

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SCRUTINY
8 JANUARY 2024**

DARLINGTON SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT – 2022/2023

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to enable the Children and Young People Scrutiny to receive and comment upon the Annual Report of the Darlington Safeguarding Partnership (DSP) for the period 2022/23.

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.
3. The Annual Report summarises and reflects on the work of the Partnership over the period 2022/23, 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.
4. The year continued to be shaped by the impact of COVID-19 and the national safeguarding context has been an evolving landscape as services continued to adapt, many organisations facing national recruitment challenges. The current landscape is challenging and likely to remain so, impacting on the children, young people and adults we work with. There was Significant organisational change during the year with the introduction nationally of Integrated Care Boards and much change ahead with a new iteration of Working Together to Safeguard Children along with the implementation of Local Authority Adult Regulatory inspections
4. It is recommended that:
 - (a) The Children and Young People Scrutiny note and comment on the DSP Annual Report for 2022/23 which will be published on the DSP website.

Reasons

6. The recommendations are supported by the following reasons:
-

- (a) Children and Young People 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 Scrutineer / 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.

Chris Bell
Assistant Director of Childrens Services

Background Papers

Darlington Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report – 2022/2023

S17 Crime and Disorder	All children at risk of crime and disorder are a priority within this report. DSP works alongside the Young People Engagement and Justice Service to help reduce crime and first time entrants into the criminal justice system.
Health and Well Being	The health and wellbeing of all children in Darlington are a priority within this report. DSP works alongside all organisations to promote the health and wellbeing of children and their families.
Carbon Impact	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
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	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 not impacted on Looked After Children or Care Leavers.