

**ADULTS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
20 FEBRUARY 2024**

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**DARLINGTON SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT – 2022/2023**

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**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 2022/23, **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 2022/23 period.

**Recommendation**

3. It is recommended that the Adults Scrutiny note and comment on the DSP Annual Report for 2022/23 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 – 2022/2023

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 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.
6. 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.