

Summer
2023

ISLE OF WIGHT SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP (IOWSCP)



Safeguarding Children

To report safeguarding concerns please complete the [Inter-Agency Referral Form \(IARF\)](#). In an emergency please call the Police on 999.

The [Isle of Wight Thresholds Chart](#) helps identify the risks and types of services a family may need. For urgent child protection enquiries, professionals can call 0300 300 0901 (0300 555 1373 out of hours). Complete a [CPI form \(Community Partnership Information\)](#) to share non-urgent information with the Police.

Partnership Board meeting - 20th July 2023 - Key headlines

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary presented to members a number of agenda items: the outcome of their recent HMICFRS annual inspection; the Constabulary's response to the [Children's Commissioner report on the strip search of children](#); the operational change model and in particular how it affects the response to safeguarding and finally the Constabulary's response to the safeguarding children aspect of the [Baroness Casey review](#). The new Chief Constable, Scott Chilton, has set 3 new priorities for the force and will be setting these out in writing to partner agencies. Members discussed ethnicity and neurodivergent details in relation to strip searching and children being strip searched without an appropriate adult present. The Police were asked to explore the data around these areas for further discussion in the new year.

The Integrated Care Board presented to members on the proposed Looked After Children service changes. The ICB have been working with the IOW NHS Trust to develop a service specification which includes data collection on areas that will monitor the effects of this change of service. This is an area the Partnership will be monitoring closely.

Partnership Manager, Kelly Diamond, presented the quarter 3 and 4 2022-23 data report which is analysed at both the Performance and Quality Assurance Subgroup and Executive. Board members noted the areas showing improvement which included:

- ★ An increase in the number of early help assessments stepped down from Child in Need
- ★ Continued high percentage of child protection review conferences held in time
- ★ The percentage of Looked After Children that have health checks up to date and within timescales, which has returned to pre-covid levels
- ★ The percentage of care leavers aged 18+ who were in employment, education or training which remains above the target at 75%
- ★ A significant rise in the percentage of return conversations held for children who went missing
- ★ The average time from referral to assessment for CAMHS now being within the 4 week target
- ★ No admissions to A&E of children with self-harming behaviours

Members went on to discuss early help capacity, the number of children subject to child protection plans for neglect, successful recruitment drive at [Beaulieu House residential and respite service](#), partnership assisting to raise awareness and understanding of private fostering, an increase in the number of children with at least one fixed term exclusion from school, continued increase in the number of young carers, and increase in the number of children taken into police protection.

Lauren Wicks, Children's Social Care Service Manager, informed members of the resolution protocol which outlines the process an Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) would follow should they be concerned that a member of staff or agency were not fulfilling their actions or obligations to meet the needs of a looked after child. See below for more information.

Scott MacKechnie, IOWSCP Independent Chair and Scrutineer presented the [National Panel's Phase 2 report on Safeguarding children with disabilities and complex health needs in residential settings](#). He will be writing to the safeguarding partners to seek responses to some of the recommendations within the report and will bring this item to the next Executive meeting for discussion.

Kelly Diamond presented the results of the IOWSCP's safeguarding infants first phase evaluation which was conducted to assess how well the Abusive Head Trauma/ICON and Every Sleep Counts programmes were embedded within practice. The evaluation consisted of feedback from frontline practitioners and professional leads via two surveys, the outcomes of a multi-agency case file audit on the unborn/newborn baby safeguarding protocol undertaken in November 2022 and training evaluations. While there was good feedback on how the tools and messages are used with families, the results showed further work was needed to raise practitioners' awareness of these programmes and embed them into practice. The presentation included a number of recommendations on how this will be achieved.

Members discussed the ADHD provision on the Island, the significant waiting list and the fact referrals are not currently being accepted due to this, except for those from CAMHS, YOT and for children that are looked after. The IOW NHS Trust will be asked to include an update on this as part of their Project Fusion update at the October Board meeting. The ICB informed members they are working with other agencies to mitigate the risks and signpost families to other services. Barnardo's noted they have changed their pathway for parenting support to include something specific on ADHD and will be creating a new website around this. Councillor Debbie Andre has raised it with the health and wellbeing board.

Debbie Key, Strategic Partnership Manager, presented the main points from the [Government's review of Working together to Safeguard Children](#). The consultation seeking feedback from agencies closes on the 6th September and the Partnership will submit a combined response. The Partnership's Learning Inquiry Group have met to consider the changes to section 5 Learning from Serious Child Safeguarding Incidents.

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday 17th October 2023

Formal resolution practice / exceptional practice guidance

The resolution protocol is a process in the Independent Reviewing Service (IRO) that outlines the process an Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) would follow should they be concerned that a member of staff or agency were not fulfilling their actions or obligations to meet the needs of a looked after child. Children Services are reminding IROs that the protocol applies to other agencies as well and so wanted to inform partners so that they understand what happens if a resolution protocol is made to their agency/staff.

Underlying principles of the protocol:

- allow an opportunity to celebrate exceptional practice.
- assist in overcoming any barriers to success as expediently as possible.
- better evidence strong multi-agency partner (corporate parenting responsibility) working.
- offer learning opportunities about how to build on and improve existing good practice.
- evidence our commitment to achieving best and safest outcomes for the Children we serve.

The protocol in practice:

- In the case of celebrating exceptional practice, communication to all relevant agencies will take place including the IOWSCP to ensure opportunities for learning from what worked well are shared.
- For resolution of an issue, in most situations the IRO/CP chair will be involved in addressing the matter directly with the relevant practitioner or manager, but in some cases the Lead IRO may agree that it is more appropriate for a problem to be taken forward by the Team Manager or Service Manager separately with supporting information detailing the concerns provided by the IRO/CP chair.
- Issues of concern relating to another agency or service will be discussed with the Lead IRO who will consult with the Head of Performance before the other agency is contacted to agree the most appropriate action.
- The IRO/CP chair will decide the timescale in which the issue should be resolved and make this clear at each stage of the resolution process. The timescales should be realistic, but rigorous, and should guard against drift (no longer than 20 working days).
- In the instance of a Formal Resolution Protocol being initiated with another agency, this will be sent to the respective manager of that service with details of any attempts to resolve the matter informally. The response from the agency needs to be provided on the form issued in order to track resolution and to ensure appropriate escalation via management within the respective agencies.

We are pleased to share with you the
[Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership's Yearly Report for 2022-23.](#)

The report is published as part of the Partnership's statutory responsibilities under Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.

The report sets out what agencies have done to improve outcomes for children and their families, and how effective programmes of work have been in practice during 2022-23.



Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership

Business Plan Priorities for 2023-24

- **To implement the multi-agency HIPS Child Sexual Abuse Strategy**
 - ~ To develop a local delivery plan for the Child Sexual Abuse Strategy
 - ~ Establish a HSCP and IOWSCP task and finish group to maximise the use of the Centre for Expertise in Child Sexual Abuse signs and indicators template and their guide to communicating with children
 - ~ Undertake a thematic audit of child sexual abuse
 - ~ Develop a Child Sexual Abuse toolkit for parents/carers
 - ~ Promote child sexual abuse training across organisations
 - ~ Consider the findings from the section 157/175 audit regarding PHSE and RSE and delivery of an appropriate curriculum
 - ~ Update the HIPS child sexual abuse toolkit with latest resources and research
 - ~ Work to understand and receive assurance around potential child sexual exploitation hotspots from METRAC
- **To identify, understand and respond to vulnerable children with disrupted attendance**
 - ~ Undertake a thematic audit of children at risk of becoming persistent or severely absent, with a focus on vulnerable children
 - ~ To develop Hampshire and Isle of Wight Educational Neglect guidance that will form part of the HSCP and IOWSCP neglect toolkit
 - ~ Promote the developing HCC and IWC Attendance Strategy to build a collective awareness of multi-agency roles and responsibilities in supporting school and setting attendance for vulnerable children
- **To promote and embed the work of the partnership**
 - ~ Establish a safeguarding infants task and finish group to promote and embed a number of programmes
 - ~ Establish a joint HSCP and IOWSCP Communication and Development group to promote the use of joint programmes and toolkits and ensure they are reviewed and updated
 - ~ Create an IOWSCP communications plan that promotes IOWSCP priorities
 - ~ Create a compact section 11 report bespoke for community organisations and volunteer groups
 - ~ Continue developing IOWSCP website to make signposting clear and informative
 - ~ Create and launch a HIPS Child Exploitation toolkit for professionals and parents/carers

LOOKING AFTER SOMEONE ELSE'S CHILD?

If **you** are looking after someone else's child, or if someone else is looking after **your** child for 28 days or more, then this could be a private fostering arrangement and the law requires you to notify your local council about the arrangement. Information, support and advice can then be offered.

For more information please contact Hantsdirect:
Phone: 0300 300 0117
Email:
childrens.services@hants.gov.uk
www.iow.gov.uk/privatefostering



Private Fostering

Professionals are reminded to notify the IOW Council if they become aware of private fostering arrangements, and are asked to assist in raising awareness with parents/carers and colleagues that the law requires the local council to be informed where arrangements exist. The [IOW Council's Private Fostering poster](#) can be used by agencies to raise awareness.

What is private fostering

Private fostering is when a child or young person under the age of 16 years old (18 if they have a disability) is looked after for 28 days or more by someone who isn't a close relative, guardian, or person with parental responsibility. Close relatives include parents, step-parents, aunts, uncles and grandparents.

The Council need to be sure that the child is safe, happy and healthy and offer support, information and advice to the parent/carer as a private foster carer.

Tell the Council about a private foster care arrangement

This needs to happen at least **six weeks** before an intended private foster arrangement. However, if such an arrangement is made in an **emergency**, then Children's Services should be informed within **48 hours** of a child or young person being cared for.

For more information please contact Hantsdirect on 0300 300 0117 or email childrens.services@hants.gov.uk or visit [the Isle of Wight Council's Private Fostering webpage](#).

Why language matters: How the label 'older boyfriend' can mask child exploitation

The teenage years can be a time of big changes, confusion, experimentation, and growing independence. It's also a time when some teenagers start being interested in romantic and sexual relationships.

Although this is a [natural part of growing up](#), there are situations where an age difference or power imbalance within a relationship should be a warning sign to professionals of potential safeguarding concerns around child sexual exploitation.

[Read the Child sexual exploitation: learning from case reviews briefing](#)

If professionals use the term 'older boyfriend' without assessing the risk, they may be legitimising an exploitative relationship and minimising the risk of harm to the young person.

The NSPCC explores in this blog why language matters and how you can improve safeguarding and child protection practice with words.



STALKING AWARENESS AND STALKING ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT SERVICE OVERVIEW (LEVEL 1)

Following the launch of the new [Stalking Advocacy and Support service](#) Stop Domestic Abuse will be hosting two training sessions to cover stalking awareness and to provide Information on the new service.

OPCC WORKING WITH STOP DOMESTIC ABUSE

STALKING ADVOCACY & SUPPORT SERVICE

HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT

[Click here for more information and to book your place:](#)

Thursday 7th September, 10:00 -12:00 /
Thursday 14th September, 10:00 -12:00

Non-Fatal Strangulation

Non-fatal strangulation is a known way for perpetrators of domestic abuse to control and intimidate their victim. It is an insidious form of domestic abuse which recently became a standalone criminal offence in the [Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#). Despite the strong link between non-fatal strangulation and domestic homicide, it can be difficult to identify due to a lack of visible injury. It is vital that professionals understand non-fatal strangulation and the risk it poses.

SafeLives are working together with the Institute for Addressing Strangulation to develop and deliver training for a range of professionals who encounter victims and survivors of non-fatal strangulation.

The training sessions and webinars are aimed at those working in the Police, Crown Prosecution Service, Probation, Adult and Children's Social Care, IDVA services, ISVA services, and health services.

- Non Fatal Strangulation webinar for Heath Services: **Wednesday 13th September**
- Non Fatal Strangulation webinar for Social Care Services - **Monday 6th November**

If you are interested in attending either session, please complete the [expression of interest form](#).

INFORMATION SHARING -

CLARE'S LAW AND SARAH'S LAW

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary invite you to this short session delivered by Jim Dineen and Dee Hutchinson.

These training sessions are aimed at any front-line practitioners working with children and/or adults at risk.

This course will give you the confidence to know:

- When and how to share information with vulnerable members of the public about people in their life, for safeguarding reasons without the consent of the subject
- What the Data Protection Act says about sharing information without consent
- Clare's Law (DVDS) and Sarah's Law (CSODS) – the Right to Ask and the Right to Know
- Where to find government guidance about when and how to share this information appropriately
- The protections that exist for you if you share such Information without consent in an appropriate manner

These sessions will run on the following dates:

Thursday 14th September, 14:00-15:15:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Tuesday 12th December, 9:15-10:30:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

You only need to attend ONE session.

Me first: Helping health and care professionals communicate more effectively with children and young people

This **Me First** interactive training module promotes advanced communication skills. It provides a framework of knowledge that facilitates shared decision making and the developmentally appropriate, person-centred support of CYP during adolescence & emerging adulthood; before, during and after transfer of service provision (transition).

This 4-hour training course is part of the **Me first** training portfolio that supports health and social care staff across adult and children's services to have conversations with young people aged 12-25 about transitioning to adulthood and/or adult services with a medical/mental health condition.

All training and communication models are co-produced with young people, families and professionals and this course is recommended by the Burdett Trust who worked with Me first to develop this module. All training is delivered alongside young advisors who have lived experience of health care.

ME FIRST CONVERSATIONS ABOUT TRANSITION: HELPING TO BUILD SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE IN TACKLING CHALLENGING CONVERSATIONS

15th September, 9:30-13:30 via Zoom

(Please note there is a £50 charge for this course for staff external to GOSH).

Me first

Me first is an education and training resource that helps health and social care professionals to develop their knowledge, skills and confidence in communicating with children and young people. It does this by encouraging a child-centric mentality in staff, and by providing tools and advice to support this.

Great Ormond Street Hospital and Common Room Consulting have developed **Me first** in partnership with health and social care professionals and children and young people.

Me first offer themed training modules and resources co-designed by children and young people.



Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership Training

The IOWSCP provides an annual comprehensive training programme which is fully funded by the Safeguarding Partnership and available for all Isle of Wight Professionals from Partner and Relevant Agencies on the IOW. Our training programme is hosted on the Isle of Wight Council's Learning Hub and accessible via our [website](#). Additional e-learning and some children and adult social care safeguarding courses are also available on the Learning Hub. Our website also contains links to training provided by other agencies.

An introduction to children who go missing from home/care



It is known that children who go missing from home or care are at risk of suffering harm and there are specific risks around children running away and the risk of sexual exploitation.

[17th January 2024, 12pm-1pm via Microsoft Teams](#)

Level 2

An introduction to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) (HIPS Course)



This training will discuss the different types of Female Genital Mutilation and how to identify those at risk.

[20th September 2023, 9.30am-11am via Microsoft Teams](#)

[13th March, 9.30am-11am via Microsoft Teams](#)

Level 3 subject specific

An introduction to having Honest Conversations



This course is an introduction to navigating having honest conversations with parents/carers, children and other professionals in an understanding and accepting way.

[22nd November 2023, 1.30pm-3pm via Microsoft Teams](#)

[31st January 2024, 9.30am-11am via Microsoft Teams](#)

Level 3

An introduction to honour Based Abuse, Forced Marriage and Dowry (HIPS course)



This introductory course will help develop professional knowledge and seek to answer questions about what constitutes Honour Based Abuse and forced marriage.

[27th September 2023, 9.30am-11am via Microsoft Teams](#)

[20th March 2024, 9.30am-11am via Microsoft Teams](#)

Subject Specific Level 3

An introduction to the Child Exploitation Risk Assessment Framework (CERAF) (Level 2)

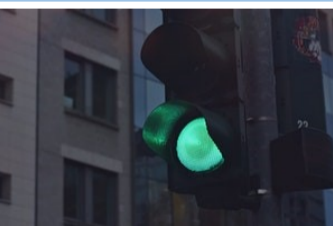


A practical session to support professionals with understanding the CERAF and observing best practice guidance when it is being completed.

[13th December 2023, 9.30am-11am via Microsoft Teams](#)

Level 2

Brooks Sexual Behaviour Traffic Light Tool

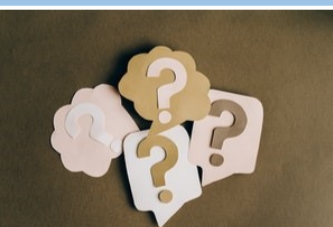


Brook's nationally recognised Sexual Behaviours Traffic Light Tool training provides a highly visible, multi-agency response that helps professionals to identify, understand and respond appropriately to sexual behaviours in young people.

[21st November 2023 9.30am-1pm via Zoom](#)

Level 3

Child Exploitation—As a health professional, what do I need to know?



Designed specifically for health practitioners, this training develops understanding and awareness of the different and evolving types of exploitation that children may experience and empowers health professionals to recognise and respond to any identified risk factors.

[17th January 2024, 9.30am-11am via Microsoft Teams](#)

Intercollegiate training level 3

Harmful Practices - An Introduction to Child Abuse Linked to Faith and Belief



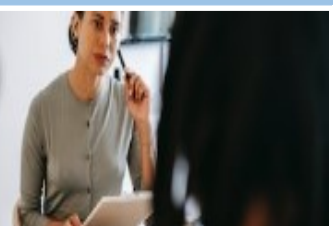
This training will help professionals to recognise and respond to situations where abuse linked to faith and belief is suspected.

[20th September 2023, 1.30pm-3pm via Microsoft Teams](#)

[13th March 2024, 1.30pm-3pm via Microsoft Teams](#)

Level 3

Information Sharing Learning (Clare's Law and Sarah's Law)



Learn when and how to share information with vulnerable members of the public about people in their life for safeguarding reasons

[6th June 2023, 9.15am-10.30am via Microsoft Teams](#)

As this is an information session no level is assigned to it.

The list of training courses continues

Missing, Exploited and Trafficked Children (MET)



This course is designed to create greater awareness of child exploitation.
[13th December 2023, 1.30pm-3pm via Microsoft Teams](#)
Level 3

Safeguarding Adolescents in Hampshire and on the Isle of Wight



This new webinar supports professionals in improving outcomes for children transitioning through this period, to safeguard them from psychological and physical harm
[11th October 2023, 1.30pm-3.30pm via Microsoft Teams](#)
[10th January 2024, 9.30am-11.30am via Microsoft Teams](#)
Level 3

Safeguarding Disabled Children, including children with a Learning Disability (HSCP & IOWSCP course)



This training will help employees and volunteers to understand how disabilities can impact children's lives, families and their care.
[6th September 2023, 1.30pm-3pm via Microsoft Teams](#)
[17th January 2024, 1.30pm-3pm via Microsoft Teams](#)
Level 3 subject specific

Understanding, identifying and responding to neglect



This course will guide Hampshire professionals through the HSCP and IOWSCP Neglect Strategy and Toolkit and enable them to transfer this knowledge into practice.
[4th October 2023, 9.30am-11am via Microsoft Teams](#)
[21st February 2024, 1.30pm-3pm via Microsoft Teams](#)
Level 2

Working Together to Safeguard Children



This course is particularly relevant for professionals who potentially contribute to assessing, planning, intervening and/or evaluating the needs of children or a young person. This course consists of a pre-course workbook and a full-day face-to-face session.
****Applicants must have completed Level 2 training and be working confidently at this level to be suitable****
[3rd October 2023, 9.30am-4pm, Hunnyhill Room, Riverside Centre, Newport](#)
Level 3

CPI Form (Community Partnership Information) Guide

The [CPI information guide](#) explains what the CPI form is, how to use it, what happens with the information provided through it and what to do if you are concerned about sharing information. The CPI form itself can be found on the [Hampshire and IOW Police Safe4me website](#)

MAPPA 1 Minute Guide
(Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements)

This [1 minute guide](#) will explain what MAPPA is, why it is important, how it is conducted and frequently asked questions.
The guide can also be found on our [IOW Resources webpage](#)

In October, the partnership will be celebrating **SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN WEEK**. Throughout the week there will be a focus on safeguarding in the wider community, the launch of the HIPS Child Exploitation toolkit, training together, safeguarding infants and support for parents and carers



In Development: Toolkits coming soon!

The Partnerships across HIPS have been busy developing new toolkits for children, parents/carers and professionals and work will start in the autumn on a child-on-child abuse toolkit. Due to be released in the autumn are:

For professionals:



Child Exploitation

For professionals:



Safeguarding Infants

For parents/carers:



Child Sexual Abuse

For children/young people:



Safeguarding Adolescents