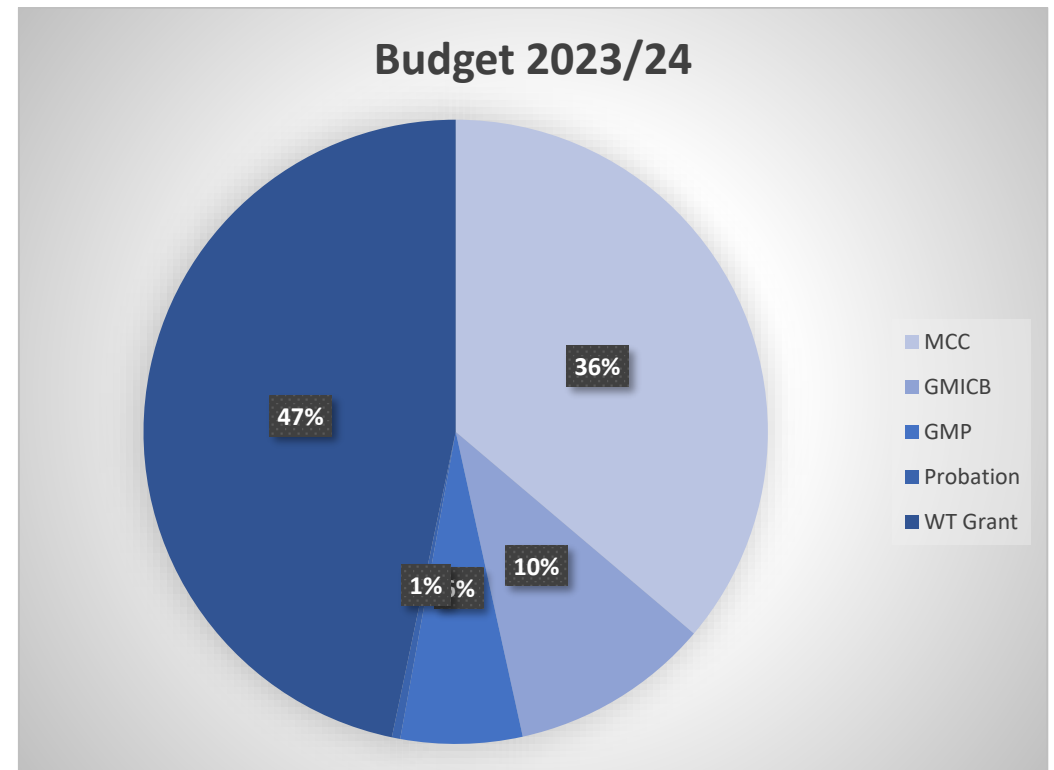


Financial Profile

The figures below provide the financial profile for the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership in 2023/24. In March 2024 the steering group carried out a 'Zero Based Budget' exercise to cost the next financial year of 2024/25.

INCOME	2022/23 (ACTUAL)
INCOME	23/24 (ACTUAL)
MCC	366,311.00
GMICB	105,000.00
GMP	63,732.00
Probation	4,382.00
Working Together Grant	47,300.00
Total Revenue Income	586,725.00
EXPENDITURE	23/24 (ACTUAL)
Employee Costs	408,072.00
Premises	6,300.00
Transport	1,098.00
Supplies & Services	54,629.00
Internal Charges	7,380.00
Transfer to Reserves	109,246.00
Total Revenue Expenditure	586,725.00

Within this budget income in kind has also included demonstrating that the MSP benefits from not only financial contributions but also from nonfinancial contributions



Monitoring Our Strategic Priorities

PRIORITY 1

Tackle Neglect: Support children and adults to thrive by reducing the prevalence and impact of neglect

Objectives:

1.1 Ensure that communities and professionals are knowledgeable, skilled, confident and supported to identify, assess and tackle key risk factors and vulnerabilities that can lead to neglect.

1.2 Support children and adults to thrive through provision of support at the earliest opportunity and reducing the prevalence and impact of neglect.

1.3 We will recognise and respond to the many forms of neglect, whether intentional or unintentional, supporting adults to change and children to recover so that the impact of neglect is reduced.

Desired Outcome:

Professionals and audit demonstrate there are clear pathways to services for early intervention for people experiencing neglect.

Neglect being addressed at an early stage. Reducing the number of children on child protection plans for Neglect and reducing the number of referrals to adult social care due to neglect.

Outcome: MSP partners rated progress as **AMBER** in the March 2023 review of progress this is because further work needs to take place to ensure that we can demonstrate the impact of our work and meet our desired outcome.

Achievements	What we can do better
• Agreed to re-launch Graded Care Profile as a preferred tool • Developed awareness tool for early stages of adult and child neglect • Trained over 200 people on Self Neglect. • Trained over 60 people on Childhood Neglect • Identified Neglect Champions and organised an event for 2024 • Promoted self-neglect toolkit • Embedded Thriving family's model • Thriving Babies programmes	• Develop an adult neglect strategy. • Review Children's training offer • Train frontline staff on GCP2 • Better understanding of teenage neglect • Work together to ensure unintentional neglect through personal hardship is prevented

PRIORITY 2

Think Whole Family: Co-ordinate the response to children, adults and their families and take into account family circumstances and networks when working with them

Objectives

2.1 We will champion a 'Think Whole Family' approach in our work.

2.2 We will assist in developing professionals and services that 'Think Whole Family', that draw on family and friend networks around the people that we work with to understand context, risk and protective factors.

2.3 Professionals will work effectively together around the individual and their network to secure better outcomes for adults, children and families by coordinating the support and delivery of services from all organisations.

Desired Outcome:

Policies and procedures include 'think family' approaches to support practice.

More people are getting the right help first time.

Improved communication between family members and all professionals involved.

Professionals report a better understanding of each other's roles and there is increased joint working delivering positive results for service users.

Outcome: MSP partners rated progress as **Green** in the March 2023 review of progress. This is now to be embedded into our core business and is to be a part of our actions plans to ensure that we are meeting our desired outcome.

Achievements	What we can do better
- Think family approach is a part of our work plans - Think family is a part of our audits - Think family approach is discussed within subgroup - Think family approach is a part of our complex safeguarding group	- Embed the think family approach in frontline practice - Embed think family approach in all of our training.

PRIORITY 3

Treat Everyone Fairly: Ensure everyone is supported to be safe and well, irrespective of their characteristics or circumstances. (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion)

Objectives

3.1 We will embrace diversity, equity and inclusion so that our strategies and the work we do recognises and relates to every individual fairly.

3.2 We will have evidence that people in Manchester are safe and well and take action to address any inequity where it exists.

Desired Outcome

Audit and case reviews shows evidence of consistent positive practice of diversity, equity and inclusion.

Safeguarding practice is challenged and changed when data and other evidence highlights inequalities.

Outcome: MSP partners rated progress as **Green** in the March 2023 review of progress. This is now to be embedded into our core business and is to be a part of our actions plans to ensure that we are meeting our desired outcome.

Achievements	What we can do better
- Diversity, equity and inclusion are included in our audits - Safeguarding practice is challenged when data and others highlight inequalities - Developing a Cultural Competency module for all partners - Equality Impact Assessments being included in plans - Working towards a 'Child Friendly City' status	Deliver the cultural competency training to all partners for dissemination and measure the impact

Priority 4

Talking together: Communicate and engage with stakeholders (including public engagement) to understand what works and deliver effective safeguarding

Objectives

4.1 We will improve communication and engagement with all children, adults, carers, families and communities, so that we listen to all voices and experiences and use these to inform our strategies, services and practice.

4.2 We will improve communications, confidence and knowledge of professionals through improved access to guidance and learning opportunities.

Desired outcomes

Evaluation evidence that consultation and co-production has made a positive difference to the services they receive.

Feedback on communications and events is positive.

Professionals report satisfaction with MSP multi-agency training and development opportunities and communications.

Outcome: MSP partners rated progress as **Green** in the March 2023 review of progress. This is now to be embedded into our core business and is to be a part of our actions plans to ensure that we are meeting our desired outcome.

Achievements	What we can do better
• The children of Manchester's Safeguarding Conference taken place • The children of Manchester's Celebration Event taken place • The voice of the child and adult starts each subgroup meeting • Co-production of family led conferencing • People with experience have taken part in Self-Neglect Conference • Included the written voice of the adult/child in audit • Included feedback loop in our locality fora	• Include the voice of the child/adult in audits • Working with voluntary sector to ensure that adults/children are safeguarded. • Introduce frontline visits to all partner agencies • To develop and deliver our communication engagement strategy

Useful Information



If you want to find out more about the work of the Manchester Safeguarding Partnership, please visit our website [here](#).

The website provides information about all forms of safeguarding and how partners are working across the City of Manchester to help keep people safe. It also tells you about our ongoing programme of training and how to book a place.

Alternatively, to keep up to date with all our work please visit our website to subscribe to our newsletter which contains the latest safeguarding policy updates, free resources and training courses and lots of useful information.

How to Report a concern

If someone is in immediate danger, please dial 999 and ask for the police.

If you think you know of a child, young person or adult who is experiencing or is at risk of being exploited, and they are not able to protect themselves then please report it. You can do this by contacting Manchester's safeguarding team by phone or email:



Call: 0161 234 5001

Email: mcsreply@manchester.gov.uk

Trained staff will offer a sensitive response to all situations as well as advice to help individuals and families make an informed choice about any practical help they might want or action they may wish to take.