

# Public Document Pack



Monitor Officer  
**Christopher Potter**

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## Agenda

Name of meeting	<b>POLICY AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES, EDUCATION AND SKILLS</b>
Date	<b>THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER 2022</b>
Time	<b>5.00 PM</b>
Venue	<b>COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT</b>
Members of the committee	Cllrs R Quigley (Chairman), J Lever (Vice-Chairman), D Adams, R Downer, S Ellis, S Hendry and T Outlaw

Democratic Services Officer: Sarah Philipsborn  
democratic.services@iow.gov.uk

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### 1. **Apologies and Changes in Membership ( If Any )**

To note any changes in membership of the Committee made in accordance with Part 4B paragraph 5 of the Constitution.

### 2. **Minutes** (Pages 7 - 12)

To confirm as a true record the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2022.

### 3. **Declarations of Interest**

To invite Members to declare any interest they might have in the matters on the agenda.



Details of this and other Council committee meetings can be viewed on the Isle of Wight Council's Committee [website](#). This information may be available in alternative formats on request. Please note the meeting will be audio recorded and the recording will be placed on the website (except any part of the meeting from which the press and public are excluded). Young people are welcome to attend Council meetings however parents/carers should be aware that the public gallery is not a supervised area.

4. **Public Question Time - 15 Minutes Maximum**

Questions may be asked without notice but to guarantee a full reply at the meeting, a question must be put including the name and address of the questioner by delivery in writing or by electronic mail to Democratic Services at [democratic.services@iow.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@iow.gov.uk), no later than two clear working days before the start of the meeting. Therefore the deadline for written questions will be 28 November 2022.

Members of the public are invited to make representations to the Committee regarding its workplan, either in writing at any time or at a meeting under this item.

5. **Progress on outcomes and recommendations from previous meetings**  
(Pages 13 - 14)

The Chairman to report on progress with actions agreed at previous meetings

6. **Performance and Budget** (Pages 15 - 28)

To consider current performance trends and budget for 2022/23

7. **Child Protection**

a) IW Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Report (Pages 29 - 76)

The IWSCP Independent Chairman, Derek Benson to present the Annual Report

b) Role of the Police in Child Protection

HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services recently published its National Child Protection Inspection Post Inspection Review of Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary. This highlighted the work of the Police in child protection. Detective Superintendent Mandy Horsburgh, Head of Public Protection and Safeguarding for Hampshire and Isle of Wight Police, will outline the role of the Police in child protection, the processes in place for partnership working, and how Local Authority Councillors can assist.

8. **Youth Offending** (Pages 77 - 86)

To consider a report on the work of the Youth Offending Team

9. **Committee's Work Plan** (Pages 87 - 90)

To consider any amendments to the committee's current workplan.

10. **Members' Question Time**

To guarantee a reply to a question, a question must be submitted in writing or by electronic mail to [democratic.services@iow.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@iow.gov.uk) no later than 5pm on Tuesday, 29 November 2022. A question may be asked at the meeting without prior notice but in these circumstances, there is no guarantee that a full reply will be given at the meeting.

CHRISTOPHER POTTER  
Monitoring Officer  
Wednesday, 23 November 2022

## Interests

If there is a matter on this agenda which may relate to an interest you or your partner or spouse has or one you have disclosed in your register of interests, you must declare your interest before the matter is discussed or when your interest becomes apparent. If the matter relates to an interest in your register of pecuniary interests then you must take no part in its consideration and you must leave the room for that item. Should you wish to participate as a member of the public to express your views where public speaking is allowed under the Council's normal procedures, then you will need to seek a dispensation to do so. Dispensations are considered by the Monitoring Officer following the submission of a written request. Dispensations may take up to 2 weeks to be granted.

Members are reminded that it is a requirement of the Code of Conduct that they should also keep their written Register of Interests up to date. Any changes to the interests recorded on that form should be made as soon as reasonably practicable, and within 28 days of the change. A change would be necessary if, for example, your employment changes, you move house or acquire any new property or land.

If you require more guidance on the Code of Conduct or are unsure whether you need to record an interest on the written register you should take advice from the Monitoring Officer – Christopher Potter on (01983) 821000, email [christopher.potter@iow.gov.uk](mailto:christopher.potter@iow.gov.uk), or Deputy Monitoring Officer - Justin Thorne on (01983) 821000, email [justin.thorne@iow.gov.uk](mailto:justin.thorne@iow.gov.uk).

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If you wish to record, film or photograph the council meeting or if you believe that being filmed or recorded would pose a risk to the safety of you or others then please speak with the democratic services officer prior to that start of the meeting. Their contact details are on the agenda papers.

If the press and public are excluded for part of a meeting because confidential or exempt information is likely to be disclosed, there is no right to record that part of the meeting. All recording and filming equipment must be removed from the meeting room when the public and press are excluded.

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## Minutes

Name of meeting	<b>POLICY AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES, EDUCATION AND SKILLS</b>
Date and Time	<b>THURSDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2022 COMMENCING AT 5.00 PM</b>
Venue	<b>COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT</b>
Present	Cllrs R Quigley (Chairman) D Adams, D Andre, C Critchison, S. Hendry, J Medland, M Oliver, T Outlaw and Rob Sanders
Also Present	Carla Bradshaw, Peter Colenutt, Lizzie Grainger, Jayne Howarth, Ashley Jefferies, Jade Kennett, Sarah Philipsborn, Simon Richards Maggie Sanderson, Caroline Sice, Natalie Smith, Suzanne Smith Paul Thistlewood, Richard Vaughan and Melanie White
Also Present (Virtual)	Steve Crocker
Apologies	Cllrs R Downer, S Ellis and J Lever

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### 12. **Minutes**

RESOLVED:

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2022 be approved.

### 13. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Hendry declared that he was a School Governor for Holy Cross and Queensgate Primary Schools.

Councillor Oliver declared that he was a School Governor for St George's School.

### 14. **Public Question Time - 15 Minutes Maximum**

No public questions were received.

### 15. **Progress on outcomes and recommendations from previous meetings**

The Chairman advised that the Scrutiny Officer was chasing up any outstanding actions.

## 16. **School Place Planning**

Representatives of Headteachers from the Isle of Wight Primary Schools made a submission following the circulation of an open letter to the Committee which highlighted the issue of school place planning and its impact upon the education of children.

A representative of Primary Chairs of Governors then made a submission following the circulation of an open letter to the Committee on Pupil Place Planning and the impact of over-sufficiency of primary school places. It concluded that a more strategic long-term vision was needed from elected members.

The Assistant Director Strategic Development and Capital Delivery, Children's Services presented a report to the committee on School Places.

The report covered the background of the school system and the current situation regarding pupil place planning. The report looked at the methodology behind forecasting school places and how the Isle of Wight was broken down into more localised education planning areas for the purpose of school place planning.

The report specified that school place planning decisions could not be explicitly based around meeting parental preference as school's popularity changed over time and to follow such trends would ultimately lead to a lack of choice for parents and a longer term insufficiency of school places.

The Education White Paper currently contained the aspiration that all schools should be part of a multi-academy trust or planning to join a multi-academy trust, by 2030. The funding regime for schools in a multi-academy trust was however, to remain the same as for any other maintained school on the Isle of Wight.

The planning area review was detailed for both primary and secondary covering the Cowes, Cowes East, Newport, Ryde, Sandown, Shanklin and Ventnor and West Wight. It was explained that many of the primary schools had proactively reviewed their PANs and had made amendments to meet need.

The report concluded that a more radical reorganisation was needed to take place with school amalgamations and closures being part of the solution, and that Headteachers and Governor's had expressed their frustrations that the Council was over-relying on PAN reductions as the main strategy.

Questions were raised by Councillors regarding the over surplus of primary school places and the urgent need to address the issue that some schools may need to close.

It was acknowledged by the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Lifelong Skills, that continually reducing the PAN was not a long-term fix and that there needed to be a strategic approach to deal with the situation. The Cabinet Member



expressed her willingness to take the issue back to the Cabinet for further discussion.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills be requested to submit the report on school place planning, together with the statements from Isle of Wight Primary Headteachers and Primary Chairs of Governors, to Cabinet for consideration and identification of options regarding the future provision of primary education on the Island.

#### 17. **Children's Services Annual Report on Complaints and Representations**

The Annual Complaints Report was presented, and its purpose was to serve as the mechanism by which the Isle of Wight Council's Children's Services Department could be kept informed about the operation and effectiveness of its complaints procedure. The report covered the period from 01 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

The key findings of the report highlighted the number of representations and by how much they had increased. The trajectories of complaints were logged, whether they were statutory complaints, and the number that became formal complaints. The average time taken to investigate complaints was also noted, along with any increases in timeframes.

It was explained that improvements had been made by reducing the number of complaints that were escalated. It was explained that these reductions were enabled by actions taken without the need to rely on senior managers.

Five recommendations were made in the report for actioning by the Complaints Team within the Directorate and for the wider department to implement or monitor, as appropriate, during the 2022/23 reporting period.

A progress update was given on the 2020/21 and 2021/22 recommendations.

The Committee congratulated the Complaints Team on the handling of complaints during the year.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Annual Report on the Complaints and Representations 2021/22 be noted

18. **Schools White Paper - Opportunity for All - Strong Schools with Great Teachers for your Child**

A power point presentation was given by the County Education Manager, briefing the committee on the Government White paper which outlined the ways forward in opportunity for all, strengthening schools and teacher development.

The impetus behind improving teaching, included 500,000 teacher training opportunities by 2024 with a starting salary of £30,000

A longer average mainstream school week of a minimum of 32.5 hours was being proposed with support for schools to improve attendance, behaviour and wellbeing.

Additional support for some children was prominent in the white paper along with the establishment of a register for children not in school.

It was noted that the Isle of Wight was a leader in contact being made with home educating families.

The expectation for all schools to join, or have a plan to join, a multi-academy trust, featured in the white paper along with the strengthening of Local Authority powers in place planning, admissions, and championing the interests of children, especially vulnerable children.

The position of the Government on progressing elements of the White Paper was awaited following the changes in national political leadership.

RESOLVED:

- THAT the report be noted.

19. **Green Paper SEND review - Right Support, Right Place, Right Time**

The Green paper outlined the challenges facing Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and ways forward on how to address them. Consideration was given to a power point presentation highlighting the key issues contained with the consultation exercise. The consultation period for the paper closed in July and the Government's response to comments was awaited.

RESOLVED:

THAT the report be noted.

20. **Committee's Work Plan**

No additional items for inclusion in the workplan were identified.

21. **Members' Question Time**

There were no members questions

CHAIRMAN

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## Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Children's Services, Education & Skills Scrutiny Committee - Progress on Actions & Outcomes

Meeting Date	Agreed Action	Responsibility	Update	Actioned
<b>Outstanding Actions</b>				
17 June 2021	<b>Performance and Budget Update</b> THAT arrangements be made for members of the Committee to visit to the Multi Agency Service Hub (Mash).		An e-mail has gone to all councillors but no direct interest has been received.	
	<b>Young Carers Support</b> THAT the draft Isle of Wight Carers Strategy following a review be submitted to the Committee for comment before formal approval is given by the Cabinet.		A date is still awaited when a report on the review will be available for the Committee to consider.	
9 December 2021	<b>Committee's Work Plan</b> Reports on school exclusions, school governor recruitment and retention, social worker recruitment and retention, and elective home education, would be added to the workplan with the dates and timings to be confirmed after the meeting.		A date to be finalised for the inclusion of a report on social worker recruitment and retention	
9 June 2022	<b>School Governor Recruitment and Retention</b> The Cabinet Member indicated that it was proposed to undertake a recruitment drive in the local media. Details were still being finalised and these would be circulated to the Committee in due course.		Details still to be circulated.	

1 September 2022	<b>School Place Planning</b> Submit the report on school place planning, together with the statements from Isle of Wight Primary Headteachers and Primary Chairs of Governors, to Cabinet for consideration and identification of options regarding the future provision of primary education on the Island.	Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills	Report has not been submitted to Cabinet	
<b>Actions Completed (Since Last Meeting)</b>				
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# Children's Services Performance Quarter Two 2022/2023

Steve Crocker, Director Children's Services

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Agenda Item 6

# C&F Headlines

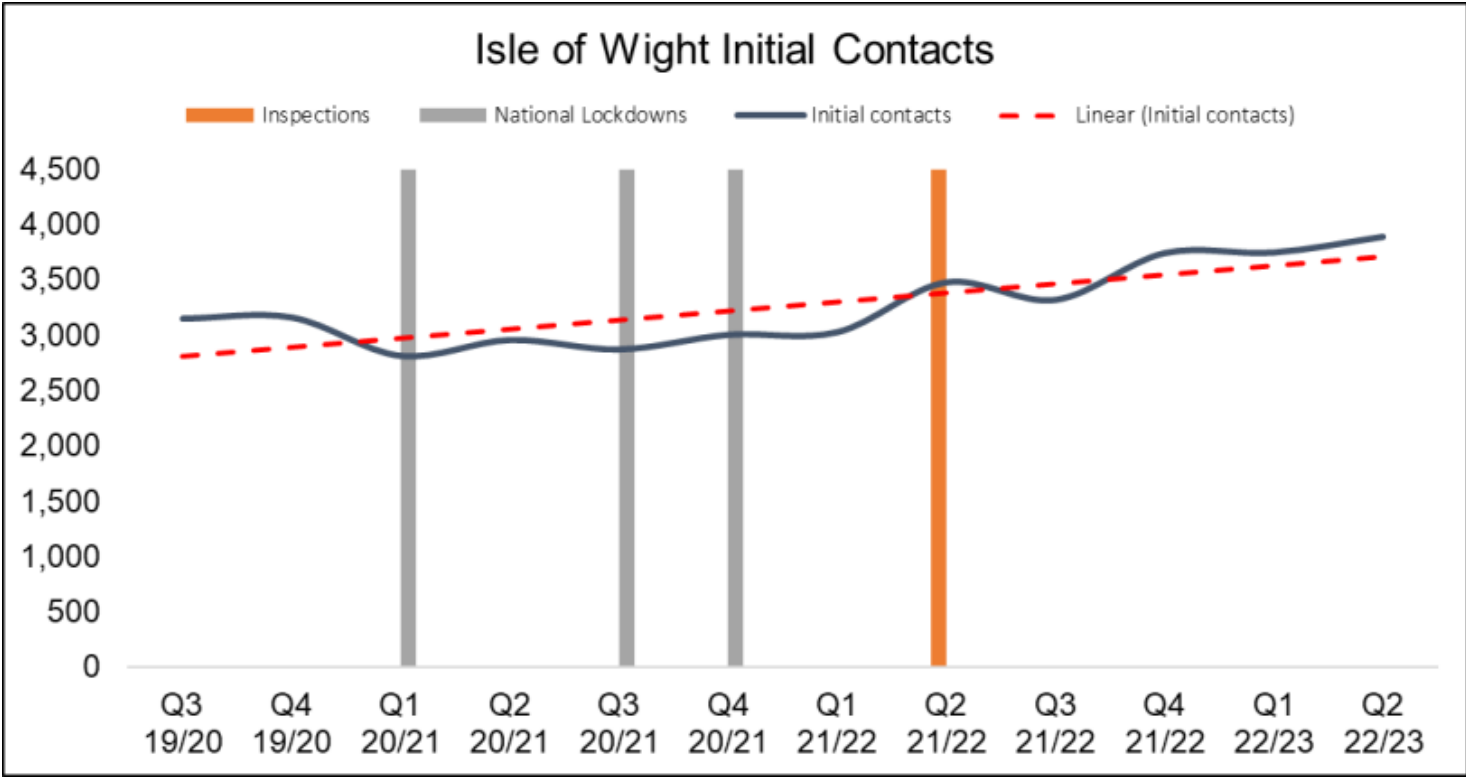
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- Demand continues to rise across social care and early help, but good performance remains consistent.
- We are developing a senior social worker role in our CASTs for career progression and retention.
- We will implement the Care Review starting with the development of Family Help and recruitment of Family Practitioners.
- We will look to change our operating model in line with the care Review recommendations.

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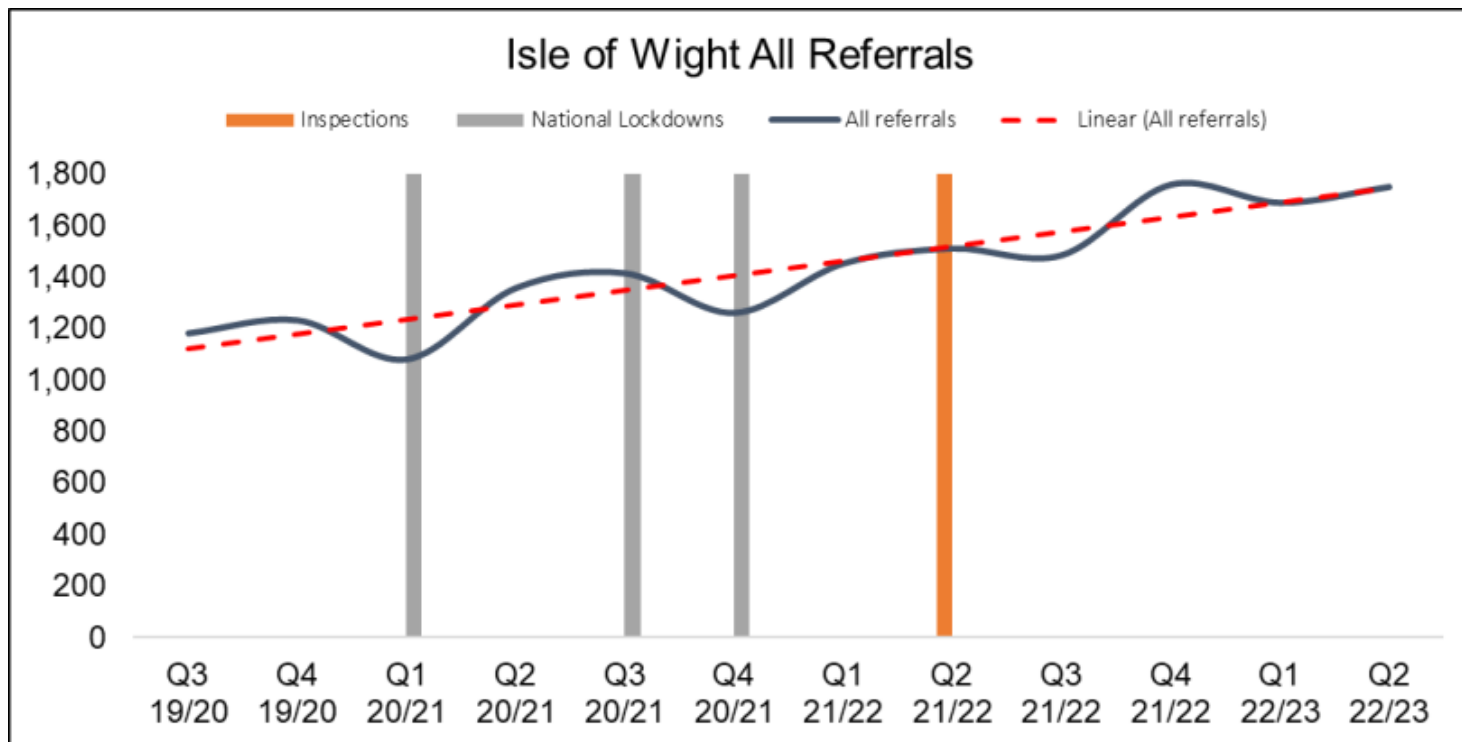


# Performance – Contacts

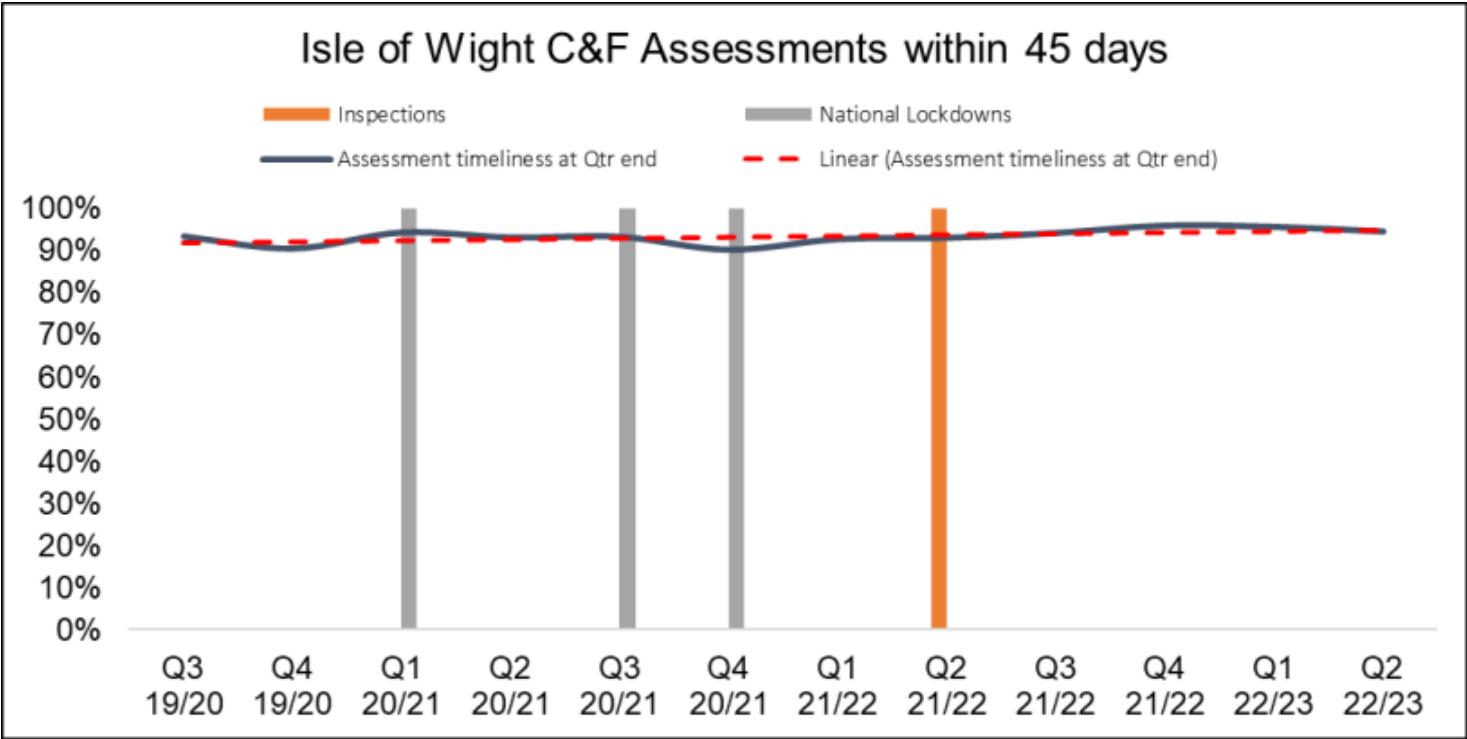


# Performance - Referrals

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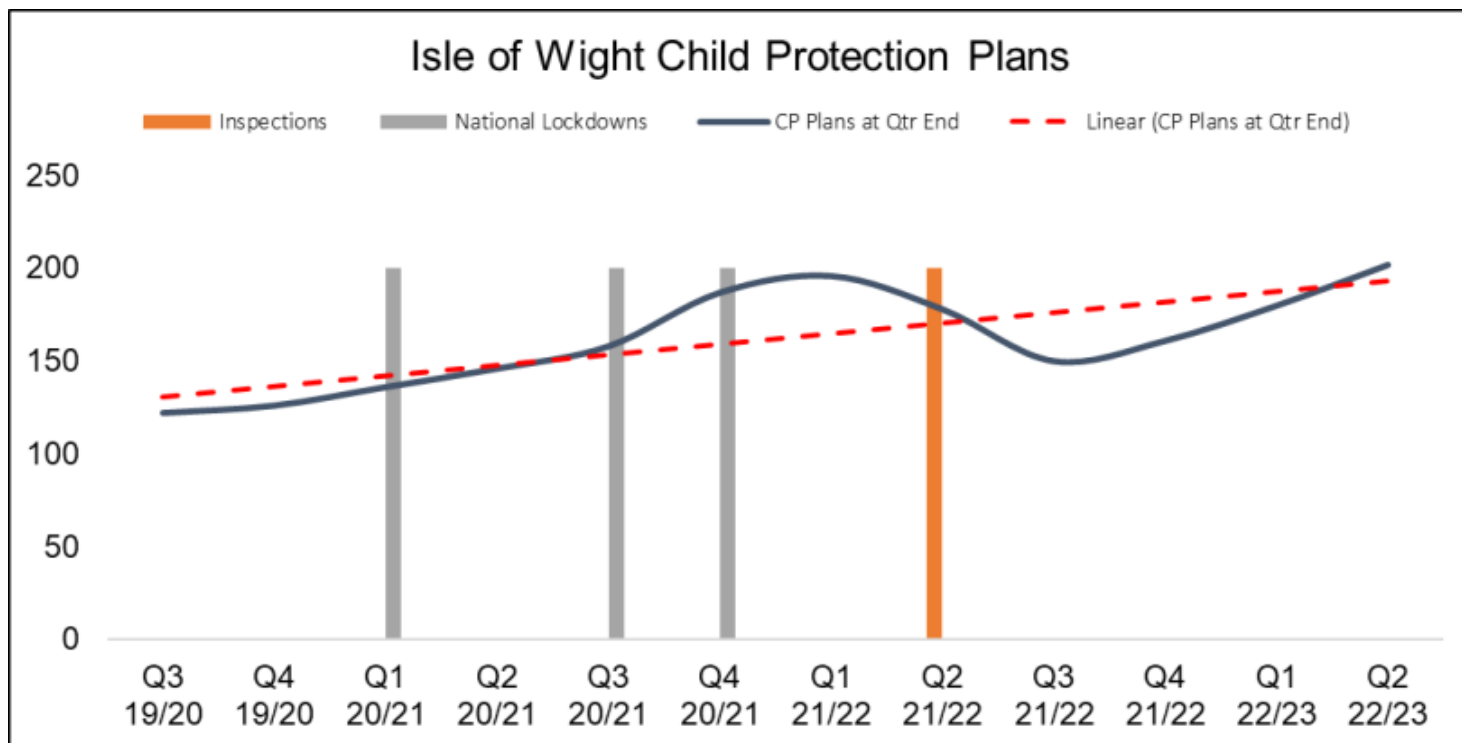


# Performance- timely response



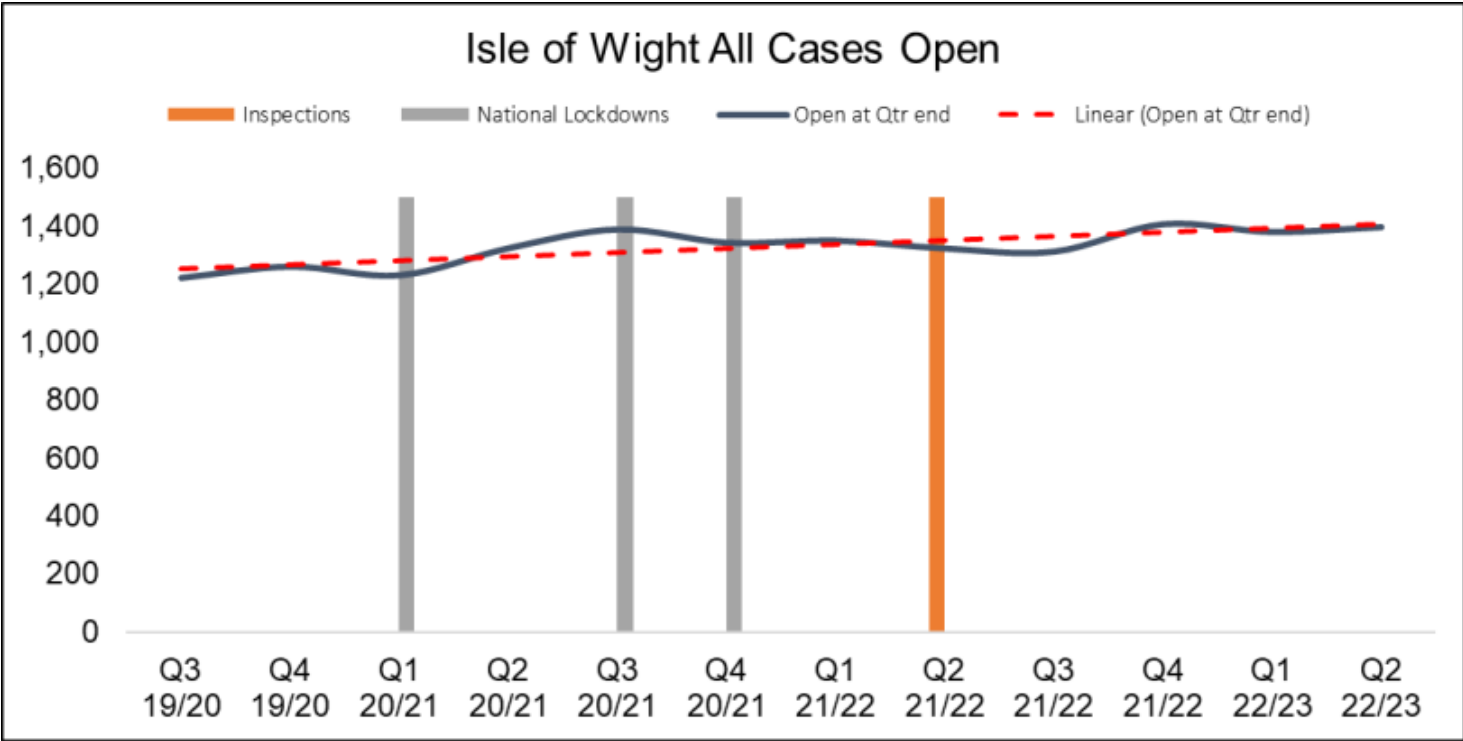
# Children subject to child protection planning

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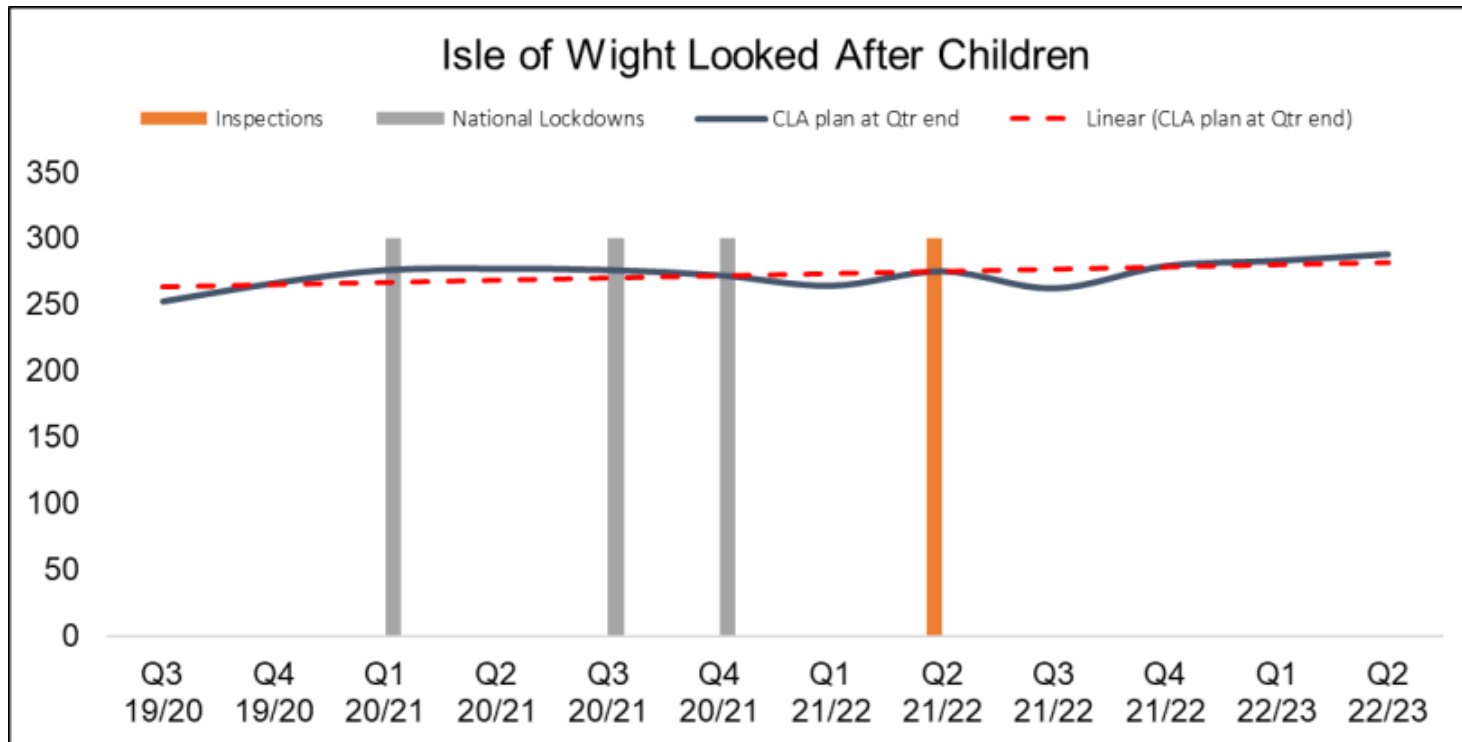
# Children in need

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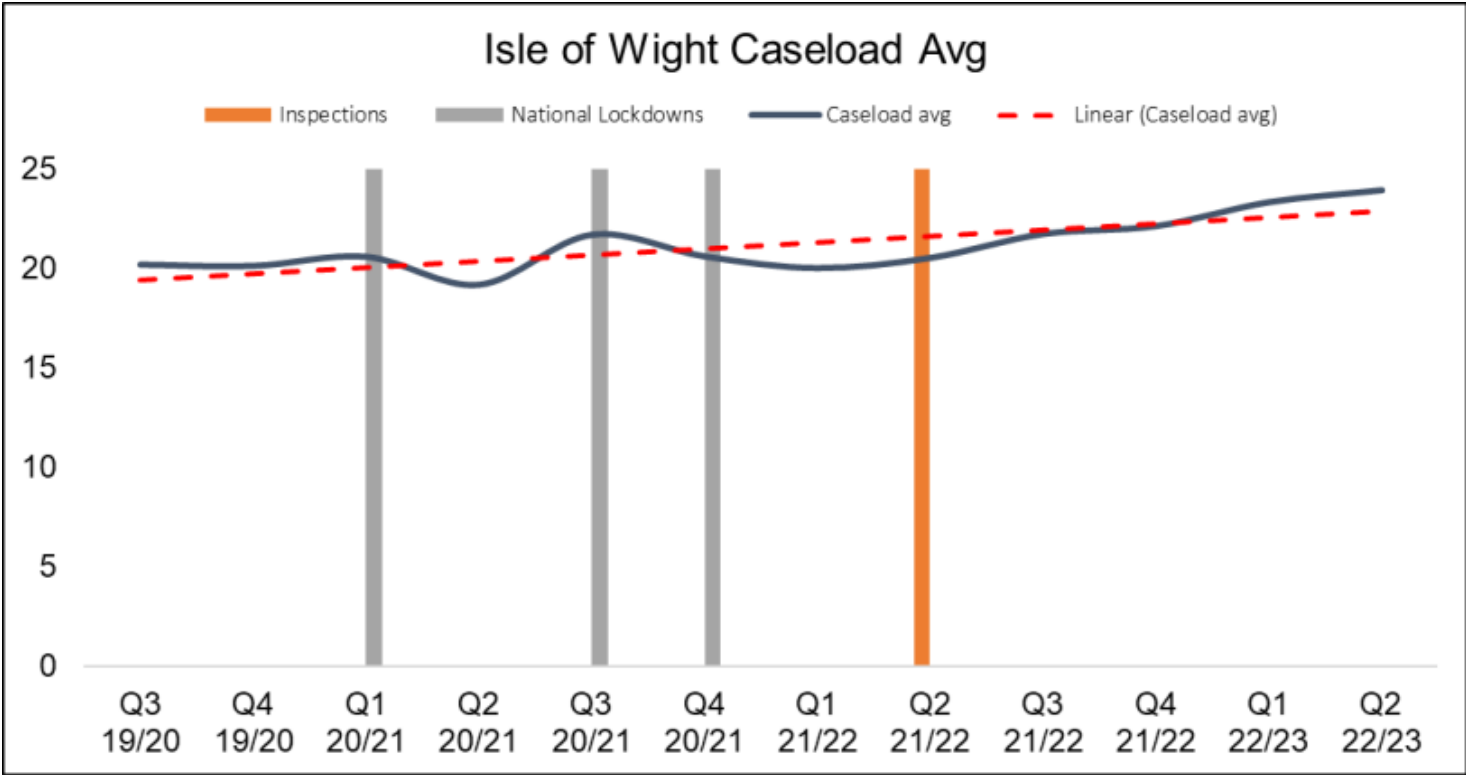


# Looked After Children (LAC)

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# Performance - Caseloads



# Quality Assurance

- Case file auditing undertaken every month by ATMs, TMs, SMs and CFMT.
- In quarter two, 34 casefile audits were undertaken.
- Evidence of practitioner analysis which influences decision making in 94% of cases.
- Evidence that the assessment has informed the intervention/plan in 94% and evidence of positive outcomes as a result of this for the child/young person in 88% of cases.
- Case summaries reflect progress and positive changes for the child/young person in line with the assessment and plan in 75% of cases.
- There is evidence of management decisions in 91% of cases with decisions evidencing appropriate direction in the case to protect and improve outcomes for the child/young person.



# Children in Care

- There were 270 children in the care of the Isle of Wight local authority at end of Q2, a reduction from 285 in August 2022 alone.
- With improved practice, the introduction of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Approach, RAFT delivering multi-agency support to priority cohorts it had been anticipated that there would be a gradual reduction of children on a child protection plan and then CIC.
- There is a shortage of skilled foster carers available on the island and residential and school provision on the island is limited. There is work being undertaken to try to improve the foster care and residential care provision to children on the island.
- Despite the challenges in finding placements for children the number of children with three or more moves has decreased. reduces the need for placement moves. There is good work between the placement team, fostering and children's teams to enable matches to be strong.

## Challenges around placements and supported accommodation due to increased demand

The Isle of Wight developed a commissioning framework for supported accommodation for young people in care aged 16/17 years and for care experienced young people.

This is called Pathways to Independent Adulthood and was developed with young people as an action from the Corporate Parenting Board.

Current challenge is the providers are meeting the needs of young people to be ready to move on to independent living. However, due to the lack of available and affordable accommodation, young people remain in supported accommodation meaning other young people cannot step down from residential or foster care into supported accommodation.

# Challenges around placements and supported accommodation due to increased demand

## Financial cost is significant.

Residential and Secure Placement Forecast Outturn = £6.7M

Purchased Fostering (IFA) = £2M

Supported Accommodation = £1.4M

Total = £10.1M

The Pathways Framework has 25 units spread over 5 providers.

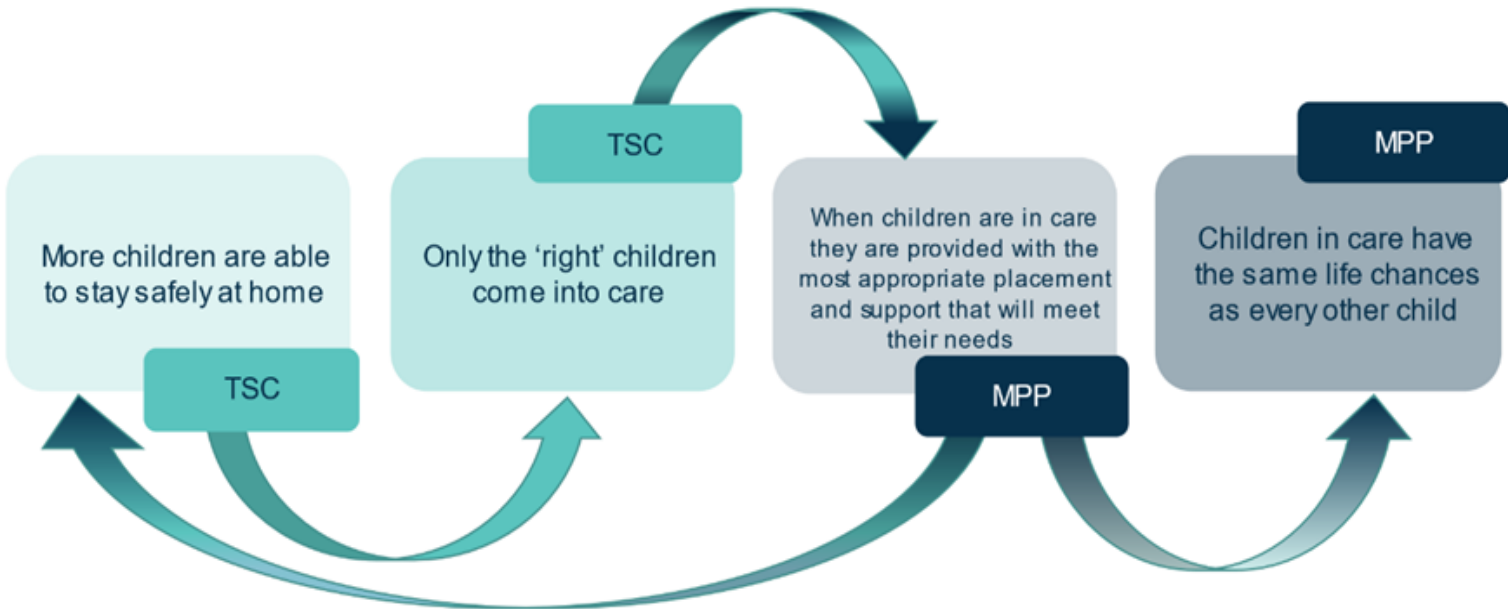
At the end of the period IOW have 15 children aged 16/17 years old in supported accommodation.

12 of these are on the Isle of Wight and with contracted providers who have provided evidence of their eligibility as part of the tender process.

# Modernising Placements Programme

MPP is a transformational programme within Children's Services, which started in October 2019, part of which is to increase the number, choice and quality of homes for children in care to live, though we continue to face many challenges. The Isle of Wight is benefiting from the experience of Hampshire who are delivering MPP for the Isle of Wight.

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# Yearly Report 2021-22



## FOREWORD

"It is my pleasure to introduce the Yearly Report for the Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership for 2021/22.

The year was to a significant degree still shaped by the Covid Pandemic and partner agencies continued to face additional challenges as a result. But it is to the credit of those professionals from across the Partnership that they kept safeguarding to the forefront of their thinking, actively promoting the wellbeing of children and young people and maintaining an effective line of sight to those children and families who are often among our most vulnerable.

Senior leaders from the statutory Safeguarding Partners remained visible and engaged, and anyone reading this report can be assured that they, and colleagues from a wide range of organisations including our Island Schools and Early Years Settings, continued to drive improvements and act as the strongest of advocates for the Island's children.

Our priorities reflect the issues facing children and their families; neglect, sexual abuse, exploitation and exclusion from education, with a focus on adolescents and the impact of our collective activity.

I hope you agree that safeguarding must remain a priority for all of us, and that together we maintain a resolute focus on the wellbeing and development of our children and young people"



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Derek Benson'.

Derek Benson, Independent Chair



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# The Partnership

## THE YEARLY REPORT

This Yearly Report is published as part of the Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership's (IOWSCP) statutory responsibilities under Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, and provides evidence of how effective multi-agency safeguarding arrangements have been at safeguarding Isle of Wight (IOW) children, with a focus on impact, evidence, assurance, and learning. It draws on information collected from the activity of subgroups, training evaluations, learning from multi-agency case reviews and audits, as well as assurance and monitoring activity.

Our vision is to protect children from harm and the risk of being harmed and support their recovery from harmful situations. The IOWSCP continues to develop and improve services through effective safeguarding, learning and development.

## RESPONDING TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

**Public Health** led the Covid Pandemic response, considering national guidance and how it might impact on safeguarding Isle of Wight children, including the lockdown guidance for domestic abuse situations and the prioritisations for face-to-face mandated contacts within Public Health Nursing services.

Public Health commissioners held weekly meetings with providers and used national guidance to maintain consistent approaches for all settings to ensure Covid security for service users and staff, balancing it with safeguarding needs of children and families.

Public Health continued to support education settings with their risk assessments and Covid security, enabling them to remain open and accessible for vulnerable children.

They also led a commissioning 'recovery' group enabling commissioned services to use contract variations during Covid to reassess priorities, which required some redeployment of staff and ensured effective risk assessment and safety planning.

**All Agencies** continued to innovate and remain flexible in their service-delivery methods and engaged children and families through digital solutions and other safe working practices, maintaining engagement and 'eyes on' vulnerable children. Safeguarding concerns continued to be reported to the Children's Reception Team (CRT) and Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) that resulted

from doorstep or virtual service delivery to families. Agencies have adapted recruitment and induction processes, using video platforms and a hybrid approach to inductions, with some assigning buddies to new starters to provide remote peer support.

**The Hampshire, Southampton and IOW Clinical Commissioning Group (HSIOWCCG)** maintained regular contact with service providers, primary care and wider teams and regular safeguarding newsletters were shared across teams with information about support services for children and families. A number of staff were redeployed to support the NHS Trust and the vaccination centres, but the CCG Safeguarding and Quality Team continued to meet regularly (sometimes daily) to ensure risks and concerns were regularly discussed and reviewed.

**The Probation Service** was aware of increased risks of domestic abuse, particularly in lockdown periods and ensured robust information sharing was in place. They used doorstep monitoring and had more liaison with partner agencies and developed revised risk management plans.

**The Voluntary Sector** was supported in its work via 26 community hubs in place across the IOW ensuring food and medication reached families, as well as laptops and tablets for children to use for remote learning. Information and support with housing, employment, and mental health issues were provided. Over 1,000 children were supported during the year via voluntary organisations which included The IOW Youth Trust, Food Bank, Trussel Trust, and the Storeroom.



**Barnardo's** saw an increase in financial issues in families with both parental conflict and anxiety in children.

**Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Service** rolled out bespoke Covid safeguarding training to support their organisational awareness of the effects of the Pandemic on children. Training included raising awareness of the increase in vulnerability for children either being exposed or directly experiencing domestic abuse, and more limited access to support services for mental health concerns and online safeguarding concerns.

### PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS

The IOWSCP [Local Safeguarding Arrangements](#) provide details about how safeguarding services are arranged to meet the needs of Island children and families.

Relevant Agencies listed in this Yearly Report as specified in [The Child Safeguarding Practice Review and Relevant Agency \(England\) Regulations 2018](#) support with the implementation of local and national learning, including learning from serious safeguarding incidents.

### THE INDEPENDENT CHAIR

The role of Independent Chair is to provide critical challenge and seek assurance in judging the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children on the IOW, including arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding cases.

The Independent Chair formally meets the statutory safeguarding partners four times a year to review the effectiveness and impact of IOWSCP arrangements and has worked closely with them and carried out a range of functions:

- Chaired Partnership Board meetings
- Scrutinised whether the three Safeguarding Partners were fulfilling their statutory obligations and the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements
- Scrutinised performance management processes, supported audits and ensured quality assurance mechanisms were effective
- Supported and encouraged an open culture of mutual and constructive challenge
- Arbitrated when there was disagreement between the three statutory Safeguarding Partners

- Had oversight of the Section 11 Action Plan review process and facilitated mutual challenge across the Partnership
- Worked with the statutory Partners in scrutinising progress made against the Business Plan
- Reviewed the impact of the IOWSCP in 2021/22 through review of Business Plan outcomes
- Maintained oversight and connectivity of the subgroup work-plans, offering constructive challenge, and sought assurance that agreed subgroup work-plans were being progressed
- Supported the three Safeguarding Partners to fulfil their statutory objectives, to enable the Partnership to identify and measure its success and impact.
- Ensured that arrangements had a positive impact on the lives of children, multi-agency working and frontline practice during 2021/22
- Attended a range of pre-planned meetings via Microsoft Teams with:
  - \* Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, Anglican Diocese
  - \* IOW Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) Chair
  - \* Head of Strategy and Operations (IOW), Children's Services, Isle of Wight Council (IWC)
  - \* Superintendent, Hampshire Constabulary
  - \* Head of Service, Youth Offending Team (YOT)
  - \* Chief Inspector, Hampshire Constabulary
  - \* IOW School Improvement Manager, Education, IWC
  - \* Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills, IWC
  - \* Special School representative
  - \* Assistant Director Integrated Service Delivery, Adult Social Care (ASC)
  - \* Regulatory & Community Safety Service Manager, Regulatory Services, IWC
  - \* Strategic Lead for Learning and Development, IWC
  - \* Virtual Head Looked After Children (LAC) Children
  - \* Named GP for Safeguarding
  - \* Chief Executive, IWC

### NEW INDEPENDENT CHAIR/SCRUTINEER ROLE

The term of office for the current Independent Chair ends in December 2022. The Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton LSCPs (HIPS) Executive and three Partners in each of the HIPS' areas have elected to further strengthen the scrutiny role of the Partnerships by revising the Independent Chair role to encompass aspects of independent scrutiny functions. Work to recruit to the Independent Chair/Scrutineer post is underway, with interviews planned for June 2022.

### THE THREE SAFEGUARDING PARTNERS

The Isle of Wight Council Children's Services, Hampshire Police, and the Hampshire, Southampton, and Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group (HSIOWCCG) form the tripartite leadership of the IOWSCP Partnership.

The strong partnership response to Covid during 2021/22 remained in place with the three Safeguarding Partners meeting regularly to share information and to co-ordinate work to safeguard the most vulnerable children, responding quickly to changing risks and needs. Safeguarding children remained a firm priority for all partner agencies during the year, demonstrated by consistently good levels of attendance and engagement in subgroups, and a culture of constructive challenge and debate.



### THE WIDER PARTNERSHIP

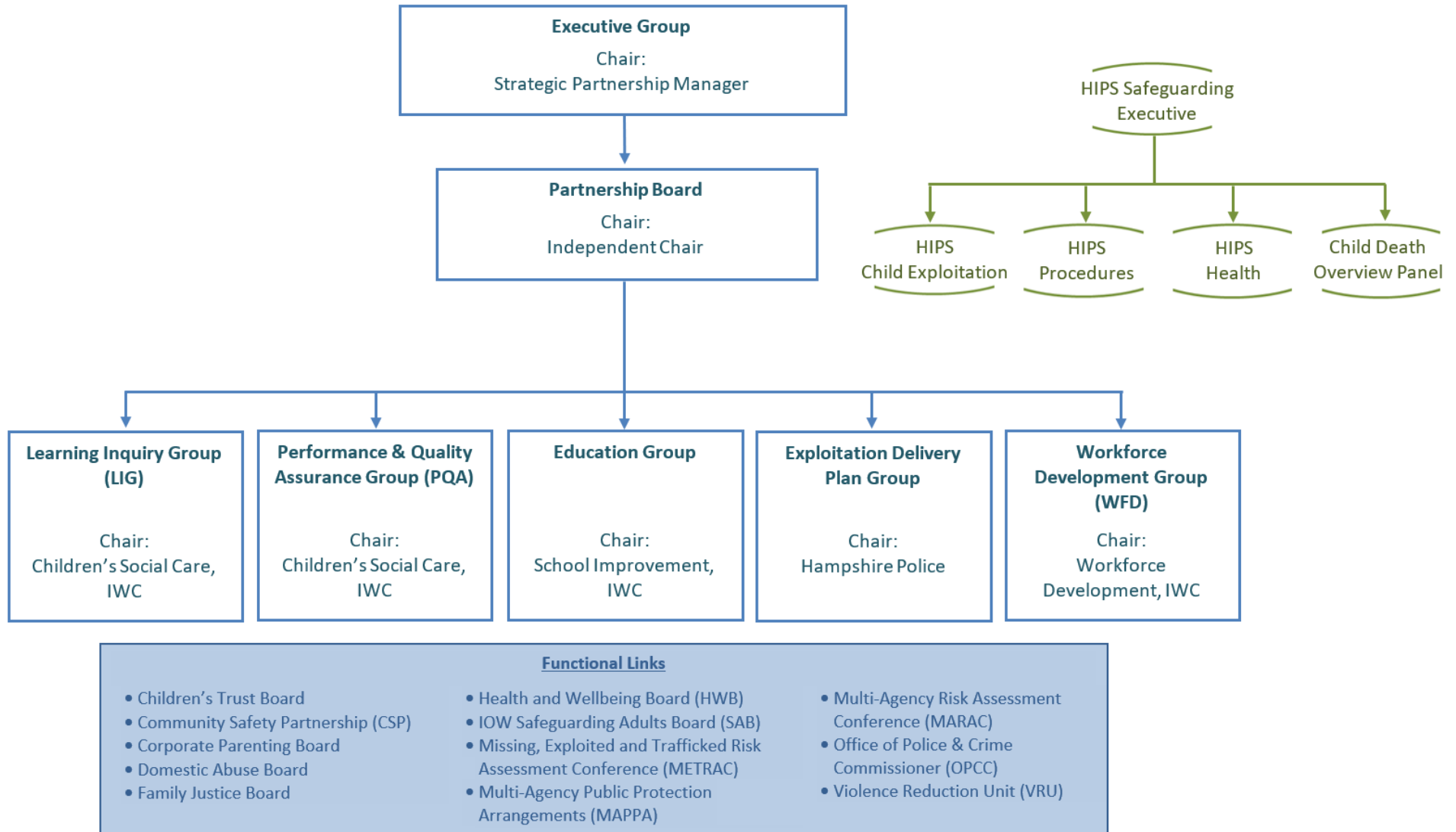
The multi-agency partnership on the IOW is mature, robust, and effective, with a clear commitment from senior leaders to review and improve ways of working, building on strengths and relationships that already exist. The Yearly Report reflects the IOWSCP vision and partnership approach:

- Child-focussed leadership which is effective and ambitious across the partnership

- Agencies that understand their roles and actively engage in multi-agency safeguarding arrangements
- An environment in which multi-agency practice can flourish
- Effective information sharing in systems which ensures professionals are confident and knowledgeable about vulnerable children
- Strong support and healthy challenge within the multi-agency system
- Creating a culture of continuous improvement and learning



**STRUCTURE OF THE IOWSCP**



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## THE HAMPSHIRE, ISLE OF WIGHT, PORTSMOUTH, AND SOUTHAMPTON (HIPS) PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS

The IOWSCP works in partnership with Hampshire, Portsmouth, and Southampton SCs and this collective is known as the 'HIPS'. The HIPS partnership provides opportunities for joined-up working on strategic issues and common themes, with each local area retaining distinct local priorities and arrangements as well. The HIPS Executive Group consists of lead safeguarding partners who provide strategic direction by:

- Achieving clarity of purpose
- Greater efficiency/less duplication
- Developing strategic priorities
- Making the connections between effective learning and practice and quality assurance activity
- Making effective links to other partnerships; to and from the IOWSCP to organisations

The HIPS Executive has convened four standing subgroups where there is a clear benefit to co-ordinating specific areas of business across the HIPS area:

### HIPS Health Group

This reinvigorated group co-ordinates safeguarding business across the HIPS wide health economy, leading on promotion and implementation of best practice, and learning for the health sector. The work of this group fed into the local IOW Health Subgroup until spring 2022 when the localised group was disbanded to enable greater attendance at the HIPS wide group.

### HIPS Strategic Child Exploitation Group

The purpose of this group is to develop a shared understanding of the threats and responses to children, including patterns of activity that may reflect the organised exploitation of children. Vulnerabilities and risks associated with children who go missing are understood and incorporated within a consistent and robust

multi-agency response. Operational requirements are managed through the local Exploitation Delivery Group and Missing, Exploited, Trafficked Risk Assessment Conference (METRAC) structures.

### HIPS Procedures Group

This group develops and reviews all common multi-agency safeguarding policies and procedures that inform single-agency policy and practice across the HIPS area and maintains a shared website.

### HIPS Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

This group performs the functions of the CDOP as outlined in Working Together 2018, reviewing all child deaths and determining whether there were modifiable factors that contributed to the death, and what action should be taken to prevent such deaths happening in the future. The HIPS CDOP panel deals with sufficient cases to identify patterns and trends in the data and refers cases to SCP Chairs where there is a suspicion that neglect, or abuse may have been a factor in the child's death. They provided a bi-annual report and thematic CDOP panel outcome reports to the HIPS SCs. Governance and reporting functions for this group will transfer to the Pan-Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care System (ICS) later in 2022.

### LINKS TO OTHER PARTNERSHIPS

The IOWSCP has formal links with other IOW and Pan-Hampshire strategic partnerships. IOWSCP Board members bring information to IOWSCP meetings from other partnerships, enhancing information sharing and planning and maximising opportunities for shared work. Some examples:

**Health and Well Being Board and Corporate Parenting Board** – Protocols in place to ensure shared commitments in strategies and Business Plans between the Boards and the IOWSCP

**CAFCASS** – present an annual report to PQA group with national and local updates

**Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB)** - regular liaison meetings between the Partnership Manager and SAB Board Manager to work on shared projects such as Family Approach eLearning package, and other joint workforce development opportunities

**Domestic Abuse Forum/Partnership Board** – joint work on campaigns aimed at children and families

**PREVENT Board** – training pathway developed and placed on the Learning Hub for the children's workforce

**Violence Reduction Unit (VRU)** – violence reduction work in schools around criminal exploitation and knife crime expanded

**Licensing** - continued safeguarding awareness and exploitation training for all licensed taxi drivers on the IOW

**Office of Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)** – growth of the Cyber Ambassadors’ scheme in IOW schools and survey of over 250 parents/carers on online safety training needs

**COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SHARING**

The [IOWSCP website](#) contains information and guidance for children, parents/ carers, and practitioners on a variety of safeguarding subjects, as well as links to HIPS Procedures and local and national documents.

The IOWSCP has a [Communications and Engagement Strategy](#) to ensure effective communication with Safeguarding Partners and Relevant Agencies.

4 [Board Newsletters](#) are produced per year following Board meetings with information about decisions made, presentations, and links to key documents and articles.

4 [Child Exploitation newsletters](#) are produced annually via the HIPS Exploitation Group.

An [induction pack](#) for new Partnership Board and subgroup members has been created and circulated to Partnership members to ensure effective information sharing with new members. A recipients of the Induction pack said:

*“A really informative document with clear diagrams to understand the structure and brief descriptions of the groups and roles. Very useful.”*

**THE PARTNERSHIP ENCOURAGES MEMBERS TO BRING CONCERNS TO THEIR ATTENTION AND TAKES ACTION TO RESOLVE THEM**

Examples:

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CONCERN RAISED	ACTION TAKEN	OUTCOME/IMPACT
Schools requested information on supporting Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children.	This was referred to the Workforce Development Group for action. The Principal Social Worker, Named Nurse for LAC and Partnership Team developed an information leaflet.	The leaflet was distributed to schools and published on the website. Feedback on the information was positive and developed staff understanding.
Whether METRAC meetings were giving enough time to medium and low risk child exploitation cases, and to hotspots and key people of note in their discussions.	Review of METRAC Terms of Reference (TORS) and proformas was undertaken as well as an observation of a METRAC meeting and discussion with the Chair and Deputy, resulting in revised TORS and paperwork to record and guide meeting discussions.	Refreshed METRAC processes and proformas enable greater time for discussions on medium and low risk cases and community-based factors, and there is a greater focus on preventative measures to ensure risks to children don't escalate further.
The issue of online safety was raised at the Board and the data showed that through the three lock down periods, more referrals were being received where online harm via social media and internet usage were cited as key safeguarding issues.	A round table discussion was set up immediately to discuss this issue further. It was agreed to continue with existing work around online safety and develop training for parents/carers, and to add it to the Business Plan as a key priority for the coming year.	The Business plan for 2022/23 contains a specific priority for a media campaign, designed to keep children safe online with a focus on effective parenting both on and offline.

## FINANCE









The three Safeguarding Partners agree levels of funding for the IOWSCP functions with additional contributions from the Probation Service. Wider partners give freely their staff time for learning and development delivery, subgroup and task and finish group attendance and activity.

Funding arrangements are regularly reviewed at the Executive Group and reported on at the Partnership Board.

The financial challenge for many frontline services across the safeguarding partnership is one of increasing demand, with reducing income from central government.

The IOWSCP wider partner agencies have expressed their commitment to cross-agency support and continued to demonstrate a shared responsibility for funding and supporting safeguarding activity during 2021/22 ensuring that the IOW's innovative and robust partnership is sustained.

INCOMING	
<b>Total partner contributions for 2021-22</b>	<b>£172,374</b>
IOW Council	£113,191
HSIOW CCG	£40,576
Hampshire Police	£13,616
Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)	£104
Reserves	£4,887

EXPENDITURE	
<b>Total expenditure 2021-22</b>	<b>£157,536</b>
 Staffing costs	£122,527
 Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)	£8,550
 Venues & meetings	£322
 Running costs / Miscellaneous	£5,354
 Serious Case Reviews (SCRs) / Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPRs)	£3,357
 Training	£9,833
 Independent Chair	£7,454
 Printing supplies and equipment	£139



There are a total of  
**25,961 children** on the IOW

**18.2%** of residents  
are children

0 - 5 year olds 7,322  
6 - 11 year olds 8,657  
12 - 16 year olds 7,320  
17 - 18 year olds 2,662

(ONS Mid 2020 estimates)



**60%** of land is rural

**53.7%** of the population  
live in 6 main towns:  
Newport, Ryde, Sandown,  
Shanklin, Cowes and East  
Cowes (ONS Mid 2020 estimates)

**508** Early Help assessments were  
completed in 2021/22

**535** per 10,000 children were a Child in  
Need (CIN) on the IOW at the end of  
March 2022 compared to **301.9** per 10,000  
in the South East

**111** children per 10,000 were Looked  
After Children (LAC) at the end of March  
2022 on the IOW, compared to **53** per  
10,000 in the South East

**65** children per 10,000 were subject to  
a Child Protection Plan (CPP) in 2022 on  
the IOW, compared to **40.2** per 10,000  
in the South East

**5%** of pupils on the IOW with Special  
Educational Needs (SEN) and/or  
Educational, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)  
compared to **3.7%** England average

**16,708 children**  
attending IOW schools

**527** children Electively Home  
Educated (EHE) - April 2022

IOW schools\*:

- 39** Primary schools
- 6** Secondary schools
- 3** Through schools (2 private)
- 3** Special schools

\*[www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk](http://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk)



**50** Early Years  
Settings



Children with  
English as an  
additional  
language:

**3.4%** of Primary children  
**3.2%** of secondary children  
(Gov.uk LAIT)



Free school meal entitlement:

**22%** of primary-aged children

**18.8%** of secondary-aged children

(Gov.uk LAIT)

The IOW was ranked **96** out of  
**317** Local Authority areas for  
average rank, in 2019 on the  
indices of multiple deprivation

**12** areas on the IOW are  
among the 20% most deprived  
in the country

(Gov.uk IMD 2019)



# We are safeguarding children

## PART A: WE HAVE CLEAR AND EFFECTIVE THRESHOLDS, ASSESSMENTS, PLANNING AND DECISION MAKING TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN

The front door process in the Hants/IOW Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) is well-established and has been positively recognised in inspection outcomes, most recently the July 2021 Hants Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI). Decision making across both Children’s Reception Team (CRT) and MASH is regularly reviewed and monitored and subject to annual multi-agency case file audits. The application of thresholds across both teams is consistently applied as confirmed during the recent Ofsted inspection and all contacts are reviewed in timeframes and where referrals don’t meet thresholds, Early Help services are offered.

### CONTACTS, REFERRALS AND ASSESSMENTS

There was a rise in demand as more families struggled due to the impact of the pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis, but improvements in assessment timescales being met have been maintained (latest SE data (Q3) reported the Isle of Wight had 97.5% assessments in timescale compared to a SE average of 85%). Timescales for completion of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPC) is down slightly and this pattern is mirrored across the South East due to the impact of the pandemic.

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FRONT DOOR DATA	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Change
Total number of CRT contacts	13,097	12,566	14,167	↑
% Contacts progressed to referrals	37.77%	40.62%	43.47%	↑
CIN Referrals	5,279	5,575	6,508	↑
Assessments completed within timescales	92.4%	93.8%	96%	↑
ICPCs completed within timescales	84.08%	79.45%	77.90%	↓
% of re- referrals to CRT MASH	35.50%	36.85%	39.30%	↑
No of children subject to Early Help plans	338	387	508	↑
No of children open to Social Care	1260	1343	1407	↑
% of closed Early Help Plans where improvements were seen	-	74%	43%	↓
No of LADO referrals	191	168	80	↓
No of referrals that met the criteria	73	86	71	↓

Isle of Wight data for re-referrals to CRT MASH includes all second or subsequent referrals, regardless of the outcome of the first referral. This ensures every child, and their circumstances are considered every time. The reasons for the re-referrals are monitored by managers, and often include a combination of substance misuse, adult mental health, and domestic abuse issues.

There was an increase in demand for early help, indicating there are now more families in need of support post pandemic, and a further rise is expected due to the impact of cost-of-living increases.

(The latest SE quarterly data (Q3) had a rate of referrals to early help per 10,000 age 0-17, of 51 on the IOW compared to the SE average of 89)

#### Feedback on Early Help services from children and families:

*“ I feel I have moved on in a really positive way. I am thankful for all the support over the past 9 months and feel I can face day to day tasks with my boys in a more positive way ”*

*“ We have been given the opportunity to look at things in a different light. We feel so much more confident that we can ‘go it alone’ now ”*

*“ Thank you for giving me more confidence. Found the session really informative, accessible, and friendly. Really glad I was able to attend before our baby arrives ”*



*“ I don’t mind talking to you and opening up about my feeling as I feel I can trust you ”*

*“ She’s not just a support worker, she cares. She has helped mum. She helped us find the middle ground for our family ”*

The outcome definitions for the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) contacts have been changed in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE) guidance around low-level concerns and HIPS procedures. Where thresholds are not met, referrals are now recorded as LADO advice notes. The LADO liaises with the police and other agencies and monitors the progress of cases to ensure they are dealt with quickly and within a thorough and fair process.

*“ The LADO was so helpful providing excellent advice and support, giving me confidence in knowing how to proceed ”*

CHILD PROTECTION (CP) PLANS	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Change
<b>Number of children subject to CP Plans</b>	126	188	161	↓

The number of children with a CP Plan rose during the year, most likely due to lockdown and then easing of restrictions when children returned to school. The increased demand on social care was anticipated and additional corporate investment made to increase the number of social workers to respond to this rise.

<b>Number of unborn babies subject to CP plans (NHS Trust data)</b>	17	22	26	↑
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All CP conferences for unborn babies were attended by health professionals and discharge planning meetings were facilitated after birth. A place of safety was provided on both the ward and the Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU) for babies awaiting court dates for Interim Care Orders. All unborn babies on a CP plan were discussed at a multi-disciplinary forum to ensure appropriate care planning (including specialist parenting education packages in the home) and effective inter-agency working.








<b>% of repeat CP conferences in time frames</b>	99%	98.3%	94.4%	↓
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The Ofsted focussed visit in July 2021 noted: *Children’s plans are well-constructed documents which demonstrate effective and responsive planning. They are regularly reviewed and updated, with good involvement from agency professionals which supports rapid and substantial improvements in children’s circumstances.*

MAIN CATEGORY OF CP REGISTRATION	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Change
Emotional Abuse	10.3%	26.6%	21.7%	↓
Physical Abuse	2.4%	2.7%	9.3%	↑
Sexual Abuse	7.1%	7.4%	5.6%	↓
Neglect	80.2%	63.3%	63.4%	↑

The percentage of children subject to physical or sexual abuse remains low. Those experiencing emotional abuse rose during the pandemic possibly because of the multiple stress factors families experienced.



LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN (LAC)	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Change
<b>Total number of Looked After Children</b>	266	272	279	↑
 <b>Number of children in care per 10,000 during the year</b>	107	110	114	↑
The latest South East benchmarking data (Q3) reports that the rate for the Isle of Wight was 106 per 10,000 compared to a South East average of 54.				
 <b>% of LAC reviews completed in time frames</b>	90%	89.2%	83.6%	↓
A new system has been introduced requiring significant updates to LAC Review forms including gaining parental consent. The local and South East target is 85% minimum, so additional administrative support has been placed in the children in care team with a positive impact. The data team is meeting Children's Assessment and Safeguarding Team (CAST) teams to ensure all children in care have their reviews and health checks in place and recorded accurately on Integrated Care Systems (ICS).				
 <b>% Health reviews completed in time frames</b>	84.1%	81.9%	83.9%	↑
All children in care are offered an annual health review although some older young people refuse. Work is underway to review the health assessment process, paperwork and the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire, so that it is more meaningful, that needs are identified, and actions undertaken to improve every child's mental health and emotional well-being.				
 <b>% of vaccinations completed in time frames</b>	85.1%	84.4%	74.7%	↓
 <b>% of dental checks completed in timeframes</b>	77.1%	24.5%	52.85%	↑
Some older teenage children in care decide not to go to the dentist even with the encouragement of the LAC nurse, social worker, and foster carers. In addition, the impact of lockdown meant that dentists had a backlog of patients to see.				
 <b>% of care leavers 18+ in suitable accommodation at year end</b>	84.3%	75.2%	85.7%	↑
It is important that care experienced young adults have a home of their own and have confidence that this will be available when they turn 18 years. The new Pathways to Independent Adulthood tender has created 19 additional on Island supported accommodation placements for children aged 16 years plus and means the IOW is in line with South East levels				
 <b>% of care leavers 18+ in employment/education/training at year end</b>	67.6%	59.6%	74.3%	↑
The latest South East benchmarking report (Q3) for Care Leavers in employment, education or training was 66% on the Isle of Wight, compared to the SE average of 55%. The target is above 70% and performance is scrutinised monthly and every care leaver who is Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET) has a rationale for why and what the plans are to address this.				

#### FEEDBACK FROM CARE LEAVERS REGARDING ACCOMMODATION:

*" I am very grateful and so is my Mum that you let me move here, why would I not like it, take a look! I get support when I need it, I like that there is always a staff member about in the evening, that is when I need support the most, they sit and listen to me, sometimes we are still up at 2am. I am now able to think about what I want to do, and I am not ready yet, but I am signed up to do The Princes Trust course in September. "*

#### FEEDBACK FROM CARE LEAVERS WITH POSITIVE OUTCOMES:

*" I absolutely love living in and working, I am working at stables, and live nearby and am gaining a lot of experience. My Personal Assistant (PA) supported me with moving up here and comes and sees me often. "*

*" Attending the unit and having support from the Leaving Care Team has given me the additional support as the more people to help to support me the better. My unit experience allowed me to become me again and made me understand who I am and put me on a path of success. "*

*" I am really happy at university so far and excited to complete my last 2 years. Animation has been hard but fun and I'm working hard to get the best possible results. I have enjoyed living in student accommodation and having my own space. Living in London has also been amazing because there's so much to do. "*

## PART B: WE ARE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN IN SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES



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CHILDREN NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
School absence rate during the year (Primary)	4%*	3.4%	5.6%*
School Absence rate during the year (Secondary)	5.9%*	5.8%	9.3%*

\*Autumn Term data only

Absence rates in Primary are very slightly below National Average (National Autumn Term 21/22 - 5.7%). This is a consistent trend, although the gap has reduced.

Absence rates in Secondary are above national average (National Autumn Term 21/22 – 8.2%). This is a consistent trend although the gap has increased.

Published data for Autumn Term 21/22 indicated that rates of unauthorised absence on the IOW were only slightly above national average (2.3% compared to 2.1%) however rates of absence due to Covid circumstances were significantly higher on the IOW than national average (3.1% compared to 1.6%).

CHILDREN ELECTIVELY HOME EDUCATED (EHE)	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of children leaving school to become EHE during the year (Primary)	56	111	58
Number of children leaving school to become EHE during the year (Secondary)	90	125	102
Number of children returning to school from EHE during the year (Primary)	42	57	69
Number of children returning to school from EHE during the year (Secondary)	26	49	50

The number of EHE pupils has continued to rise to 535 which represents 3.6% of the total school age population (aged 5-16). The rate of increase has slowed from 14.4% to 5.3% over the last 12 months and the profile of the EHE cohort appears to be returning to pre-covid levels. The increase in the proportion of primary-age pupils becoming EHE has started to reverse, and an increasing number of pupils removed from school during the pandemic are starting to return.

Parents have engaged well with phone calls instead of visits during the pandemic and are more willing to have open conversations when first contact is made by telephone; this is viewed as supportive.

By the end of the Spring Term 2022, parents of 87% of EHE pupils had provided a report or accepted a visit within timescales set out in the IOW EHE Policy (compared to 80% at the end of the Autumn Term 2021). This positive engagement rate is testimony to the positive relationship developed between home educating families and the EHE Team locally.

Education and Inclusion Service (EIS) will continue to make initial contact by telephone to establish a positive supportive relationship, this will be followed up by home visits, or meetings if required, particularly for vulnerable children and families.

CHILDREN SUSPENDED OR EXCLUDED FROM SCHOOL	2019/20*
Primary children suspended from school (Fixed Term) during the year	140
Secondary children suspended from school (Fixed Term) during the year	709
Children excluded from school (Permanent) during the year (Primary)	1
Children excluded from school (Permanent) during the year (Secondary)	9

\*Verified data for the last two years is not yet available but the Education and Inclusion Service (EIS) continue to work with schools on their use of suspension with particular focus on children with vulnerabilities including those with CSC involvement or SEND at the point of suspension.

EIS continue to support Headteachers and school Senior Leadership Teams (SLTs) to consider the use of Permanent Exclusions (PEX) and alternative solutions.

CHILDREN MISSING FROM EDUCATION (CME)	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Missing from Education during the year (Primary)	28	26	18
Missing from Education during the year (Secondary)	18	23	18

There are robust multi-agency arrangements in place that support both the identification and locating of CME. The CME process will be reviewed Summer 2022 to consider if good practice already in place can be enhanced further. This will include confirming the process for children who have been EHE but are identified as not receiving a suitable education.



## CHILDREN AT RISK OF, OR EXPERIENCING EXPLOITATION

The HIPS Strategic Child Exploitation Group ensures that the work of the HIPS SCs meet legislative requirements and implement best practice to protect children from all forms of exploitation. The group also considers the multi-agency response to children who go missing. Closer working through co-location or a 'hub and spoke' approach across HIPS is being explored and will be progressed in 2022.

The [HIPS Child Exploitation Strategy](#) sets out how partner agencies work together to identify and protect children at risk of exploitation across the HIPS areas. Each LSCP coordinates their local delivery plan. The Strategic group is supported with a HIPS Operational group that collaborates on delivery of the strategy, providing a forum to ensure learning opportunities are shared. This has resulted in short multi-agency webinars and training packages being delivered virtually. Two members of the Youth Commission attend and feed into the Strategic Group.

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN ASSESSED AS AT RISK OF CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (CSE) / CHILD CRIMINAL EXPLOITATION (CCE) DURING THE YEAR (CSC DATA)	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Low risk during the year	101	146	118
Medium risk during the year	113	64	81
High risk during the year	45	76	101

MISSING CHILDREN	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Number of missing episodes during the year	416	636	348
Number of children who went missing during the year	110	127	140
Number of children missing from care during the year	40	48	42

A multi-agency METRAC group chaired by Police meets regularly to review all children identified as at risk. Each child is considered, and actions identified to reduce risks and safeguard the child.

The number of children identified as low and medium risk has remained consistent indicating the systems and processes in place are effective in identifying all children at risk. Those identified as high risk has increased likely due to the increased complexity of needs of children needing social care support and intervention as a result of their emotion wellbeing and mental health.

#### **MULTI-AGENCY RESPONSE TO EXPLOITATION:**

- **Philomena Protocol:** A Police project to improve collaborative working with partners to support looked after children who are reported missing and are committing minor offences. The aim is to prevent unnecessary criminalisation of looked after children.
- **Operation Salvus:** A Police initiative now embedded in practice to identify the highest risk missing children, ensuring that Police officers who respond to these missing episodes engage the child in a consistent and child centred way and ensure a support plan is in place to negate further risk to them. Evaluation outcomes show the frequency of missing incidents nearly halved for a dip sample of children. There is still scope for improving responses regarding medium and low risk children.
- **Operation Endeavour:** Supports Police information sharing with a focus on ensuring schools are aware when a child has been missing.
- **The Youth Commission:** Provides a voice for young people who feel affected by exploitation in its various forms and want more accessible support with a focus on digital exploitation, and clear guidance on where to go to for help and how to support friends experiencing these issues.
- **A multi-agency Child Exploitation Risk Assessment Framework (CERAF) Review** took place in April 2021. Most respondents knew where to access the CERAF and found the accompanying guidance clear. A need for further training was identified.
- **Missing Task & Finish group:** The Missing People Charity's report [Children's views on being reported missing from care](#) was reviewed. Resources such as posters and cards for practitioners working with children and [disruption techniques guides](#) have been developed for the HIPS Procedures website.
- **Modern Slavery Partnership:** A Modern Slavery exhibition was developed and toured the HIPS area, it was based in Newport High Street to further raise awareness particularly in with challenges faced from illegal immigration and those in the UK with no immigration status including foreign national offenders.

- **Violence Reduction Unit (VRU):** The Pan Hampshire Area is one of twenty tasked by the Home Office to set up a VRU to tackle violent crime and address underlying causes. The VRU's Home Office bid as part of the Government's Safer Streets fund was successful and 8 interventions were funded providing diversionary activities for children and young people under 25 on the IOW. Over 300 young people engaged with interventions which increase protective factors and reduce risk factors for Young people.
- **Regulatory Services:** The Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy has been updated to ensure it meets the new safeguarding standards set out in the Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standards ("the Standards") issued under the Policing and Crime Act 2017 published in July 2020. Licensing provides mandatory bespoke safeguarding training to taxi drivers, new and old on local and national safeguarding issues.
- **One full time UTurn worker** is embedded within the Isle of Wight 0-19 Early Help contract and referrals are received via METRAC. 1-1 work is undertaken with the child to address exploitation. Due to the high intensity of the 1-1 sessions delivered, the caseload is capped at 6 children. 8 children were worked with during the year, 4 case closures were made (3 where part of the outcomes were achieved and 1 where no progress was made as they did not engage).

*A child reported that he was able to share with the worker when he was struggling with his mental health, the worker contacted CAMHS and got some support for them. The child said the worker took the time to get to know him, gave him time and space to talk when he was ready, and he did not feel judged. He said he was only revealing 30% of what was going on for him, but now felt comfortable to talk about his experiences fully. He said the worker helped him to think and see some things differently and to reflect on his old situation and that it isn't what he wanted for his future. He wants to make an honest living, be with the people who really love and care for him and is able to see that the exploiters didn't care for him at all. The worker is supporting him and his mum with court.*



CHILDREN AT RISK OF, OR IN, THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Children at risk of, or in, the criminal justice system during the year who YOT worked with	229	204	225

This data includes children subject to Youth Crime Prevention (YCP), Out of Court Orders and Court Orders. Numbers have remained consistent over time and covid had little impact on numbers.

Two outcome measures are:

Latest data available for the re-offending rate of children subject to out of court disposals/court orders is 33.7%. The number of First Time Entrants (FTEs) in the last twelve months was 31, a reduction from a high of 57 children between January and December 2019.

Example of positive interventions:

*A 13-year-old who had attended a pre-arranged fight via social media was referred to YCP. The main concerns were around their friendships, potential use of weapons and engaging in online malicious communications. After completing an assessment, an intervention plan was agreed to support recognising positive and negative friendships, understanding the consequences of offending and weapons awareness. Initially they were reluctant to engage so the initial sessions focused on developing rapport. By the end of the intervention, the child had positive friendships and slowly distanced themselves from those who could lead them into trouble. They were no longer engaging in behaviour which could lead to an offence. On ending with YCP they said "I wasn't too sure at first, but I actually rate what you do. You helped me a lot."*

CHILDREN WITH MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING NEEDS	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Total number of referrals received into Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) during the year	815	671	907
Black = CAMHS, Purple = CAMHS Eating Disorder	19	44	76

The number of referrals received by CAMHS has increased significantly, most likely due to the pandemic when Tier 2 services stopped taking referrals for a

period of time and the number of eating disorder referrals was significantly increasing. Additional funding has been secured for work with these children.

CAMHS were able to bring down the waiting times for assessment using additional funding and extra agency staff and put groups in place to reduce the waiting time for treatment. CAMHS are currently able to access all Eating Disorder (ED) patients within 4 weeks and ensure there is no waiting list for treatment.

CHILDREN WITH MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING NEEDS	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Total number of cases open to CAMHS at year end	498	384	428
Black = CAMHS, Purple = CAMHS Eating Disorder	16	38	65

During 20/21, CAMHS focused on the most in need and at-risk young people, ensuring that cases were discharged where possible. Since the pandemic, the complexity of cases has increased, and the service has been unable to discharge cases. During the pandemic, some children did better at home, but once lockdowns were lifted and children returned to school, there was an increase in referrals. There has also been a significant increase in referrals for children with Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) and a significant increase in children and young people with eating disorders.

CAMHS has put several groups in place to manage the increase in demand and have a new team to support young people at home with eating disorders, as well as setting up a joint 'Tics' group with Youth Trust. Parents and Carers have commented on how fantastic the Eating Disorder team is working at CAMHS.

Two parents said that they felt supported with their child's Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and engaging the children to get them back into education. Children said they felt supported during lock downs with check-in calls and liked the option of online meetings.

The IOW NHS Trust, Barnardo's and the IOW Youth Trust have collaborated to deliver in schools and colleges two Mental Health Support Teams who will improve the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people in the community, working with their parents, carers, and schools.

## CHILDREN LIVING WITH DOMESTIC ABUSE

NUMBER OF CP PLANS WHERE DOMESTIC ABUSE WAS A SECONDARY CATEGORY AT REGISTRATION	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Emotional	3.2%	14.9%	8.1%
Physical	2.4%	2.7%	4.4%
Neglect	15.9%	14.9%	14.9%

The distribution of cases across the categories remains consistent. Categories of registration are considered by the CP Chair and applied appropriately. The secondary category of domestic abuse is considered at review conferences by the Chair, as it may not be evident at ICPC.

Children's Social Care (CSC) contributes funding to the integrated commissioning of Paragon to ensure victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse receive effective timely support as well as interventions for young people instigating harmful behaviours.

In 2021/22 Paragon supported 165 children on the IOW. 23 children were supported in the refuge. This is a 67% increase on the previous year when they supported 111 children and young people (CYP). The service increased the number of staff to meet increased demand through successful funding bids.

CYP advocates develop effective working relationships with children and their parents/carers and adopt a multi-agency approach in their support and advocacy for the children and their families.

Paragon works with schools/colleges feeding into their Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) programmes and support the mentors in violence programme. Paragon worked with 182 Year 10 students to raise awareness of domestic abuse and support available. In the exit feedback 98% of students said their knowledge of domestic abuse had improved (4 students declined to complete the feedback) 96% of students stated they would be able to recognise if a friend was suffering domestic abuse and 91% would be confident to share concerns if a friend was in trouble with domestic abuse.

### Feedback from children:

*“ It has been really good having you to talk to. I was worried that you would just want to talk about all the negative stuff to do with dad, but you've just been really positive, and it has really helped me with my self-esteem and stuff ”*

### Feedback from a parent:

*“ It's been really good for her to be able to open up and be honest with a male, she has not had any positive male role models in her life so far, thank you for being the first ”*

### The IOW College sent feedback on a client supported during 2021/2022:

*“ I just wanted to email you to let you know about the positive support role that the worker has played with our organisation. He is always happy to meet with a student at short notice and is flexible around the times that he meets with them. As a team we have found his support and knowledge invaluable when supporting some of our most vulnerable learners. It is only through this type of partnership working practices that we are really able to give our learners the best help and support that we possibly can, and it is very much appreciated by us all. ”*

The IOW Domestic Abuse Forum (DAF) ran several awareness raising campaigns:

- ★ With young people aged 13-20 years using interactive Facebook stories about keeping safe. It reached 62,823 across Facebook and Instagram over two weeks.
- ★ Sexual violence - To increase awareness and referrals to the service including young person's Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA). It reached 18,957 across social media platforms. The ISVA service received 25 referrals during the month, an increase of 9 from the same period last year and 3 self-referrals as a direct result of individuals seeing the campaign material.
- ★ 16 Days of Action - Facebook and Instagram messages were used to cover a range of domestic abuse issues including the impact on children. The Facebook reach for this campaign was 19,663 with 1,845 viewing the stories which was double the previous year. The number of children referred to Paragon increased to 130 referrals for 2021. The interactive questions provided an opportunity to engage and learn more about the topics as well as providing signposting for more information and support. The new Domestic Abuse Partnership Board will monitor the impact this campaign has on local services.

A post on coercive control achieved a reach of 23,232. This subject promoted a lot of discussion, likes, shares and conversations within the community with women showing support for each other:

*“I see too much of this happening everywhere. It’s time we talk and learn and help those who may not know how much help they need.”*

*“It’s tough, I’ve been there and I’m lucky to have learnt a strong lesson from it. If you need help, then make sure you reach out to someone. Anyone. Just do it.”*

Child safeguarding is discussed with National Probation Service (NPS) practitioners on a regular basis, and they monitor that all appropriate child safeguarding training is completed and that all officers are up to date.

One example involved a case that was managed through Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) level 2 (concerns around significant domestic violence). Due to the positive work of the officer and safeguarding practitioner, NPS were able to liaise effectively to manage the risk and to make sure that the adult and child victims were supported and that their needs were met.



## CHILDREN LIVING WITH ADULTS WHO HAVE MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

### Adult Mental Health Service, IOW NHS Trust

- Safeguarding children training levels for staff working in the Mental Health & Learning Disabilities (MHL) division remain high. Level 1 and 2 are over 90% compliant. Level 3 compliance is improving with increased access to this training available to all staff. 93% have completed L1, 91% have completed L2 and 62% have completed L3 (compared to 38% in 2020/21)
- There is increased awareness and understanding of individual and organisational responsibilities and funding was agreed for training a parent/carer peer support worker from the Charlie Waller Trust to support a change in culture and use of Family Approach
- A joint post was agreed with IOW Youth Trust to provide enhanced engagement and feedback across MHL and CYP services. Increased peer support worker posts and service user engagement posts across the Division have been made.

- A Family and Carer Policy was published with information about young carers and signposts staff to safeguarding processes and the Family Approach Toolkit.
- An adult social care practitioner is now embedded in the Mental Health inpatient team to ensure safe and supportive discharges which considers/mitigates negative impact on family/dependents and a Senior Adult MHLD practitioner routinely attends Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and High Risk Domestic Abuse (HRDA) meetings.

## CHILDREN LIVING WITH ADULTS WHO HAVE DRUG OR ALCOHOL MISUSE ISSUES

A Specialist Substance Midwife worked with pregnant women and their partners. They received approximately 36 referrals a year and offered bespoke packages of care. The outcomes were very positive with a number of women and their partners abstaining from using substances during their pregnancy which is hugely beneficial for a baby’s future health.

Mothers of unborn babies for whom there are safeguarding concerns are discussed every 2 weeks in a multi-disciplinary forum and care and support plans are made in conjunction with the 0-19 service. Co-ordinated support packages to address the most significant concerns and reduce the risk to the unborn both in utero and in the early postnatal period are put in place.

### Case example:

*A mother who had previously had a child removed from her care, and with a history of substance misuse and domestic abuse, was supported with bespoke parent craft in the home by the 0-19 service. The maternal mental health was monitored by the perinatal mental health lead midwife throughout the pregnancy, with crisis plans created for post birth period. The Mother maintained abstinence from substances during pregnancy with support from the community midwife. An extended stay was offered on the postnatal ward before the Mother was discharged home with baby. The co-ordinated plan of support was monitored through a multi-disciplinary forum which meant the Mother had structured support that enabled her to parent successfully.*

**The National Probation Service** responds effectively to concerns regarding children they assess as vulnerable due to issues such as adult substance misuse, mental health, domestic abuse or housing issues. This is first highlighted through initial assessments with People on Probation (POPS) and if there are any concerns then appropriate referrals are completed with the child safeguarding team or in liaison with other agencies. Safeguarding children is at the forefront of practice and this is reflected in risk assessments, training, and supervision.



**Southern Housing** staff receive through training the understanding that children are victims in their own right when living in households or environments where they are impacted by the trio (mental health/domestic abuse/substance misuse), and the specific referral pathways. Southern Housing encourage staff training in relation to this and refer to early help or family approach guidance. They highlight families to the local authority who will benefit from early help once identified.

### CHILDREN LIVING WITH ADULT HOUSING ISSUES

Housing services work is now underpinned by psychologically informed principles. The service has extended its suite of emergency accommodation and support to provide children and families with an environment that minimises the trauma associated to homelessness.

They have led on the development of a strategy for the provision of Support within Safe Accommodation in response to the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

Housing services have modified and improved the commissioned community support offer to ensure children and families at risk of homelessness receive specialist early help from a range of community partners.

They continue to operate a Temporary Accommodation Meeting (TAM), attended by strategic management across system partners, to scrutinise and minimise the amount of time families spend in interim accommodation with the outcomes:

- ✓ No family has been placed in a B&B for over 6 weeks.
- ✓ No child aged 16 or 17 has been accommodated in unsuitable accommodation.

### CHILDREN WHO ARE PRIVATELY FOSTERED

There was just 1 young person subject to a private fostering arrangement in the year compared to 4 last year and 18 in 2019/20. As of 31st March 2022, there were no children reported to be privately fostered on the Isle of Wight. Covid restrictions have meant exchange trips haven't taken place and so there have been no foreign students referred by Language Schools or the IOW College.

### CHILDREN WHO ARE YOUNG CARERS

The young carers project was embedded in the commissioned Barnardo's Family Centre offer, with respite activities sub-contracted to YMCA Isle of Wight, to enable continuation of respite provision. Young Carer assessment processes were

updated to ensure that the needs of the whole family are assessed where appropriate as well as the needs of the young carer.

A tiered system of intervention was embedded in the service to ensure those in most need receive higher level interventions and the Young Carers steering group was re-started.

- 336 children were supported during the year with 69 new referrals received
- 268 1-1 sessions were delivered and 96 respite activities
- 59 case closures were made (child reached 18 years, assessment not returned (not applicable now due to new assessment pathway) child moved out of area, child no longer meets the criteria for the service)
- 84 volunteer hours were utilised to support the service

#### Feedback from CYP who attended respite activities:

*"It went well, I was happy with how much progress I made, and I enjoyed it."*

*"I got to socialise for the first time in a while."*

*"Even though we could only stay for the day The Young Carers Festival was brilliant, staying in our own group meant that I got to know lots more young carers from the Isle of Wight."*

#### Feedback from parents:

*"What you do is amazing we are eternally grateful for all the opportunities our daughter has been offered. It gives her a much-needed break and time to be herself with no pressure."*

*"My daughter has a great time with Young Carers. She looks forward to the school holidays and gets very excited. She's made new friends and had new experiences. We are so grateful for this service."*



## CHILDREN WHO ARE UNACCOMPANIED ASYLUM SEEKERS OR REFUGEES (UASC)

As part of the mandated National Transfer Scheme, the Islands cohort to make up 0.07% of the IOW general child populations, equates to up to 17 children (under the age of 18) being accepted.

UASC, accommodated under S20 Children Act 1989, are designated Looked After Children, and have an allocated Social Worker. They receive the same services as other looked after children including health assessments, dental and optician checks to ensure any unmet health needs are addressed and they remain fit and healthy. Dietary needs are also carefully considered.

Most of the children are Muslim, and so receive a copy of the Quran, a prayer mat, have access to the local mosque and are supported to celebrate the festivals that are important to them. They are also supported to access appropriate legal advice in order to make a claim for Asylum with the Home Office and are at varying stages in this process, with a number of our children being granted 5 years leave to remain in the UK pending final decisions.

The Isle of Wight place the children on the mainland to meet their cultural needs, to live with carers who share a similar ethnic and cultural background, and where possible, are able to communicate with the young people in their home language. All the children who are under the age of 18 are in the London area. The IOW retains full statutory responsibility and staff meet with them regularly.

### Case Example:

*Barnardo's Advocacy service received a referral for a young man who was a refugee from Afghanistan placed in another area who had been in the country for 6 months.*

*His main concerns were not having an ID card and not being enrolled in a school. The advocate contacted the young person via telephone interpreter and text messages. Once the advocate knew his views and wishes she contacted his social worker and a scheme local to his area who know about the legislation for young people in his situation.*

*She found out information about what education options were available to him and the processes in place to find him a suitable placement. The advocate asked the social worker to prepare a covering letter for him until his official ID card was ready because he was concerned about being stopped by police. He is now due to start school in the summer term. Although support has ended but he can request support again if needed. The child said: "It was good to have someone else to help me"*



# Business Plan Priorities 2021/22

## BUSINESS PLAN

The 2020-23 IOWSCP Business Plan sets out strategic priorities for Partnership work over a three-year period, as well as shorter one-year priorities. Business Plan objectives are identified from themes arising from existing scrutiny and quality assurance programmes and findings from local and national learning reviews. Progress on Business Plan priorities is monitored through the Executive Group as well as outcomes and impact of the work. 2021/22 was the second year of the current Business Plan.

### PART A — LONG-TERM STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

#### PRIORITY: RESPONDING TO NEGLECT

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Neglect strategy was revised and re-launched in February 2021 and a revised training offer put in place which included examination of case studies. The task and finish group will be re-established in 2022 to evaluate the impact of the revised materials and training once embedded.

#### ACTIONS TAKEN:

- ✓ The Task and Finish group reviewed the outcomes of the previous Strategy evaluation
- ✓ The Strategy content was updated including links to resources
- ✓ The HSCP/IOWSCP training offer on neglect was reviewed and extended to ensure it includes how to deal with neglect and encourages case discussion and reflection
- ✓ Additional case studies were added to the toolkit
- ✓ Materials were provided to support agency training for Safeguarding Partners and Relevant Agencies

#### OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS:

→ The training has been well received, it is more interactive and enables attendees to think through their responses to child neglect

#### AREAS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN 2022/23:

- ★ Re-establish the joint HSCP and IOWSCP neglect task and finish group annually in order to evaluate and measure the impact of the Neglect Strategy, toolkit, and training offer.
- ★ Consider gaps and opportunities to promote best practice in multi-agency working to understand and respond to neglect

#### HSCP & IOWSCP NEGLECT STRATEGY 2020–23



## PRIORITY: SAFEGUARDING ADOLESCENTS

The Safeguarding Adolescents Group was set up to explore Partnership understanding, responses and provision for safeguarding adolescents. The group aimed to identify gaps and strengths in practice and develop a Partnership response through a strategy and toolkit. The aim is to ensure adolescent children and their families receive the right level of support and intervention at the right time by skilled professionals.

### ACTIONS TAKEN:

- ✓ The Safeguarding Adolescents Strategy was published
- ✓ A toolkit for professionals was developed
- ✓ Materials launched in December 2021 and the event attended by staff from across a range of agencies
- ✓ The HIPS SCPs inputted in the 4LSAB work to develop a Transitions Policy for young people with possible care and support needs as they transition into adulthood
- ✓ A training offer was developed and is due for delivery in June 2022 and October 2022

### OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS:

- Evaluations from the strategy launch event showed that 96% of attendees strongly agreed or agreed that the training course met its stated learning outcomes.
- 93% of attendees strongly agreed, or agreed that they understood how to apply what they had learnt in their day-to-day job. One attendee said: *“ Having listened to some of the speakers, I have taken away that I need to have more professional curiosity and I need to listen to the child's voice more. To support my practice, I need to use all the tools that are available to me. ”*
- The IOWSCP 2021/22 case file audit programme included an audit on safeguarding adolescents from CSE and CCE (see pages 38-39)

### AREAS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN 2022/23:

- ★ Roll out the safeguarding adolescents training offer planned for June and October 2022
- ★ ‘Safeguarding Adolescents - What Works’ will be the IOWSCP Annual Conference theme for September 2022 to celebrate the excellent work with adolescents already in place across the Island. Planning for this event is underway
- ★ Work to develop toolkit materials for children, parents and carers began in 2021/22 and this work will be completed in 2022/23
- ★ A Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) dry run case file audit will take place in 2022/23 and examine how the strategy is impacting on practice, with a particular focus on CSE and CCE



## PRIORITY: PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM SEXUAL ABUSE

The Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) Strategy task and finish group was established in response to the IOWSCP and HSCP Business Group's endorsement of the recommendation to develop a multi-agency Child Sexual Abuse Strategy.

The recommendation was initially identified by a Children's Services report on [The multi-agency response to child sexual abuse in the family environment: prevention, identification, protection and support](#) (Ofsted, 2020) which summarises findings from the JTAI which took place between September 2018 and May 2019.

The chair of the task and finish group identified the connection to work being undertaken by Southampton SCP and a deep dive audit in Portsmouth SCP. The HIPS Executive approved a proposal to join the pieces of work to establish this as a HIPS priority.

### ACTIONS TAKEN:

- ✓ Consultation and research undertaken to establish key objectives for the strategy and to identify multi-agency professional development and guidance
- ✓ A HIPS CSA Strategy drafted to include the identification, intervention, and prevention of child sexual abuse appropriate for public and professional audiences
- ✓ Agreement for the HIPS CSA strategy to be piloted in Southampton in September 2022 prior to a HIPS wide launch in January 2023, which is in development

### INTENDED OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS:

- The development and utilisation of a CSA professional toolkit
- The multi-agency participation of partners in the CSAFE professional training
- The procurement, adoption, and development of training material
- Increased identification and referral of child sexual abuse
- Improved effectiveness and consistency of our multi-agency response to child sexual abuse e.g. intervention, safeguarding and prosecution
- The trust and confidence of victims, families, and professionals
- Positive feedback from external partners e.g. Centre of Expertise for Child Sexual Abuse and future JTAIs

### AREAS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN 2022/23:

- ★ Final Child Sexual Abuse Strategy to be published and launched across HIPS in January 2023
- ★ Development and delivery of layered multi-agency training and awareness raising on CSA
- ★ Development of tools specifically to help children speak to trusted people about sexual abuse



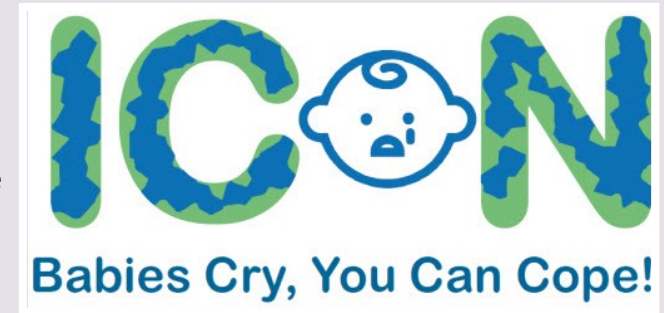
## PART B — SHORT-TERM ACTIVITIES

**PRIORITY: ICON** — Infant crying is normal, Comforting methods can help, It's okay to walk away, Never, ever shake a baby

Abusive Head Trauma in babies is both a local and national priority. The development of ICON messaging and materials is intended to reduce incidences of head trauma and support families in managing their baby's crying and raise awareness of patterns of crying in babies and how to keep the baby safe.

### ACTIONS TAKEN:

- ✓ Continued embedding into practice the ICON programme
- ✓ Revised Unborn Baby Safeguarding Protocol launched in March 2021
- ✓ Safeguarding Infants training rolled out and included inputs on ICON (see page 37)
- ✓ ICON is part of the IOW NHS Trust antenatal discussions for all pregnant mothers. It also forms part of the postnatal discharge discussion prior to leaving hospital and parents are provided with a fridge magnet as an aide memoir of the ICON message. ICON posters are displayed in the maternity unit and community clinics as well as in the Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU) unit



### OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS:

- IOW NHS Trust – Mothers have access to ICON information through BadgerNet app and fathers are encouraged to access the DadPad app. ICON was included in Maternity/SCBU staff safeguarding training between Jan–Dec 21. Perinatal Mental Health Lead Midwife includes ICON in her conversations with women experiencing mental health difficulties during the antenatal and postnatal period
- Barnardo's have used ICON materials in their 'Five to Thrive' face to face course, Baby Incredible stages course and breastfeeding workshops. The sessions are interactive with ICON posters and key messages displayed throughout Family Centres to emphasise that baby crying is normal but challenging. Feedback from a Five to Thrive course member: "Every week the different topics covered made a difference to my baby and I and helped me teach the important people around me everything that we'd discuss and learnt in the sessions too"
- Solent NHS Trust discuss ICON at antenatal contacts and the parent held red book has a specific page outlining ICON principles, and it's used at key contacts for all babies. The ICON website is used via the Family Assist digital portal in providing advice, signposting, and guidance for all new parents. ICON is considered as part of supervision practices for young babies, and especially when undertaking the 6-8-week maternal mood assessment in supporting parents through the early weeks and early years. The materials are promoted to all new learners and new staff

### AREAS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN 2022/23:

- ★ The case file audit regarding safeguarding unborn and new-born babies planned for 2021/22 was postponed due to staffing capacity issues in midwifery during the pandemic, but planning is in place for the audit to be carried out later in 2022

## PRIORITY: EVERY SLEEP COUNTS

Safe sleep messaging has long been a part of safeguarding work on the IOW. This has been further developed through Every Sleep Counts materials and informed by the National Panel Review 'Out of Routine' to look for more effective ways to ensure messaging for families is effective in supporting and challenging their risk assessments for safe sleep conditions for their babies.

### ACTIONS TAKEN:

- ✓ Every Sleep Counts materials have been rolled out and embedded across the IOW
- ✓ A Safeguarding Infants course for professionals was developed and includes a safer sleep element. This was updated in the light of the National Panel Review "Out of Routine"
- ✓ Safer sleep messaging to families was reviewed

### OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS:

- IOW NHS Trust staff discuss safe sleep during the antenatal period and prior to hospital discharge. The 'Every Sleep Counts' leaflet is used and given to all parents. With the introduction of BadgerNet, the leaflet will be available digitally for all patients. It will also be available to fathers through the DadPad app.
- Solent NHS Trust promote the 'Every Sleep Counts' toolkit across the service, and it has been utilised as part of the new Family Assist digital portal across the 0-19 services to provide parents and carers links to key documents and resources. Safe sleep messages and advice and guidance is woven into all healthy child programme contacts and used to make every contact count when working directly with parents with young babies and children. The service has undertaken a sleep audit which included safer sleep and provided further training across the services, including healthy sleep hygiene factors for all children. The service has worked with partners to learn from incidents related to safe sleep practices and shares learning at specific events across the wider 0-19 services in Solent
- Barnardo's Family Centres use safe sleep materials in their Five to Thrive face to face course, Baby Incredible stages online course and Breastfeeding workshop. Leaflets explaining Safe Sleep are given to groups and are available in centres. They report that families are engaging well with the materials and working to create safe sleep spaces for their babies and a range of questions were received and discussed:
  - "Whilst travelling how often do you recommend stopping and getting baby out of the car seat, for the different ages as baby grows?"
  - "What would be the best way to start putting my baby to sleep in their own room in their cot for the night and how would you go about if they need to come back into the main bedroom?"
  - "What is recommended that they sleep in during the summer?"

### AREAS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN 2022/23:

- ★ Continue to promote safe sleep messaging



## PRIORITY: LURKING TROLLS

The Lurking Trolls campaign and materials were developed by Portsmouth SCP and adopted across the HIPS area. The campaign was designed to enhance online safety messaging in primary schools.

A member of Oakfield Primary School staff was part of the planning group that developed the Lurking Trolls teaching resources and so it seemed fitting to hold the launch event at the school in November 2021. The books and resources were then distributed to all IOW primary schools and special schools and to local libraries to enable use by Electively Home Educating (EHE) families.

### ACTIONS TAKEN BY A RANGE OF IOW SCHOOLS:

- ✓ Information and leaflets were sent home to families to support them in keeping their children safe online and to encourage meaningful conversations
- ✓ The Computing Lead dressed up in the troll costume to raise the profile of the campaign, and it was launched with all classes with resources being used across the school and shared with teachers and parents.
- ✓ A special school used the Lurking Trolls materials in assemblies and incorporated it into the ICT and PSHE curriculum
- ✓ The materials were used as part of PSHE Keeping Safe Online. The book was used across classes in year 4 over two days and they used the website to support understanding in lessons
- ✓ The audio books were used as part of school and class assemblies, and the books were shared with the children and adaptations made for Key Stage 2 (KS2) to ensure it fitted with school planning

### SOME EXAMPLES OF OUTCOMES/IMPACTS OF THE CAMPAIGN TO DATE:

- A child told a member of staff: "I wasn't sure if it was cyber-bullying or not, but I remembered being told that I should block or leave the group if I am unsure, because even if I don't say anything mean, I don't want to be in the group if others are being mean"
- Governor quote: "The school Online Safety and Anti-Bullying policies have been updated to include Lurking Trolls"
- Staff quote: "It supported our teaching of internet safety and pupil voice surveys inform us that children have a heightened awareness of internet safety"
- Pupil quote: "Lurking Trolls lessons were good at helping us know where to get help in person or online"
- Pupil quote: "We know the rules about not sharing passwords and not speaking to unknown people online"
- Children were able to recall the troll-busting rules and they liked the series of troll cartoons

### AREAS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN 2022/23:

- ✓ An evaluation survey to be sent to schools in autumn 2022 to gain a fuller picture of how the materials are being used and what impact they are having on keeping children safe online





## PRIORITY: IMPROVED DISSEMINATION AND COMMUNICATION

### ACTIONS TAKEN:

- ✓ A [Communications Strategy](#) was developed
- ✓ Comms Plans were used both for the Lurking Trolls campaign and publication process for LCSPRs
- ✓ Agencies encouraged to incorporate learning into messaging and policy
- ✓ An Information Sharing Agreement was signed off at the Partnership Board in March

### OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS:

- Successful Lurking Trolls launch with press coverage
- Timely publication of learning reviews

### AREAS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN 2022/23:

- ★ Statements of assurance to be requested from Partnership Agencies regarding how learning is used in messaging and policy in their agency



## PRIORITY: EVALUATING IMPACT

**Family Approach: Work to review and evaluate the impact of the Family Approach Protocol and toolkit was rolled over into summer 2022 due to the impact of the Covid Pandemic on capacity of task and finish group members.**

### ACTIONS TAKEN:

- ✓ An eLearning package has been drafted and will be finalised once the review is complete
- ✓ Input on taking a Family Approach has been embedded in all LSCP workforce development opportunities

### OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS:

- Case file audits show a Family Approach being taken
- Health colleagues use a Think Family approach to their work
- The SAB actively promote a Family Approach in their work

### AREAS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN 2022/23:

- ★ HSCP are leading work to review and update the Family Approach Protocol
- ★ Evaluate the impact of the Family Approach Protocol
- ★ IOWSCP/SAB to complete the development of eLearning units



**ACTIONS TAKEN:**

- ✓ The Unborn Baby Safeguarding Protocol and Toolkit was fully updated and re-launched in March 2021 in front of 400 multi-agency professionals
- ✓ Safeguarding Infants training was developed and delivered and will be offered again in 2022/23 (see page 37)
- ✓ The CCG undertook a full re-audit following implementation of the revised protocol and toolkit in Autumn 2021. 10 cases were selected from a long list provided by 5 NHS Trusts across the HIPS area looking at midwifery and health visiting practice. A midwifery audit of a further 40 records and a multi-agency staff survey was also undertaken
- ✓ The IOWSCP multi-agency case file audit, looking at unborn and new-born baby cases, was rolled over to the 2022/23 audit programme due to the impact of the pandemic, but both the audit tool and terms of reference were developed and approved

**OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS:**

- The survey showed risk assessment tools for domestic abuse, mental health, teenage pregnancy, and substance misuse were well used and to a lesser extent concealed pregnancy, learning disabilities, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), trafficking and modern slavery and asylum seekers risk assessments had been used
- The audit revealed 100% of cases audited had an identified named midwife. In 87.5% of cases professionals discussed strengths, risks and needs with the family; in 82.5% of cases concerns were raised to CSC at 12 weeks or as soon as possible; 2.5% highlighted the case was only allocated prior to birth, but evidence provided of risk assessment and supporting agency information in relation to domestic abuse; 95% of cases were booked for antenatal care before 20 weeks
- A health visiting audit revealed 97% of mothers received antenatal contact from a health visitor and in most cases indicted risks were discussed
- Safeguarding Infants training has been provided to 120 professionals to date (see page 37)
- IOW NHS Trust have provided training to midwives and the protocol is embedded into safeguarding supervision
- Protocol scenarios are included in annual mandatory safeguarding training for all Doctors, Midwives and Healthcare Assistants (HCAs) at the IOW NHS Trust. Promotion of the Protocol in the CCG Safeguarding Newsletter and GP supervision
- Feedback from the audit process included: “Excellent communication between midwifery and health visiting” “Clear plans identifying roles and responsibilities of each professional” “Early identification of risk meant early engagement from social care and CIN plan for the child” “Risks clearly categorised using unborn protocol and appropriate signposting”
- Case example from the IOW NHS Trust: “A mother who had previously been subject to a prison sentence for neglect became pregnant again. The unborn child had a Child Protection Plan. Maternity services worked with both parents throughout the pregnancy providing bespoke parenting education in the home. Picture guides and practical demonstrations were used to support the mother. ICON and safe sleep were explained and reiterated throughout the pregnancy, and by birth, both parents had a good understanding of them. The baby was born and discharged home in the care of the parents who felt confident to handle post-natal care of the new-born due to the intensive antenatal education and support provided by maternity services.”

**AREAS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN 2022/23:**

- ★ Consideration of the report from the health-based audits and multi-agency survey findings will be taken to the PQA Group. Recommendations will be taken forward
- ★ A Southampton SCP multi-agency case file audit examining unborn and new-born baby cases, will take place in planned for Q4 2022/23

# Learning and improvement

## INDEPENDENT SCRUTINY AND ASSURANCE

Partners maintain the Learning & Improvement Framework, annually scrutinise and challenge performance, identify, disseminate, and embed learning and engage with IOW children and their families.

Scrutiny and assurance activities include consideration of decision making, risk assessment, consistent application of thresholds, the voice of the child and practice is reviewed through:

- ★ Quarterly data sets and reports, to evidence safeguarding practice and impact
- ★ Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPR) and single agency reviews
- ★ Examination of research, local and national reports, National Panel reviews
- ★ Themed multi-agency case file audits
- ★ Section 11 and Section 175/157 audit processes
- ★ Workforce learning and development evaluation and analysis of outcomes

## THE VOICE OF THE CHILD

- HYPE (Hearing Young People's Experiences) is a forum for young people in care and care leavers. The group meets monthly to discuss issues relating to the services they receive. They identify what is working well and areas for improvement, which are then discussed at the Corporate Parenting Board (local issues) and the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for children in care and care leavers (national issues). In 2021 there were 17 HYPE and HYPE junior meetings with a total attendance of 70 CYP.
- The Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) comprises of members and officers from across frontline services. The group meet quarterly and the voice of young people is a standing agenda item enabling them to raise issues. In 2021, there were 4 CPB meetings, with 10 young people attending. The CPB action plan is regularly reviewed and based around the pledges made to children in care and care leavers. There is a high level of scrutiny from councillors by incorporating the pledge into the running of the CPB in this manner.

Early help services are engaged in the corporate parenting effort to increase how included our island children feel within their local communities. Existing local support and provision is being mapped and there is potential grant money available for any gaps to be filled.

Care Leavers receive enhanced support from their Personal Assistants (PAs), have been offered multiple vouchers for food and have been able to request further support regarding their utilities to avoid any risk of fuel poverty. A savings policy has been drafted to ensure best practice is standard, with young people's increased knowledge of their savings, how to add to and access it.

## CORAM VOICE BRIGHT SPOTS SURVEY

There was a 72% IOW response rate to the 2021 'Your Life, Beyond Care' survey (a national record). The survey, co-created with young people, asks questions about quality of life and support from children's services. The results allow the local authority to hear a credible collective voice of its service users and make statistical comparisons with other authorities, against previous results. The survey is the largest annual single consultation and one of the three main streams of information informing the Participation Action Plan alongside HYPE and Have Your Say Week.

Child's voice:

*"A lot of my sadness, frustration, depression, and anxiety comes from [housing situation], makes me feel worthless."*

*"I do have goals and want to build a better life for myself, but I need a home so that I can feel safe have stability and start to feel good in myself."*











## EXAMPLES OF HOW FEEDBACK FROM CHILDREN AND FAMILIES HAVE BEEN SOUGHT AND USED

AGENCY	FEEDBACK SOUGHT:	CLIENTS SAID:	AGENCIES DID:
IOW NHS Trust	Views of families regarding paediatric services	<i>"Constant communication with doctors consultants meant I felt easily informed which provided much needed relief. I think you are all amazing and felt my little boy was so looked after, thank you!"</i>	Personal feedback is shared within the team, within supervision and team discussions.
Police	Voice of the child captured in Public Protection Notice (PPN1s) – information from parents/carers to risk assess and manage children in partnership who are vulnerable.	<i>"I was not in a good place and made the wrong decisions and I was not an easy person to talk to. I understand why police took the actions you did (i.e., Police Protection) when I was missing but I was not in a place to realise it at the time."</i>	Training staff in contextual safeguarding and trauma-informed practice. Contact Management have had specialist input from MET team. Exploitation training and Neighbourhoods have had MET officer inputs around managing low and medium risk exploitation for missing children. Child-Centred Policing (CCP) champion numbers increasing – scrutiny therefore increasing every two months. Victim blaming workshops for all CCP champions and feedback mechanism (newsletter) in place to all local policing.
CAMHS	How CYP were supported over the Covid period	Felt well supported and liked having check in calls to see how they were. Liked the option of online or face-to-face.	Continuing to offer virtual appointments if preferred.
	Setting goals in care plans. (part of a quality improvement project)	<i>"I knew what I was working on, the short-term ones were better, they were more memorable"</i>	Series of workshops held within the team on goal setting and how to improve the use of goals in assessment and treatment.
YOT	Intervention exit surveys completed by young people and families	<i>"You've helped me a lot. You've not once judged me for what I've done. You fought my corner when you saw an injustice and you gave me time and patience that other people couldn't give me. Your support has meant I've been able to get better opportunities for my future. I enjoyed my time at YOT and knew I could always talk to you and you would listen and help."</i>	YOT managers routinely seek to reinforce evidence of good practice with the team and highlight any areas of constructive feedback.
Barnardo's	Collected from families and CYP for all of the services Barnardo's deliver	<i>"It was useful to understand why my child was behaving like that and to understand that the trigger for the behaviour isn't all the same. I also found it interesting watching the videos attached to the eLearning as it gave me more of a visual understanding what my child may be experiencing in some situations"</i>	Managers review worker feedback which enables them to monitor worker performance and effectiveness of the intervention. Parental feedback ensures workers are enabling parents to make positive changes rather than become dependent on services.

AGENCY	FEEDBACK SOUGHT:	CLIENTS SAID:	AGENCIES DID:
Barnardo's (continued)	Collected from families and CYP for all of the services Barnardo's deliver.	<i>"I feel that some of the course content wording was quite negative, particularly the session on sibling relationships. I feel that using the medical, rather than the social, model led to some of this negativity."</i>	A parent's workshop was held to look at the syllabus and parents and course facilitators adapted content to include more appropriate terminology.  The length of the ASC course sessions has been extended to enable more time for parents to bring their personal questions and challenges so the group can support and also
Paragon	Exit from the service, both parents and children.  Staff feedback identified that we needed more child friendly/focussed paperwork across the Paragon services.	New draft client and staff feedback has been trialled with different age ranges and geographical locations. Feedback was discussed with the different Paragon CYP staff, adapted and further improved.  The children seem to enjoy completing the new forms as they are more appropriate and more conducive to discussion and promoting interaction.	The assessment paperwork, safety planning and assessment paperwork work was changed to make it more accessible to children.  The permission to share forms have been adapted so that they are easier to understand, they are differentiated so can be used by younger and older children and young people.
Primary schools	<b>Brighstone Primary</b> Safeguarding pupil conferencing to identify who the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is and what safeguarding means to them. This was part of governor monitoring.	Of the children surveyed, 100% of children surveyed said that they feel safe in school. <i>"Teachers will look after me."</i> When asked what would you do if you feel sad or worried in school, they said: <i>"Talk to an adult or friend", "Talk to one of the adults on the posters in the toilets", "Contact Childline on the posters in the toilets/classrooms"</i> . 90% of the children surveyed could name the DSL or Deputy DSL (DDSL).	Due to the fact that not all children could name the DSL, the DSL lead a safeguarding assembly for the whole school using NSPCC Buddy resources. A follow-up pupil conference is booked for June to measure the impact.
Special schools	<b>Medina House</b> As part of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) consultation parents were asked 'Thinking about relationships, health and mental wellbeing, what do you think is the most important topic to be taught and why?'	Safety - being safe and respectful in relationships.  Hygiene and what's appropriate behaviour towards others.  Mental wellbeing as relationships and good health are only achievable with a positive mental wellbeing.  Stranger danger/online safety, safety in the home and environment as our children are very vulnerable and can be easily led.  Controlling emotions.	RSE lead to deliver training to parents on the schools 'Be safe' programme and hygiene and healthy eating. Education Mental Health Practitioner (EMHP) referrals made, and parents reported that the work they did on anxiety and the resources they received have been really useful. One parent recently reported in a CIN meeting it has been life changing for her family. The child's anxiety has reduced both at home and school. More referrals have been made to the Wellbeing Service which has had positive outcomes. The behaviour lead has held behaviour meetings with parents with positive feedback.

## MULTI-AGENCY SAFEGUARDING DATA

Our PQA Group produce a six-monthly report from data submitted by partner agencies. It highlights trends and questions for the Board to consider and action. Two data reports were considered by the Board during 2021/22 and the following points/questions posed:

QUESTIONS / MATTERS RAISED		RESPONSES
Acknowledged sustained increase in demand across the system caused by the pandemic. A rise in emotional, domestic abuse, mental health and wellbeing. Asked what had been put in place by agencies on the IOW?		CSC, Paragon and CAMHS secured additional funding to increase service provision for children to meet current demand.
There has been a gradual increase in the number of homeless decisions made to accept a duty for families with children.		IWC Housing department continue to manage the rise in homeless families, and without using B&Bs since this is deemed unsuitable for families and is only used as a last resort, prioritising them for more stable housing as swiftly as possible.
Police data needs to be separated out between sexual exploitation and criminal exploitation with commentary to explain the data provided.		This was rectified and now enables greater scrutiny of the types of exploitation and whether on or offline. Some commentary is now provided to explain patterns and trends and police operations underway which might impact on data.
There is an improvement in the percentage of return conversations being recorded within Social Care for children who go missing.		Enhanced support and training, particularly to new and agency social workers, this will continue to be delivered to ensure performance is sustained.
The percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation reached the target level of 90% and those in education, employment or learning reached the target level of 70%.		This had been a focus area. The lock down periods gave young people time and space to consider their future plans and some re-joined education.
Access to dental provision for looked after children is a significant cause for concern.		Report presented to the Board providing assurance about the work the CCG and Local Authority were undertaking to address this issue. The pandemic impacted on the ability to secure dental appointments and improvements should now be seen but there are still some older children in care who despite the best efforts refuse to attend.
Data now received from adult mental health and substance misuse services in relation to adults who have associated children, and data on the number of children linked to domestic abuse crimes. The PQA group asked the Board to consider how adult services are using this information to support access to preventative services or early interventions/support?		Adult mental health services have focussed on safeguarding children training and use of a Family Approach to services. Consideration is given to dependent children and possible impact of adult mental ill-health on the safety and well-being of the child. Inclusion IOW are now more explicit in their client discussions around the safety and wellbeing of any children their clients are responsible for and working together to mitigate any risks.
Acknowledged the current high level of suspensions and exclusions from schools, Electively Home Educated (EHE) children and those in reduced hours provision. It is suggested the Board should be updated on the specific work underway with regards to reducing these rates.		A new priority for the 2022/23 business plan to scope out school attendance in detail with a view to making it a longer-term priority. A multi-agency case file audit will provide some baseline information and the Education Subgroup will monitor the data closely and carry out mapping activity to identify the factors involved.

## LOCAL AGENCY ANNUAL REPORTS

Reports were presented to the PQA group in 2021/22 providing assurance about agency approaches to safeguarding children, and they served to further develop a shared understanding of services and how they operate. Representatives answered questions posed by group members and actions were taken forward via the tracker for example:

AGENCY	QUESTIONS / MATTERS RAISED		RESPONSES
<b>MAPPA</b>	Did the Covid lockdowns contribute to increased activity in level 1 offending?	➔	MAPPA had expected to see an increase in offending online at home, but the data so far is not reflecting this, but it will be monitored
<b>Cafcass</b>	Will the meetings between Cafcass and Social Care staff continue as they have been very positive and beneficial?	➔	A rolling programme of meetings was being set up to maintain this even if staff change
<b>Beaulieu House</b>	What age would Beaulieu like to see the transition arrangements for young people start at?	➔	Beaulieu would like it to begin at 16 years, but the Area Director would like it to start at 14 years 9 months to allow plenty of time to plan with families
<b>Disabled Children's Team</b>	What new initiatives are in train?	➔	Work has begun to develop better ways to gain feedback from children with significant disabilities and communication difficulties
<b>IOW NHS Trust</b>	Are there plans to replace the Substance Misuse Midwife who is retiring?	➔	This has been raised but it is unclear whether this post is being replaced or midwives will be upskilled to carry out this work as part of their day-to-day role
<b>Education and Inclusion</b>	Is there a mandatory question on the exclusion notification form regarding CERA completion and disabilities of child since these might signal additional vulnerabilities for the child?	➔	New Notification forms and data system, ensure the service receives information regarding CERAFs, SEND, and other vulnerabilities.
<b>Early Help</b>	Has the Early Help offer been sufficiently promoted with early years providers as referrals are low at this stage but jump markedly as children start school?	➔	Early Help Coordinator to link with Barnardo's to provide refresher training in early help with early years providers across the IOW.

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## LOCAL CHILD SAFEGUARDING PRACTICE REVIEWS (LCSPRs)

The Learning Inquiry Group (LIG) considers cases referred to determine whether a Child Safeguarding Practice Review is appropriate and proportionate. The group also discuss and disseminate learning from scoping processes, local single agency reviews and national case reviews.

The purpose of reviews of serious child safeguarding cases both at a local and national level, is to identify improvements in practice to be made to safeguard and promote the welfare of children by better understanding what happened and why things happened as they did.

**Serious child safeguarding cases are those in which:**

- **Abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected and**
- **The child has been seriously harmed**

During 2021/22, one case was referred to LIG for consideration, but it did not meet the criteria for a review. It was more appropriately taken to the multi-agency safeguarding leads meeting for discussion.

A practitioner learning event was agreed in 2021 for a case brought to LIG in 2020/21, a Learning Event Report was completed and learning workshops will be held in 2022/23.

### Key themes to come out of cases scoped and/or reviewed in 2021/22 were:

- Be prepared to think the unthinkable
- Maintain professional curiosity
- Monitor closely children who move repeatedly between Elective Home Education and School and the reasons for this
- Consider services available to support parent/carers experiencing adolescent to parent violence
- Ensure EHE team access ICS records where children are known to Social Care
- Consider what the child is trying to communicate through their words and behaviours
- Agencies to be clear about the difference between signposting and referring families to services

An LCSPR for [Child I](#) was published in January 2021 and 3 virtual multi-agency learning workshops held in July 2021. These enabled dissemination of the learning. Agencies provided the following inputs at the workshop:

- ✓ **IOWSCP and YOT** – LCSPRs and their purpose; review recommendations; a timeline of key events in Child I's life leading up to the child's death.

- ✓ **Public Health** – Suicide prevention and awareness of the [protocol](#); training available; local and national data
- ✓ **CAMHS** – Mental Health Support Team service being piloted in 8 IOW schools; use of the 'was not brought' leaflet explored
- ✓ **Early Help Team** – The importance of timely consideration of [Early Help services](#) for adolescents explored

## EVALUATION OF WORKSHOPS

100% of participants strongly agreed or agreed that they understood how to apply what they had learnt into their day-to-day job

Participants responses on how they would change their practice as a result of the workshop:

*“ Never wait for 'the next' meeting if you have concerns - no matter how small. Always share with relevant agencies ”*

*“ Continue to offer help and support - even if consistently turned down ”*

*“ Make sure that I follow up with families that I have signposted to support to ensure that they have followed this through ”*

## AGENCIES REPORTED THE FOLLOWING OUTCOMES AS A RESULT OF SHARING CASE I:

**Barnardo's** - Managers ensure all assessments include a section that records all family members and significant others in children's lives. This has been embedded across mental health services. Senior managers in supervision ensure workers are being professionally inquisitive about others in the household, establishing relationships and roles. Managers use team meetings to remind front line staff about relationships and family dynamics.

**YOT**- Highlighted the issue of Adolescent to Parent Violence (APV). A second “Who's in charge” 9-week programme delivered to parents who experience APV. Development of an interagency meeting to discuss children who are under 16 who display this behaviour. Workers are encouraged to persist in engaging with children who may initially present as unwilling/unmotivated to engage, particularly where there are evidenced concerns in respect to safety and wellbeing.

**Shalfleet and Yarmouth** - Increased offer of Early Help and Pastoral Support across the Federation which saw significant increase in the numbers.



**Medina House** – Through the new Help Hut gain more information about the whole family context which in turn led to more referrals to strengthening families, EMHPs and the wellbeing service as well as MASH referrals, and signposting to mental health support for parents.

**Wroxall Primary** - Context with current safeguarding cases ongoing within the school and cases reviewed to ensure that nothing learnt from the Case I review had been missed, including signposting for additional support. Suicide awareness information and signposting shared with parents. National reviews will be built into safeguarding training for staff.

**Oakfield Primary** - Reviewed Early Help offer for families. Further training sought on the Early Help Assessment process and the offer for DDSL. The opening of 'Oakfield Family Hub and Community Pantry' will regularly provide drop-ins and professional advice/support for families in need to identify strategies early on and provide support sooner.

### SINGLE AGENCY REVIEWS

IOW agencies present to the LIG the reviews they have undertaken, enabling effective information sharing, discussion, and scrutiny of each other's safeguarding work.

### GOOD PRACTICE REPORT

Two good practice reports were presented by Health, both cases involved women with unborn/new-born babies. Areas of strength in the multi-agency response to managing these complex cases included:

- ✓ Effective multi-agency planning and use of professional's meetings
- ✓ Flexible approaches and timely interventions
- ✓ Good support and advice offered across agencies
- ✓ Good outcomes for both women and their babies.

### RESEARCH, LOCAL AND NATIONAL REPORTS, NATIONAL PANEL REVIEWS

**HIPS Learning from LCSPRs** – HIPS Managers share learning from their LCSPRs which enables an exchange of information about common or emerging themes, and opportunities to optimise learning across the HIPS area.

**Practice Briefing on National Reviews** – The Hants and IOW Partnership Managers provided Children's Services Senior Management Team with Practice

Briefings on the National Panel Review Reports, Strategic Leads found the session impactful and agreed to brief their teams to ensure learning was disseminated widely:

#### It Was Hard to Escape (National) report

**Barnardo's:** Shared and discussed with UTurn worker and discussed in supervision. Plan to share within family practitioner team meetings.

**Broadlea Primary:** Family Liaison Officer (FLO) enrolled to attend CERAF training, school considers the need to complete a Child Exploitation Risk Assessment Framework (CERAF) for bullying/inappropriate online activity when concerns are raised from outside of school. School provides parents with online links and information to better understand the concept of criminal and sexual exploitation, referrals to UTurn as needed, increased awareness of older siblings and the possible risks they may be facing. School always considers the older sibling attending college or high school – school share information with other. One child was escalated to CP as a result of working in partnership to complete CERAF. One child was subject to S47 as a result of completing CERAF in partnership with other professionals

*" This helped me understand what risks my child was taking and being exposed to"*

*" It was embarrassing to think that it was happening, but your help made all the difference to keep them safe "*

#### Out of Routine (National) Report

**IOW NHS Trust:** The Safeguarding Children Team supported a number of multi-agency sessions delivered by the IOWSCP regarding Safeguarding Infants, specifically looking at Safer Sleep, ICON, bruising/injuries in non-mobile babies and overlay.

There is a clear process in the Trust to hold a Child Death Review meeting for every child death. They also have a regular Mortality and Morbidity meeting where baby deaths or serious illnesses are discussed. All actions and modifiable factors are shared with the local Child Death Overview Panel for their consideration. Information regarding themes and actions is fed back to the Trust.

#### Myth of Invisible Men (National) Report

**IOW NHS Trust:** Actively encourage Midwives to explore the role of the father/partners during pregnancy and postnatally. Any vulnerabilities a father or partner may have are clearly documented and risk assessed using the Unborn Baby Safeguarding Protocol.

Currently all PPN1s for children are shared with the GP and 0-19 team, these often include details of fathers/partners who may pose a risk to children, information sharing was particularly highlighted in this report as being crucial to protect babies from non-accidental injuries (NAIs).

**Broadlea Primary:** now has a more open approach towards contacting a father as a first point of contact and actively seeks father's input into plans, and if there is a history of domestic abuse seeks to include father.

**Hunnyhill Primary:** hold annual safeguarding training for all staff. Any updates, learning from reviews and news are included. They look at signs and triggers and how and what they report. The school has a clear ethos that 'it could happen here at our school/already is happening here'. A higher level of males from families are attending Early Help and support meetings, and the male voice has increased by using the Dojo communication app so that more males and family members can get in contact.

**Solent NHS Trust:** The safeguarding team have shared across the Trust all the national and the local reviews. These are featured within the SoSafe staff newsletter with a narrative around the impact on practice and learning.

One-minute guides have been produced and recirculated on hidden adults within the home, and myth of the invisible men has featured as a learning session at Solent safeguarding steering group. Reviews are used to inform safeguarding supervision sessions.

Raising awareness of impact and recommendations in practice. Identifying the significant others in a child's life are standards within 0-19/dental assessments and where appropriate some sexual health assessments. Conversations are continuing about best practice in linking fathers and partners health records to a child's health record in Solent.



## CDOP REPORTS

The LIG received several CDOP reports and discussed themes, key findings, modifiable factors and how these might apply at a local level. These included a neonatal death themed briefing report, a death by suicide themed briefing report and the CDOP bi-annual report.

## MULTI-AGENCY CASE FILE AUDITS

Thematic multi-agency case file audits are planned by the PQA group as part of the IOWSCP's scrutiny and quality assurance work. They are led by a multi-agency panel, chaired by a Service Lead and practitioners involved in the cases participate in an honest and open reflection on the cases arriving at agreed strengths and areas for further development in practice.

In 2021/22 four audits were planned, but due to pressures on the system caused by the pandemic two were not completed. One will be completed in 22/23 and the other (MASH case file audit) was covered by the JTAI Inspection in Hampshire of the Hampshire and IOW MASH.

## CASE FILE AUDIT 1 - SAFEGUARDING ADOLESCENTS AT RISK OF, OR EXPERIENCING CSE OR CCE

- ★ 10 cases audited
- ★ 40 staff attended

Reason for theme: To see how well the new CERAF had been embedded in practice and how effective responses to cases referred to METRAC were.

### Key strengths (in all 10 cases audited):

- ✓ The **referral for services was timely** and included CERAF information, an account of family history and other contextual information
- ✓ **Recording in assessments was concise and factual** and included voice of the child and key adults
- ✓ The **assessment was child focussed** and took account of the wishes and feelings of the child
- ✓ **Relevant professionals were involved in the assessment** and where there were child protection concerns there was clear assessment of risk
- ✓ The plans **identified and addressed the needs** and risks to the child
- ✓ **Planning objectives were clear, child focussed** and clearly laid out expectations

- ✓ The **interventions put in place were appropriate** to meet the needs of the child, there was evidence of continued engagement by all agencies involved
- ✓ **Plans were reviewed and updated** at regular intervals including the level of risk to the child
- ✓ In all 7 cases where the risks had changed at the review meeting, the **CERAF was revised** and sent to MASH
- ✓ The **views of the child and adults were actively sought** and recorded as part of the review process
- ✓ There was **evidence of cases supervision and case management decisions** in recording
- ✓ The **child's needs were met, and they were safe**

#### Key opportunities for improvement to strengthen practice:

- ★ National Referral Mechanism (NRM) referrals - 3 referrals were made where it was appropriate to do so, but factors in two cases could also have triggered referrals. A revised HIPS NRM pathway is in draft and will be used to promote NRM completion and improve practitioner awareness.
- ★ The child as a young carer - consideration was given of the child as a young carer for 1 case, but there were a further 2 cases where this should have been a consideration. This is now part of assessment processes and there has been a rise in PQA data of the number of young carer referrals. PQA will continue to monitor improvements.
- ★ Distribution of revised plans and meeting notes - there was some variation of practice in ensuring all meeting notes and revised plans were sent to all involved practitioners and families in two cases. This will remain as an audit question to monitor improvements.
- ★ Professional challenge - In 3 cases the panel believed there should have been professional challenge.
- ★ Consent and information sharing - in 3 cases there were difficulties securing consent for assessments and in 1 case information sharing between CSC and Health needed improvement.
- ★ Missed opportunities - In 7 of the cases the panel felt there were some missed opportunities: Reducing the number of placement moves for the child (though this was made difficult during Covid), taking better account of the child's previous history and the number of safeguarding issues present.

#### Survey results on use of the CERAF:

459 people completed the survey across the HIPS area:

92% were aware of the CERAF and changes made to it

84% knew how to use the CERAF

82% felt confident at using the CERAF

93% of those who had completed a CERAF had used their professional judgement

85% said they welcomed training. Only 29% had attended so far, so further sessions were arranged

#### Recommendations:

1. Multi-agency case studies should be generated from the case audit as exemplars of best practice and added to the Safeguarding Adolescents and Child Sexual Abuse Strategy Toolkits
2. Board members should circulate the NRM pathway to promote understanding and effective use of the NRM across their agencies.
3. Agencies to be assured through monitoring that revised plans and meeting notes are always sent to family members and professionals involved in cases in a timely way.
4. METRAC to monitor the prevalence of ADHD diagnoses among cases referred and how this might inform the support offered and how it's delivered.



## CASE FILE AUDIT 2 - TRANSITION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES TO ADULTHOOD AND ADULT SERVICES

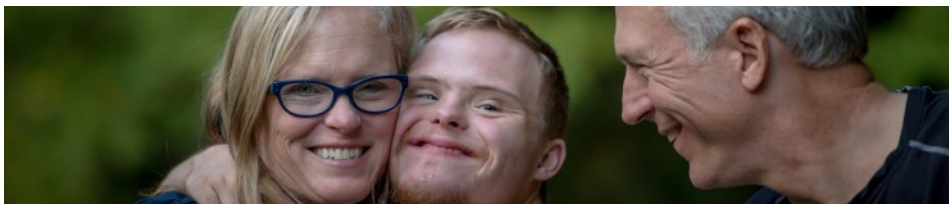
★ 10 cases were audited

★ 40 staff attended

Reason for theme: To look at the support provided to children/young adults with complex needs in the process of their transition to adulthood and adults services. To explore what arrangements are in place to support the particular vulnerabilities of this group of young people.

### Key Strengths:

- ✓ The **assessment was family focussed** and took account of family circumstances
- ✓ The **assessment of the young person demonstrated their wishes**, feelings, and ideas
- ✓ **Interventions had a positive impact** on the young person's safety and well-being
- ✓ **Evidence of regular case supervision/reflection** for staff
- ✓ **Relevant case or family history was taken account of** and any other contributory factors. This is an area the IOWSCP is seeking assurance from agencies as part of the Case I recommendations
- ✓ **Specific needs and vulnerabilities were assessed**
- ✓ **Planning objectives at each stage were clear and young person focussed**, and outlined the actions to be taken by professionals, parents/carers and the young person
- ✓ **Indicators of expected outcomes at each stage were clear**, achievable, recorded and focussed on impact for the young person
- ✓ **Services were appropriate** to address the young person's needs
- ✓ **Views of the young person and their family were actively sought** and recorded as part of the review using principles of "no decision about me without me"
- ✓ **Evidence of continued engagement** of all relevant agencies in planned work



### Key development opportunities to strengthen practice:

- ★ Agencies to plan ahead to ensure an EHCP is applied for and in place at the earliest opportunity to enable an effective transition
- ★ Applications for adult mental health services were made, but not always taken forward until the young person was 18 - difficult interface between child and adult services with the care plan being put in place after the young adult was 18. CAMHS were effective at holding cases, robust in maintaining support and following up on referrals until proper plans were in place for the young adult
- ★ Professionals and young people to be better aware of the entitlement from age 14 to a learning disability annual health check via their GP
- ★ CERAFs to be completed/reviewed at the point of transfer to adult services to ensure those services are aware of any exploitation risks in order to manage them appropriately

### Recommendations added to the audit tracker

1. Panel members to create case studies from the cases examined in the audit to provide best practice exemplars for the Safeguarding Adolescents Toolkit and attached to the multi-agency pathway created
2. Health, Education, Police and Social Care work together to develop a joint Transitions Pathway for young people with disabilities and/or complex education or health needs, to enable a well-planned and smooth transition process for vulnerable young adults
3. Primary Care to disseminate information on Learning Disability Annual Health Checks available from age 14 years including entitlement criteria to all agencies
4. Children's Social Care and SEN Teams to include information on the Learning Disability Annual Health Check as part of Local Offer and EHCP information
5. CERAFs to be completed and sent to the Transitions Team for all children with disabilities or complex education or health needs by the lead professionals prior to transfer to adult services, to assist with recognition of and planning for any exploitation risks and vulnerabilities identified so that the risks to the young adult can be managed affectively
6. School Nurses to be invited to CIN meetings, Care Leavers meetings and EHCP Reviews as key members where the young adult has health needs, so that they can be effectively involved in the transition process where appropriate
7. CCG to consider liaison with GPs to ensure that they have that fact that a child has an EHCP flagged and necessary information on their records

## SECTION 11 AUDIT

The IOWSCP undertakes a two-year cycle to monitor each organisations compliance with section 11 of the Children Act (2004), as part of it's statutory duty. This process has been strengthened by use of a staff survey and a co-ordinated approach across HIPS.

**Part 1** of the cycle was undertaken in 2020. Audits tools and staff surveys were completed. Review Panels were held to review submissions and agencies were provided with feedback and clarification or action sought where needed. A full report on the Part 1 was presented to the Board in 2021.

**Part 2** of the cycle was undertaken in 2021. Agencies were required to identify progress on their 2020 action plans. These were then reviewed by a multi-agency panel and feedback and challenge to agencies followed.

### Key Strengths:

- ✓ Detailed responses provided in returns was commendable and provided good assurance to that agencies had followed up on advice and questions raised
- ✓ Most agencies had progressed their action plan priorities in a timely way and were clear about next steps
- ✓ Agencies had been flexible and creative in their service provision during the pandemic in order to manage and mitigate risks and maintain eyes on children

### Areas for development:

- Future section 11 audit cycles will include structured conversations and visits to verify self-assessments, discuss and seek assurance on areas of concern, and share good practice. These were not viable during the pandemic
- Review the Hants and IOW Thresholds document and training for agencies on its application
- Full review of the self-assessment tool is planned for May 2022. A full review of progress on agency action plan objectives to be assured of their completion will be completed later in 2022

## SAFEGUARDING IN EDUCATION AUDIT

Under section 175 and 157 of the Education Act 2002, all schools are required to carry out an annual self-assessment audit to review their safeguarding arrangements for children. In 2021, 100% of IOW schools and colleges completed a self-assessment. The results of the completed tools were analysed and a report

produced with comparative data, which will be shared at the DSL Conference in June 2022.

The tool is updated annually in-line with legislation: [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#), [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#) and [EYFS guidance](#). A bespoke audit tool is used for language schools.

AREA FOR DEVELOPMENT	OUTCOME
Scope a project to provide training to schools and settings on prejudicial language and behaviour	The project was scoped and a proposal taken to the Business Group. Whilst the project was seen as highly beneficial, it was agreed that it should be funded through Education and not the IOWSCP, as it was primarily a single-agency project. Work is now well underway to implement the project fully in a growing number of schools on the IOW
To ensure schools are fully prepared for implementation of the RSHE/RSE curriculum	A survey was issued regarding implementation of the RSE curriculum and training/support provided for all schools, tailored to their needs
Request schools provide updates to their action plans	Due to the pandemic and lock down periods, schools were reminded to review their action plans within their teams in preparation for the revised self-assessment timetable, with the new tool being sent out in early September 2021

There were a range of actions on individual school action plans from 2020, and progress on these was re-visited in the 2021 audit tool process and visits.

### Key Data:

- [Section 1 – Safeguarding information for all staff](#)

97% of schools self-assessed items in this section as being fully in place and 3% partly in place

- [Section 2 – The Management of Safeguarding through School leadership \(including recruitment and selection\)](#)

97% of schools self-assessed items in this section as being fully in place and 3% partly in place.

• Section 3 – Local Arrangements

80% of schools self-assessed items in this section as being fully in place, 18% partly in place and 2% not in place. Safeguarding training was lower than previous years at 60% fully in place, this was mainly around allegations management training, family approach and neglect which was made difficult during lock downs.

• Section 4 – Prejudicial Language and Behaviour

22% of schools had this fully in place, 58% partly in place and 20% not in place. This is the second year for this piece of work and schools have not yet fully embedded it in their policies. 37 schools recognise it as a priority area.

**Overall, 94% of items were fully in place, 5% were partly in place and 1% were not in place, showing increased confidence that safeguarding requirements were being met**

Data was also collected on children leaving schools to become EHE. It showed years R, 9 and 10 were the groups where between 29 and 33 children left and a total of 181 children left to become EHE. However, 49 children later re-joined schools after a period of EHE.

Analysis of the 2021 self-assessment audit tool submissions demonstrated some key areas identified for further development by schools:

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS	AREA IDENTIFIED FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT
38	Tweak policies and procedures to ensure they are up to date, signed off by Governors and staff have all read and understood
20	Update and embed systems and procedures with particular emphasis on CPOMS
25	Undertake appropriate training, in particularly allegations management and new local domestic abuse
21	Embed revised Neglect Strategy and Toolkit
13	Continue to improve online safety

**WORKFORCE LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

The joint Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) and IOWSCP Workforce Development subgroup (WFD) is well established and there is synergy between the two workforce development agendas in terms of pooled budgets for areas of joint interest. A cyclical process is in place for ensuring multi-agency training meets the needs of the workforce and this is underpinned by the following activity:



**Learning Needs Analysis:** is undertaken annually and consideration is given to feedback from an annual staff survey of workforce development needs alongside evaluations, attendance records and observations of training delivered. Learning needs are also identified through the partnerships scrutiny and assurance programmes and reviews.

A total of 20 courses were offered during 2021/22 with 646 attendees from a wide range of agencies. Due to the pandemic, courses continued to be delivered virtually.

Data from the 2021/22 programme of learning and development showed that:

- ✓ 95% of attendees strongly agreed or agreed, that training met its learning outcomes.
- ✓ 97% of attendees strongly agreed or agreed, that they understood how to apply the learning in their day-to-day job
- ✓ 88% of all attendees felt the style of delivery enhanced their experience of the event

Attendee evaluation included actions they intended to take in their workplace as a result of the training. A selection are included below:

**General comments on IOWSCP Training offer:**

“ Thought they were all really good and well-structured and delivered. Have used aspects from all of them in practice particularly in relation to complex cases with multi-agency involvement. Multi-agency training has been really useful for developing a common language for meetings, plans and feedback to young people/parents ”

Working Together to Safeguard Children and Young People (Level 3):

“ It reminded me to think about the triangle and use this when making a safeguarding referral to strengthen my reasons and make sure I understand the issues I am referring for and am showing concerns over ”

Complex Multi-Agency Safeguarding Children (Level 4):

“ Very well-run course - knowledgeable and professional - good and effective use of case studies and participant input ”

Brook Sexual Behaviours Traffic Light Tool:

“ I really enjoyed this course. It was useful and informative and has given me greater confidence in my knowledge going forward ”

Teenage Sexual Behaviours:

“ I found the sexual health training workshop useful and have used the sexual health clinic facility for students and would not have known that it was in existence without the training ”

Understanding, Identifying and Responding to Neglect:

“ It has changed how we evidence concerns – e.g., using the neglect toolkit we support staff to identify and report ”

Choice and Control in Hoarding Behaviours:

“ The training really gave me an insight into the complex mental health issues that sit along side those that hoard ”

Childrens Reception Team and Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (CRT MASH):

“ Now team members know what to expect when they submit an IARF and feel confident to challenge when necessary regarding responses and expectations regarding the IARF completer and their key role in the assessment process ”

Missing, Exploited and Trafficked Children (MET):

“ It was brilliant - trainer was just so inspiring and managed to keep morale so high even with online learning and such a challenging subject to discuss. He was so knowledgeable, and I left inspired by him ”

Engaging and Working with Fathers in Child Protection:

“ We now ask for father’s voice in meetings, reviews and parent meetings. Parent meetings are held virtually as this enables more to attend. We have seen an increase in fathers attending who may previously have been at work, live on the mainland or abroad ”

Community Partnership Information Form (CPI):

“ I now have a deeper understanding about when to use the CPI form and the purpose it serves especially in disrupting exploitation ”

Harmful Practices - An Introduction to Child Abuse Linked to Faith and Belief - CALFB (Including Witchcraft):

“ I am better equipped to discern cultural aspects of family norms verses what could be safeguarding concerns when thinking family as I attended the seminar training ”



# Business Plan Priorities for 2022/23

The Partnership reviewed its Business Plan priorities at a Development Day in January 2022 and agreed a revision of thematic work to respond to local and national areas of safeguarding need, as well as objectives from 2020/21 where further action was needed.

The new Business Plan outlines the main objectives of the IOWSCP for 2022/23. The Partnership acknowledged that we continue to live in exceptional times, defined by the Covid pandemic. Accordingly, the revised Business Plan encompasses some new short-term objectives and continuation of longer-term objectives to bring them to completion in 2022/23.

## PART A — LONG-TERM STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Safeguarding Adolescents
- Neglect
- Child Sexual Abuse

## PART B — SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

- Evaluate the impact of IOWSCP initiatives and programmes
- Promoting the work of the IOWSCP
- Scoping the scale of the problem of non-attendance and exclusion of vulnerable children at school to better understand the issues

## PART C — MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

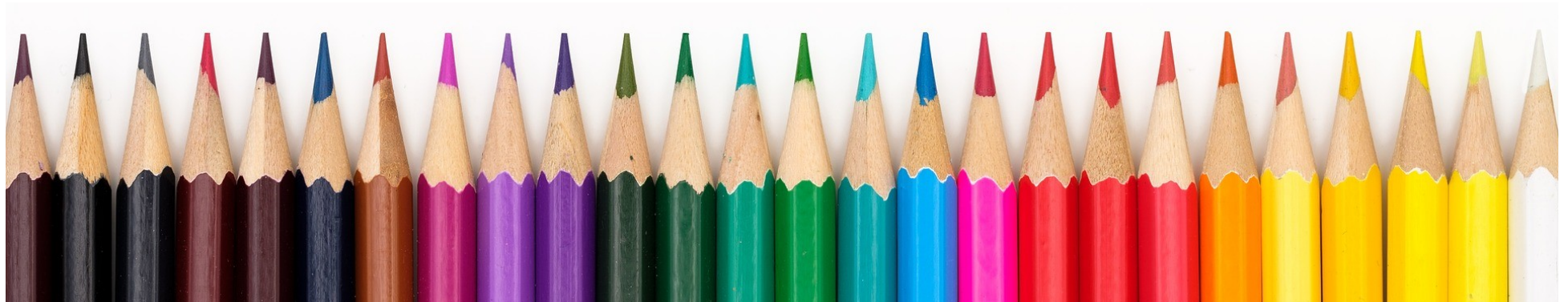
- Reducing non-accidental injuries in under 1's
- Keeping children safe online
- The Year 3 Business Plan can be found in full on the [IOWSCP website](#).





# Relevant Agencies

- Adult Mental Health Services
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- Child And Family Court Advisory Service (CAFCAS)
- Early Years Settings
- Education establishments (primary, secondary, independent, post-16 years provisions, special schools, pupil referral units)
- Faith Groups
- Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Service
- Healthcare providers (including those represented through membership of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP))
- Housing Providers
- Inclusion IOW
- Isle of Wight Coroner's Office
- Isle of Wight Primary Care providers
- Isle of Wight Council, Adults Social Care (ASC)
- Isle of Wight Council, Childrens Social Care (CSC)
- Isle of Wight Council, Education and Inclusion
- Isle of Wight Council, Housing
- Isle of Wight Council, Public Health
- Isle of Wight Council, Regulatory Services
- Isle of Wight NHS Trust
- Isle of Wight Youth Offending Team (YOT)
- Language Schools
- Love 146
- National Probation Service (NPS)
- NHS England/Improvement
- Paragon
- Perinatal Mental Health, Southern Health
- Solent NHS Trust
- Sporting Organisations, via the Hampshire and Isle of Wight County Sports Partnership (Energise Me). This includes national sporting bodies who have branches operating on the IOW such as the Football Agency (FA)
- The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)
- Voluntary Sector Organisations



# Glossary

4LSAB — 4 Local Safeguarding Adults Boards	EIS — Education and Inclusion Service
ADHD — Attention Deficiency Hyperactivity Disorder	EHCP — Education, Health and Care Plan
APPG — All-Party Parliamentary Group	EHE — Electively Home Educated
APV— Adolescent to Parent Violence	EMHP— Education Mental Health Practitioner
ASC— Adult Social Care	FGM — Female Genital Mutilation
CAFCASS — Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service	FLO — Family Liaison Officer
CALFB — Child Abuse linked to Faith and Belief	FTE — First Time Entrants
CAMHS — Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service	HCA's — Health Care Assistants
CAST — Children's Assessment Safeguarding Team	HIPS — Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton Safeguarding Children Partnerships
CCE — Child Criminal Exploitation	HRDA — High Risk Domestic Abuse
CCG — Clinical Commissioning Group	HSCP — Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership
CCP — Child-Centred Policing	HSIOWCCG—Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group
CDOP — Child Death Overview Panel	HYPE — Hearing Young People's Experiences
CERAF — Child Exploitation Risk Assessment Framework	ICON — Infant crying is normal, Comforting methods can help, It's okay to walk away, Never, ever shake a baby
CIN — Children In Need	ICPC — Initial Child Protection Conference
CME — Child Missing from Education	ICS — Integrated Care System
CP — Child Protection	IOW — Isle of Wight
CPB—Corporate Parenting Board	IOWSCP — Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership
CPI—Community Partnership Information form	ISVA — Independent Sexual Violence Adviser
CPOMS — Child Protection Online Management System	IWC — Isle of Wight Council
CPP — Child Protection Plan	JTAI — Joint Targeted Area Inspection
CRC — Community Rehabilitation Company	KCSiE — Keeping Children Safe in Education
CRT — Children's Reception Team	KS2 — Key Stage 2
CSA — Child Sexual Abuse	LAC — Looked After Child
CSC — Children's Social Care	LADO — Local Authority Designated Officer
CSE — Child Sexual Exploitation	LCSPR — Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review
CYP — Children and Young People	LIG — Learning Inquiry Group
DAF — Domestic Abuse Forum	
DDSL — Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	
DSL — Designated Safeguarding Lead	

# Glossary

LSCP — Local Safeguarding Children Partnership  
MAPPA — Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements  
MARAC— Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference  
MASH — Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub  
MET — Missing, Exploited and Trafficked  
METRAC — Missing, Exploited, Trafficked Risk Assessment Conference  
MHLD — Mental Health & Learning Disabilities  
NEET — Not in Education, Employment, or Training  
NPS — National Probation Service  
NRM — National Referral Mechanism  
OPCC — Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner  
PA — Personal Assistant  
PEX—Permanent Exclusion  
PHSE— Personal, Social, Health and Economic  
POPS—People on Probation  
PPN1 — Public Protection Notice  
PQA — Performance & Quality Assurance Group  
RSE — Relationships and Sex Education  
SAB — Safeguarding Adults Board  
SCBU—Special Care Baby Unit  
SCP — Safeguarding Children Partnership  
SCR — Serious Case Review  
SE — South East  
SEN — Special Educational Needs  
SEND — Special Educational Needs and Disabilities  
SLT — Senior Leadership Team  
TAM — Temporary Accommodation Meeting  
TORs—Terms of Reference  
UASC — Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Child  
VRU — Violence Reduction Unit

WFD — Workforce Development  
YCP — Youth Crime Prevention  
YOT — Youth Offending Team



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Purpose: For Consideration

## Committee report

<b>Committee</b>	<b>POLICY AND SCRUTINY, CHILDREN'S SERVICES EDUCATION AND SKILLS</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>1 DECEMBER 2022</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>THE WORK OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM (IOW YOT)</b>
<b>Report of</b>	<b>DIRECTOR OF CHILDRENS SERVICES</b>

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to provide, the detail of the work of the Isle of Wight Youth Offending Teams (IOW YOT) For the policy and scrutiny committee to consider. Accordingly, the summary section will detail a brief background to the IOW YOT and its governance and leadership. There is specific reference to the YOT's status as a partnership and links between this plan and the IOW Strategic Plan will then be identified. Finally, service specific items will be covered including staffing, workload, the nature of interventions, the YOT financial arrangements, its performance framework, and priorities for the coming year.
2. In the recommendation the council will be invited to consider the work of the IOW Youth Offending Team.

### RECOMMENDATION

3. That the Isle of Wight Council are asked to consider and the report into the work of the IOW Youth Offending Team.

### BACKGROUND

4. Youth Offending Teams were established under the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act. The essence of these teams was one of a statutory partnership between those agencies who touch children's lives when they commit an offence. Specifically, the Local Authority, Police, Probation and Health.
5. The work of all Youth Justice Services is overseen by the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales. This is a specific department within the Ministry of Justice. Their role is to provide oversight including the administration of the youth justice grant, the achievement of key performance indicators and the provision of practice

standards. Attached is a link to the National standards for youth justice services for information:

[Microsoft Word - Standards for children in youth justice services 2019.doc.docx \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

6. Youth Offending Teams have statutory responsibility for children who are given an outcome by the court and the partnerships Joint Decision-Making Panel. Appendix one provides details of the outcomes which can be imposed. In addition, the IOW YOT delivers a prevention service to children who are at risk of committing an offence. Youth Crime Prevention receives referrals from a range of agencies across the Island.
7. As there is a strategic partnership between Hampshire and Isle of Wight local authorities in the management of the Island's Children's Services (Social Care and Education). Hampshire provides the line management of the IOW YOT. Therefore, there is a close link between Hampshire and IOW YOTs with the Head of Service managing both teams.
8. The IOW YOT is accountable to the IOW YOT Management Board, consisting of representatives of the four statutory partners: The board is chaired by the Deputy Director of Children's Services. Representatives from the local authority includes the Head of County Services, the Service Manager for Children in Care and representation from Island Futures. Health has representatives from both Public Health (local authority) and the Clinical Commissioning Group. The Probation Delivery Unit Head also attends. The Police representative is the Superintendent for the Isle of Wight and the Inspector responsible for the YOTs seconded police officers. Our Southwest and South Central YJB Head of Innovation & Engagement (Southwest & South Central) also attends.
9. In addition to the statutory partners there are representatives from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, HM Courts, and the Community Safety Partnership. Regarding YOT staff, the Head of Service is in attendance, supported by the Operational Team Manager. The board meets on a quarterly basis.
10. Many of those who attend also attend the Hampshire YOT Board, accordingly the recent decision has been made to merge the two Boards.
11. The Head of Service is responsible to Kieran Lyons, Head of County Services, Hampshire County Council.
12. The Head of Service also works closely with the service leads for Portsmouth YOT and Southampton Youth Justice Service. This is necessary when all four YOTs share common partners, for example Hampshire Constabulary and HM courts. Further, this collaboration has been crucial to developing strategies to deal with common objectives, for example, the development of a Pan-Hampshire Youth Diversion scheme and commissioning the provision of The Appropriate Adult Services (TAAS).

## SERVICE/DECISION SPECIFIC PARAGRAPH

13. Our work is underpinned by the Youth Justice Board’s vision of a child first Youth Justice system, which is a system where all services:
- *Prioritise the best interests of children and recognising their needs, capacities, rights, and potential. All work is child-focused, developmentally informed, acknowledges structural barriers and meets responsibilities towards children.*
  - *Promote children’s individual strengths and capacities to develop their pro-social identity for sustainable desistance, leading to safer communities and fewer victims. All work is constructive and future-focused, built on supportive relationships that empower children to fulfil their potential and make positive contributions to society.*
  - *Encourage children’s active participation, engagement, and wider social inclusion. All work is a meaningful collaboration with children and their carers.*
  - *Promote a childhood removed from the justice system, using pre-emptive prevention, diversion, and minimal intervention. All work minimises criminogenic stigma from contact with the system.*
14. The staffing structure for the Team is detailed below. Social worker, YOT officers and YCP staff all manage cases with Employment Training Education (ETE), Restorative Justice (RJ), and CAMHS staff delivering interventions.

Role	FTE
Team Manager	1
Assistant Team Manager	1
Social workers	2
YOT workers	1.6
Employment Training Education worker	1
Restorative Justice Workers	1
Business Support	1
Youth Crime Prevention	2.5
CAMHS	1
Police Officer	1
Probation Officer	0.5

15. Currently IOW YOT are working with 81 children on various orders. All these children are allocated a case manager. Their role is to complete an assessment identifying what children need to support them in desisting from offending. From this an intervention plan is developed.
16. One of the main areas of work we deliver is Restorative Justice. This is an approach used for both the benefit of children and those who are harmed by their behaviour. It provides the opportunity for the harmed person and the child to communicate either directly or indirectly and to repair the harm done. This is done through shuttle mediation, a direct meeting, or a letter of apology.
17. The objective is for the child to understand the impact of their behaviour on the harmed person and where appropriate repair the harm. This will reduce the risk of the behaviour being repeated. It is a collaborative approach, which avoids apportioning of blame. Accordingly, it is a voluntary process, which both parties must consent to participate in.
18. All people who have been harmed by a child's behaviour are contacted and offered an RJ intervention. In the last quarter this was 27 victims. Of these 10 chose to be involved and are enabled to communicate with the child directly or indirectly. It should also be noted that even if a harmed person declines to be involved the RJO still works with the child.

## FINANCE

19. The IOW YOTs budget is received via income from a variety of sources. Since the plan was submitted notification was received of a helpful increase from £139,534 to £168,275, however for the sake of consistency the figures in this report align directly with the plan.

### *Income 2022/23*

Agency	Amount	Provides
Youth Justice Board	£139,534	
Local Authority Children Services	£318,382	
Office Police Crime Commissioner	£30,600	Youth Crime Prevention
Probation	£5,000	To provide support to the Probation Officer
<b>Total</b>	<b>£493,516</b>	



20. It is a requirement that the four partners provide either financial support or staff.

This equates to the following monetary value:

Agency/Funding	Salary value
Police	£80,850
CAMHs	£42,753
Probation	£23,762
IOW Council - HR legal, ICT, accommodation	£94,291 (include recharge arrangement for 10% of the salary cost for the Head of Service, Performance, and Quality Manager.

## PERFORMANCE

21. Regarding Performance there are three National Indicators which the team are measured against:

- The number of First-Time Entrants (FTE) into the criminal Justice service. This is any child who receives a Youth Caution or above. The objective is to keep this as low as possible as it is recognised that there is a negative impact through being labelled as someone who offends. In response to this the IOW, together with the other four Hampshire YOTs and the police, introduced a Youth Diversion Programme where children get the same interventions without being criminalised. This was launched in November The, latest performance figures (Q1 22/23) show that there were 23 children in a 12-month period. This is a reduction of 5 from the previous quarter and 10 from the Q4 200/21.
- The % of children from a 3-month cohort of children who received a statutory outcome who go on to reoffend in the subsequent 12-month period. The latest figure for the island sits at 22.2%. which is a significant reduction from previous years. To expand the figure for Q4 2020/21 stood at 43.1%.
- Its is very rare for an IOW child to receive a custodial sentence. In the last five years there has been three children who received this outcome.

22. In April 2023 there will be a new set of National Indicators which are as follows:

- The Suitability of accommodation at the start and end of a child's order.
- The number of children in suitable Education, Training and Employment.
- The number of children assessed as having Special Educational Needs and Disabilities receiving education training or employment.
- The number of children assessed as having Mental Healthcare and Emotional Wellbeing needs receive an intervention.

- The number of children identified with a Substance Misuse need receiving an intervention.
- The number of children who receive and Out of Court Disposals who successfully complete.
- The links between the YOT and wider Childrens Services.
- Management Board attendance.
- The number of children cautioned or convicted for a serious offence.
- The number of victims contacted and of those contacted the numbers who engage in restorative justice.

23. All Youth Justice Services are inspected by Her Majesties Inspectorate of Probation. (HMIP) and we are anticipating an inspection imminently.

#### IOW YOT priorities for 2022/23

24. Through a review of the work the following priorities were identified for the 2022/23:

- As previously stated, keeping children in education is a priority for the IOW YOT. We have been developing operational practices however there is a need for a more strategic response for this priority
- There is a growing body of evidence that children from other minority backgrounds are disproportionately represented in the Criminal Justice service. The IOW YOT needs to understand what this looks like on the Island. This includes implementing findings of the inspection in relation to the experience of black and mixed heritage boys:

[A thematic inspection of the experiences of black and mixed heritage boys in the youth justice system \(justiceinspectorates.gov.uk\)](https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk)

- We need to improve how we incorporate the views of children and their carers into service delivery and design.
- To further develop the way children are assessed in relation to the potential to cause harm to others.
- To develop assessments in relation to health outcomes to ensure children receive the correct intervention.
- To continue to develop, in partnership, its response to serious youth violence. This includes a review of local youth to adult transition arrangements to ensure children are transferred safely.
- To increase our capacity to understand and deliver better service to adults and children experiencing, Adolescent to Parent Violence.

## OPTIONS

25. The request is for the panel to not the work of the IOW youth Offending Team

## APPENDICES ATTACHED

26. Appendix one details the range of outcomes available to children

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

27. Links are provided within the report where relevant.
28. Contact Point: Nikki Shave Head of Service, Hampshire, and the Isle of Wight Youth Offending Teams: [nikki.shave@hants.gov.uk](mailto:nikki.shave@hants.gov.uk)

*Steve Crocker – Director of  
Childrens Services*

*Councillor Debbie Andre Cabinet Member for  
Children's Services, Education and Lifelong Skills*

List of disposals managed by the IOW Youth Offending Team:

### **1) Orders Imposed by the Court**

#### **Referral Orders (ROs)**

A Referral Order requires the child to attend a panel (made up of two members of the local community and a YOT member of staff). The panel meets and agrees a contract, for a period of between three months and a year.

The aim is for the child or young person to make up for the harm they have caused. An order *must* be imposed for a first offence where the child has pleaded guilty (unless the court decides that another sentence is justified) and may be imposed in other circumstances.

#### **Youth Rehabilitation Orders (YROs)**

A Youth Rehabilitation Order is a community sentence. It can include one or more requirements that the child must comply with and can last for up to three years. Some examples of the requirements that can be imposed are a curfew, supervision, unpaid work, electronic monitoring, drug treatment, mental health treatment and education requirements.

#### **Custodial Sentences (DTO/Sec90/91)**

Children can receive custodial sentences. It is a sentence to be avoided as far as possible. When they are given, they aim to provide training and education and rehabilitate the offender, so they do not reoffend. Sentences can be spent in secure children's homes, secure training centres and young offender institutions.

### **2) Orders imposed by the Joint Decision-Making Panel**

#### **Youth Caution (YC)**

Where the child admits the offence, but an intervention is not assessed as required. They can however engage voluntarily should they so wish for a period of 12 weeks.

#### **Youth Conditional Caution (YCC)**

A YCC is given where a child admits the offence and it is assessed they need an intervention. This intervention is 16 or 20 weeks in length and is delivered by the YOT. If they do not comply, they can be sent back to court and resented for the original offence.

#### **Youth Diversion Programme (YDP)**

This is offered to the child by a Joint Decision-Making Panel (JDMP). Unlike all the above,

the child is not considered as a First Time Entrant (FTE). The length of intervention is 16 weeks and if they do not comply, they are referred to JDMP for reconsideration.

### **3) Youth Crime Prevention**

This is a voluntary intervention offered by the Youth Offending Team. In other Local Authorities this can be delivered by other parts of the Local Authority. There are two routes for a child to gain access: The first is a direct referral from other agencies and the second when it is attached to a **Community Resolution**. A Community Resolution is issued by the Police at the point of arrest.

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## Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Children's Services, Education and Skills Workplan 2022-25

The committee assists Cabinet in the development and implementation of key plans, policies and activities set out in the Corporate Plan relating to the delivery of relevant services, including:

Children's Services (including  
safeguarding)

Corporate Parenting

Special Educational Needs and/or  
Disabilities

Early Help

Education

Apprenticeships

Adult Learning

Date	Agenda Items	Description & Background	Lead Officer/Cabinet Member
1 December 2022	Performance & Budget	Current performance trends and budget 2022/23	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills
	Child Protection	<p><b>a.</b> IW Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Report The Chairman of the Board, Derek Benson, to present the annual report</p> <p><b>b.</b> Role of the Police in Child Protection HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire &amp; Rescue Services recently published its National Child Protection Inspection Post Inspection Review of Hampshire Constabulary. This highlighted the work of the Police in child protection. Detective Superintendent Mandy Horsburgh, Head of Public Protection and Safeguarding for Hampshire Police will outline the role of the Police in child protection, the processes in place for partnership working and how local authority councillors can assist.</p>	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills

	Youth Offending	To consider a report on the work of the youth offending team	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills
2 March 2023	School Attainment	To consider the annual report on attainment	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills
	Pathway into further Education & Training	To look at how young people can access further education and training	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills
	School Exclusions	To consider the latest position regarding school exclusions	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills
	School Attendance	To consider the latest position regarding school attendance	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills
	Early Years Survey Findings	To consider the findings of the survey regarding the future needs of early years childcare on the Isle of Wight	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills
June 2023	Performance & Budget	Current performance trends and budget 2023/24	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills
	Children's Health & Wellbeing	To discuss key issues in relation to the health and wellbeing of children	Director of Public Health Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health
	Fostering & Adoption Annual Reports	To consider the annual reports	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills
	Social Care Review	To consider the implications of the Independent Review of Children's' Social Care.	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills



September 2023	Annual Complaints Report – Children’s Social Work	To consider the annual report in accordance with best practice advice from the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman to ensure that lessons learnt are being implemented	Director of Children’s Services Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education and Skills
	Early Years – Sufficiency of Places	To consider the availability of early year places on the Island and the outcomes	Director of Children’s Services Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education and Skills
December 2023	Performance & Budget	Current performance trends and budget 2023/24	Director of Children’s Services Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education and Skills
	IW Safeguarding Children’s Board Annual Report	To consider the annual report	Chairman of the Board
March 2024	School Attainment	To consider the annual report on attainment	Director of Children’s Services Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education and Skills
June 2024	Performance & Budget	Current performance trends and budget 2024/25	Director of Children’s Services Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education and Skills
	Fostering & Adoption Annual Reports	To consider the annual reports	Director of Children’s Services Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education and Skills

September 2024	Annual Complaints Report – Children’s Social Work	To consider the annual report in accordance with best practice advice from the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman to ensure that lessons learnt are being implemented	Director of Children’s Services Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education and Skills
December 2024	Performance & Budget	Current performance trends and budget 2023/24	Director of Children’s Services Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education and Skills
	IW Safeguarding Children’s Board Annual Report	To consider the annual report	Chairman of the Board
March 2025	School Attainment	To consider the annual report on attainment	Director of Children’s Services Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education and Skills