

How can I get involved?

Business Group	Plans the business and agenda for NSCB. Coordinates the work of the NSCB and its sub-committees.
Case Review Sub-Committee	Oversees and quality assures Serious Case Reviews and Case Reviews undertaken by the NSCB. Carries out multi-agency audits to review practice in safeguarding.
Policy, Procedures, Education and Training Sub Committee	Produces an annual training programme, an annual conference and learning events. Develops policies and reviews procedures and protocols in the areas of child protection and safeguarding
Quality Improvement and Performance Sub Committee	Produces performance data and provides regular reports to the NSCB. Group is developing a performance and framework for NSCB.
Vulnerable Young Person's Sub-Committee	Carries out work to improve joint working arrangements for children who are identified as vulnerable.
Early Help & Early Intervention	Contributes to a shared understanding of what Early Help and Early Intervention means for Northumberland.
Child Death Overview Panel	Takes an overview of all child deaths within Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside (North of Tyne)
Sexual Exploitation Group	A shared committee with Safeguarding Adults Board and Safer Northumberland Partnership, promoting early identification, prevention and protection of vulnerable children, young people and vulnerable adults from sexual exploitation.
Communication & Engagement Group	A shared committee to raise awareness and promote communication and engagement with children, their families as well as staff and members of the public.
Education Reference Group	Supports the development of a new relationship between education establishments and the NSCB. Also to support the development and co-production of a safeguarding assurance, improvement and development 'offer' for education establishments

You may be asked to report to the NSCB or be part of a multi-agency audit team or to join one of the sub-committees.

Where can I find out more?

The NSCB website can be found at

www.northumberland.gov.uk/SafeguardingChildren

email SafeguardingChildren@northumberland.gcsx.gov.uk

or contact **Robin Harper-Coulson**, NSCB Business Manager at [robin.harper-](mailto:robin.harper-coulson@northumberland.gcsx.gov.uk)

coulson@northumberland.gcsx.gov.uk or telephone 01670 624037



A Practitioners Guide to

Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB)



What are Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs)?

The LSCB is a statutory body made up of organisations which work with children and young people. The LSCB is the key mechanism for agreeing how relevant organisations in each local area will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and for ensuring the effectiveness of what they do.

Who are members of Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board?

The NSCB is independently chaired by **Paula Mead** who provides a strong independent voice, leadership and strategic vision for the NSCB.

The Board is made up of senior managers from the following agencies:

- Local Authority:
 - Children's Services
 - Education Services
 - Housing
 - Legal
 - Adult Safeguarding
 - Public Health
 - Public Protection
- Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
- Northumbria Healthcare HS Foundation Trust
- NHS England
- Northumberland, Tyne & Wear Trust (NTW)
- Schools
- Northumbria Police
- CAFCASS
- Northumberland Fire & Rescue Service
- Northumberland Probation Service
- Voluntary sector
- Lay Members



What does the NSCB do?

The NSCB holds meetings every two months, its role is to monitor the effectiveness of agencies which work with children and young people and this is done through discussion and presentation of reports. The NSCB works closely with other partnerships, including the Children's FACT Board and the Health & Wellbeing Board. A key part of this partnership working is to ensure that agencies safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.

The work of the NSCB includes:

- Assessing effectiveness of help provided to children and families, including early help
- Assessing whether NSCB agencies are fulfilling statutory obligations in relation to safeguarding children
- Quality assuring practice through joint audits of case files and identifying lessons to be learned
- Monitoring and evaluating effectiveness of training, including multi-agency training
- Developing and agreeing local policies and procedures; including action to be taken when there are concerns, thresholds for intervention and allegations against staff
- Raising awareness in the wider community of the need to safeguard children

What are the NSCB's local priorities?

At a joint planning session, members carried out a series of exercises to identify priorities for the board.

The five priorities identified for the NSCB Business Plan 2015-2016 are:

1. Improving focus on the child's experience of services and better embedding it in practice
2. Further promoting preventative and early help approaches
3. Improving partnership working with education services on the safeguarding agenda
4. Improving support to especially vulnerable children and high risk adolescents
5. Reviewing our response to sexual exploitation

The Business Plan is published on the NSCB website www.northumberland.gov.uk/SafeguardingChildren