

**ADULTS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
7 FEBRUARY 2023**

DARLINGTON SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT – 2021/2022

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to enable Adults Scrutiny Committee to receive and comment upon the Annual Report of the Darlington Safeguarding Partnership (DSP) for the period 2021/22, **see Appendix A.**

Summary

2. Local Safeguarding Partnerships are required to produce an Annual Report to account for the Partnerships achievements over the previous year and make an assessment of the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements within the local area. The report summarises and reflects on the work of the Partnership over the 2021/22 period.

Recommendation

3. It is recommended that the Adults Scrutiny note and comment on the DSP Annual Report for 2021/22 which has been published on the DSP website.

Reasons

4. The recommendations are supported by the following reasons:
 - (a) Adults Scrutiny have an understanding of the Partnership's work to date.
 - (b) To challenge and scrutinise the work of the DSP and raise any challenges as appropriate with the Independent Chair.
 - (c) To have assurance that the Safeguarding Partnership is effectively coordinating multi-agency safeguarding practice in Darlington and promoting the welfare of children and adults with needs for care and support.

**Joss Harbron
Assistant Director - Adult Social Care**

Background Papers

Darlington Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report – 2021/2022

S17 Crime and Disorder	Adults with care and support needs at risk of crime and disorder are a priority within this report.
Health and Wellbeing	The health and wellbeing of all adults in Darlington are a priority within this report.
Carbon Impact and Climate Change	There are no implications arising from this report.
Diversity	DSP works to ensure that all groups are considered within their safeguarding agenda
Wards Affected	All
Groups Affected	All
Budget and Policy Framework	N/A
Key Decision	N/A
Urgent Decision	N/A
Council Plan	The work of the Darlington Safeguarding Partnership complements the priorities in One Darlington Perfectly placed.
Efficiency	N/A
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

5. The Annual Report summarises and reflects on the work of the Partnership over the period 2021/22, drawing upon a range of data and information, to outline the progress made and to illustrate the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding partnership arrangements across Darlington.
6. The Covid-19 Pandemic continued to pose a significant challenge throughout the year ensuring children, young people and vulnerable adults were safeguarded and the fact that anyone can be at risk of harm as it was recognised abuse and neglect can be increased by a whole range of factors such as mental health, poverty, domestic abuse as well as loneliness and isolation.