



**Dudley Safeguarding
People Partnership**

DSPP Strategic Business Plan 2022-2024

Version Control

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About Us

The Dudley Safeguarding People Partnership (DSPP) is a statutory body established by Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 and The Care Act 2014 and ensures progress is delivered through the separate Dudley Safeguarding Children Partnership Group and Dudley Safeguarding Adults Board. It is led by three Safeguarding Partners including Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council, Black Country and West Birmingham Clinical Commissioning Group and West Midlands Police and supported by a wide range of relevant agencies including education as our fourth partner.

The purpose of these local arrangements is to support and enable organisations and agencies to work together in a system where:

- Children, young people, families and adults with care and support needs are safeguarded and their welfare promoted
- Partner organisations and agencies collaborate, share and co-own the vision for how to achieve improved outcomes for vulnerable children and adults with care and support needs
- Organisations and agencies challenge appropriately and hold one another to account effectively, there is early identification and analysis of new safeguarding issues and emerging threats
- Learning is promoted and embedded in a way that local services for children and adults can become more reflective and implement changes to practice
- Information is shared effectively to facilitate more accurate and timely decision making for the most vulnerable people in Dudley across the life course.

Our Values

The Strategic Business Plan is based upon the following shared values:

- Ensure the welfare and best interests of the person are at the centre of all we do.
- Treat everyone as valued partners.
- Believe change is possible and positively support parents and carers.
- Value difference, inclusivity and encourage engagement.
- Actively listen and take action in a timely and responsive way, avoiding unnecessary delay.
- 'Hear the voice' of frontline practitioners and take their views into account
- Be open and transparent in all that we do
- Support a working culture that challenges, scrutinises and uplifts the partnership
- We will listen to people who access our services and use their views to influence the work we do.

Our Priorities

Three safeguarding priorities have been identified for 2022-2024.

- Neglect
- Exploitation
- Adopting a ‘Think Family’ approach.*

**The ‘Think Family’ priority will focus on three key thematic’s in Year 1 and will be reviewed in Year 2. This approach allows the Partnership to focus multi agency resource on new and emerging priority areas of work.*

The priorities have been developed in consideration of national priorities and development as well as learning from Rapid Reviews, audits of practice, priorities identified from the DSPP performance management data and audits and triangulation of findings from inspections, peer reviews and national research.

Priority 1: Neglect		
Theme	What will make a difference	How will we know we have reached our goal
Neglect	We will equip the multi-agency children’s and adult’s workforce in Dudley with a clear framework for assessment and action in cases of suspected and actual neglect.	Anyone who is at risk of harm as a result of neglect (including self-neglect) is identified, assessed and support is provided in a timely way to prevent harm. Analysis of data from the DSPP scorecard will assist us.
	We will seek assurance that the launch of the Graded Care Profile2 is adequately resourced and utilised.	The partnership will see an increase in the use of the GCP2 tool. Appropriate training will be given and support in a timely way. Analysis of the DSPP scorecard will confirm our progress
	We will ask Partners to provide evidence that Practitioners are increasingly skilled at identifying, assessing, and intervening in cases of neglect and self-neglect.	Partners can provide evidence that there is consistency in approach and quality, practitioners are increasingly skilled at identifying, assessing, preventing, and intervening in cases of neglect and self-neglect
	Seek feedback (directly and indirectly) from children and families and adults with care and support needs who are receiving services due to	Anyone accessing services will feed back that they are receiving the right services at the right time.

Priority 1: Neglect		
Theme	What will make a difference	How will we know we have reached our goal
	neglect and self-neglect concerns.	
	Review current training offer on neglect and self-neglect and embed multi-agency learning from findings of multi-agency neglect audit work across the partnership.	The partnership will be better informed of the impact of neglect and self-neglect and what we have found in the borough.
	We will audit multi-agency practice in relation to neglect and self-neglect	Audit activity through the MASH on referral conversion rates will show an improvement in recognition of neglect and self-neglect. Reduction of re-referral rates.
	We will seek assurance that there is a common recognition of neglect and self-neglect throughout the partnership at a practice level.	Practitioners will be able to demonstrate their recognition of neglect and self-neglect through their case work and supervision (where applicable)
Impact of COVID19	Better understand the impact that Covid-19 has had for children and families where neglect is a feature.	Having identified the extent and range of neglect in the borough this information will be used to improve practice. Strategic and operational practice will be well co-ordinated, and evidence based.

Priority 2: Exploitation		
Theme	What will make a difference	How will we know we have reached our goal
Exploitation	Develop and embed all age safeguarding resources and training for professionals so they are confident in their use.	Children and adults feel safe professionals are well supported by the partnership to tackle issues. Exploitation data is focussed on within the DSPP dataset.
	There is a co-ordinated and well understood response to extra-familial harm that supports young people	All agencies will recognise and intervene at those 'reachable moments' (point of arrests/A&E/edge of school exclusion/family group conferencing) which will be evident through case audit.
	We will work to increase our understanding of these risks across all agencies. We will	There will be a strategy that recognises and responds to the needs of children and

Priority 2: Exploitation		
Theme	What will make a difference	How will we know we have reached our goal
	develop an All-Age exploitation strategy	support a seamless transition from children's services to adults. There is a shared language between children and adult professionals and a consistent understanding of exploitation safeguarding across the workforce
	There is a joined up and coordinated response to a range of risks including exploitation, serious youth violence, knife crime, peer on peer abuse, harmful sexual behaviour and online forms of harm, financial abuse, and modern slavery	Professionals will be supported in their work with practical, applicable tools and information to assess risk and need
	Support a public awareness campaign to alert communities to the risks of child and adult exploitation	The community will know the signs and how to report concerns for children and adults at risk of exploitation and there will be an increase in community referrals.
	Ensure a pro-active and multi-agency approach to training and changes in legislation and policy to ensure practitioners are equipped to deal with and prevent exploitation and risk	There is a clear and effective process for managing change with an underpinning evidence framework e.g. Liberty Protection safeguards.
Impact of COVID19	Better understand, and be responsive to, the impact that Covid-19 has had for children and adults in the context of safeguarding.	Having identified the extent and range of exploitation in the borough this information will be used to improve practice. Strategic and operational practice will be well co-ordinated, and evidence based.

Priority 3: Think Family (Year 1)		
Theme	What will make a difference	How will we know we have reached our goal
Think Family: Preparing for Adulthood	Review transitional safeguarding arrangements	Practitioners across Children's and Adults Services have a clearer understanding of current procedures. Areas of improvement identified jointly.

Priority 3: Think Family (Year 1)		
Theme	What will make a difference	How will we know we have reached our goal
		Plan for future development created
	Support effective transition on all services including SEND, child looked after (and previously looked after), children in youth justice system, mental health and young adults at risk of exploitation	To have implemented an effective policy that is utilised and understood by frontline practice
Think Family: Including transitional need of Special Educational Needs, Children who are looked after/previously looked after, children who enter the youth justice system and all -age disabilities.*	Website to include a more detailed page dedicated to safeguarding these identified groups	Front line staff have an increased awareness. Practitioners report they feel confident in knowing where families can access support.
	Development of a joint working protocol with Children and Adult Learning Disabilities Service for assessing parents with learning disabilities	Children's Social Care will appropriately involve Adults Services when working with parents who have a learning disability.
	Complete a learning needs analysis and implement training as necessary for all practitioners	Improved level of skills and knowledge of practitioners to enable them to recognise and respond to needs and effectively safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults
Think Family: Emotional Health and Wellbeing	Upskilling the children's and adult's workforce and those in the Voluntary, Community Sector around children and Mental Health	We will have a confident, competent workforce working to the same procedures. Workforce is better equipped to understand and work to LPS (Liberty Protection Safeguards) legislation
	Examine the arrangements for, and effectiveness of work to improve the emotional wellbeing and mental health of adults with care and support needs, vulnerable children, those on the edge of care and Cared for Children.	Development of a multi-agency approach to support Children living with mental health issues from vulnerable backgrounds and adults with care and support needs and where safeguarding concerns have been identified. To build on existing and emerging Mental health pathways to

Priority 3: Think Family (Year 1)		
Theme	What will make a difference	How will we know we have reached our goal
		ensure a comprehensive and responsive offer of support is available for children and adults identified.
Impact of COVID19	Better understand, and be responsive to, the impact that Covid-19 has had for children and adults in the context of safeguarding.	Strategic and operational practice will be well co-ordinated, and evidence based.

**This is not an exhaustive list, and we recognise there are other groups of vulnerable children and adults who will need support.*

How we will know the Strategic Business Plan is successful

Progress against the plan will be routinely reviewed and monitored by the DSPP Executive. Where necessary and appropriate, they will address any areas of concern for further action. The Safeguarding Partnership will also seek and share good practice across all agencies.