

Safeguarding Children

News from City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership | December 2019

Welcome

This time of year provides a great opportunity to look back over our achievements over the past 12 months. As a newly former 'partnership', I'm pleased with how much we've been able to do. Being chosen as an 'early adopter' of the new national partnership arrangements was recognition of our strong partnership ethos and track record of working together to help keep children in York safe. I'm pleased that that work has continued and, with projects like the young' people's social media charter, which you can read more about in this newsletter, we're continuing to lead the way to support young people to find their 'safeguarding voice'.

I hope you have the opportunity to take a break over the festive period so we can start 2020 refreshed and ready to go. Thank you to all of you for your efforts over the last year and wishing you all a very happy and healthy New Year.



Simon Westwood

Independent Chair of City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership



York Suicide Prevention Conference

The Suicide Prevention Conference was held in York on World Suicide Prevention Day in September.

Attendees learnt about the on-going work to make York a Suicide Safer Community. The conference incorporated moving, lived-experience accounts from people who had experienced their own thoughts of suicide or who had been bereaved by suicide as well as presentations on recent developments and initiatives, around York and nationally, which are helping to prevent suicide and improve support for those people affected by it.

The focus of the day was the message that the most effective way to prevent suicide is through a whole community approach. And that includes partnership working, training and awareness raising to improve understanding, change attitudes, reduce stigma and encourage those at risk to seek help when they need it.


Free online suicide prevention training can be found at the [talksuicide website](https://talksuicide.org.uk/).

YORK

Working together to become a suicide-safer community

Everybody belongs here



Keep up to date with our work at
www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/
and via twitter on  @YorkSCP

Have your say on City Budget

City of York Council is consulting on its budget for 2020/2021 and needs your help.

They want to hear from you to ensure that every penny they spend goes on the things you need and value.

Have your say on where the council's money should be spent using this [survey](#).

This survey closes on the 31 December 2019.

Assessing the Impact of Parental Mental Ill Health on Children

The PAMIC Tool has been updated for use by the York and North Yorkshire Children's Safeguarding partnerships. Originally developed by the children's safeguarding board in Teesside, the tool helps practitioners assess and respond to the impact of parents' or carers mental ill health issues on children.

It's intended for use by anyone involved in providing services to adults who are parents and/or carers as well as those providing services to children and young people.

The PAMIC tool involves the practitioner assessing the nature of risk and also the protective factors for the child so it includes the practitioner's professional judgement.

The revised PAMIC tool can be found [here](#).

Bitesize Learning Sessions

The CYSCP's new bite-sized learning sessions are already proving popular with partners.

The hour-long sessions are facilitated by a safeguarding practitioner, introducing learners to a topic and providing participants with the opportunity to discuss and share experiences.

Topics to date include 'Adverse Childhood Experiences', 'Fabricated and Induced Illnesses' and 'A child's journey following a disclosure of child sexual abuse'.

If you have any suggestions for topics which you think would be appropriate for bitesize learning or if you want to facilitate a session on a particular topic please contact Laura Davis Workforce Development Adviser for CYSCP at l.davis@york.gov.uk

For further information on the current bitesize sessions see york.learningpool.com

New Levels of Need consultation

York is currently consulting on a new Threshold document and associated Levels of Need, which set out when children's social care should be consulted about a child or young person.

The work is being co-ordinated through the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Strategic Board (where all statutory safeguarding partners are represented) and will be endorsed by the City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership (CYSCP).

Detailed analysis of the feedback will take place in the new year.

Young people's social media project

Students from secondary schools across the city are working with the CYSCP, NSPCC and York St John University to design and create a York Charter for positive and safe social media use.

The project has been created as part of the partnership's 'early adopter' status, which trialled out new national safeguarding arrangements before they were formally rolled out across the country.

Young people will take part in workshops to develop the Charter in the new year and it is hoped that the Charter will be launched shortly afterwards.

For more information contact caroline.wood@york.gov.uk or dan.bodey@york.gov.uk

Local Offer for SEND

York's Local Offer website for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities has a wide range of information for children, young people and parents, and is also a useful resource for practitioners.



The [Local Offer site](#) has undergone many changes since the start of the year, with updated information and links.

Information includes sections on:

- Preparing for adulthood
- Education
- Early Years

Take a look round the new site and let us know what you think.

NSPCC Open Day

NSPCC York is holding an open day on 23 January between 10am-12noon and 1pm-3pm for partners to learn more about its work.

There will be talks about new and established services, demonstrations of the techniques used in therapeutic and group work programmes as well as information about national NSPCC resources and research.

Please contact NSPCC on 01904 232800 to confirm your attendance

Harmful sexual behaviour audit

CYSCP and the NSPCC are working together in York to carry out a multi agency audit of the city's response to working with Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB).

The audit will highlight the advice, support, assessment and intervention that is currently available to support children and young people displaying HSB and professionals working with them and their families.

The NSPCC will identify areas of good practice as well as making recommendations about how multi-agency practice in working with HSB could be improved.

The results of the report will be published in the CYSCP's Spring Newsletter.

“Talk PANTS” promoted by North Yorkshire Police

The NSPCC's “Talks PANTS” campaign received a boost recently after being promoted by North Yorkshire Police.

The force carried out a range of activities throughout October to actively target child abuse suspects and bring them to justice, as well as providing care and support to victims alongside partners such as the NSPCC.

Detective Superintendent Allan Harder, Head of Safeguarding at North Yorkshire Police, said: “The NSPCC provides a fantastic range of resources to help promote vital safety messages in a sensitive and innovative way.

“The ‘Talk PANTS’ campaign is a great example of this and we are very happy to push it out on our website and social media channels to increase awareness in our area.”

To find out more please go to the NSPCC website:
www.nspcc.org.uk/pants



Keep up to date with our work at
www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/

and via twitter on
 [@YorkSCP](https://twitter.com/YorkSCP)

ICON Programme launches

A new campaign has launched in York and North Yorkshire to prevent abusive head trauma injuries to babies caused by shaking.

'[ICON – Babies Cry, You can Cope](#)' is an evidence-based programme designed to help parents and carers understand normal crying patterns and to help them develop successful coping mechanisms.

Initially funded by the four North Yorkshire and York CCGs, it delivers four simple messages:

- I – Infant crying is normal;
- C – Comforting methods can help;
- O – It's OK to walk away;
- N – Never, ever shake a baby.

For further information
please contact the
Designated Nurses team
on 01609 767619

These messages have been demonstrated to help parents and carers manage the stresses caused by normal infant crying. Midwives, Health Visitors and other professionals across the region have developed ICON expertise to help give parents and carers the tools they need to help keep their babies safe.



ABOUT US

About ICON

- I – Infant crying is normal
- C – Comforting methods can help
- O – It's OK to walk away
- N – Never, ever shake a baby

Speak to someone if you need support such as your family, friends, Midwife, GP or Health Visitor.

Read More



CYSCP retirement

CYSCP said goodbye to its Business and Performance Manager, Juliet Burton, who retired in October.

Juliet has been with the Partnership (formerly the Local Safeguarding Children Board) for six years having previously worked in Children's Social Care and safeguarding.

Juliet asked for donations to IDAS rather than a leaving gift. Anyone wanting to make a donation can do so through Just Giving [here](#).



If you are concerned about a child:

If you think that a child or young person is being abused or neglected you must inform Children's Social Care or the police.

To report concerns to Children's Social Care you can do so:

- By phone – one phone number for all concerns and enquiries: 01904 551900
- By email – one email address: childrensfrontdoor@york.gov.uk
- Using a referral form available here: www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/concerned-about-a-child-or-young-person.htm
- By letter – Children's Social Care, City of York Council, West Office, York YO1 6GA
- Outside office hours, at weekends and on public holidays contact the Emergency Duty Team telephone: 01609 780780.

**Safeguarding
Children** 