



[Safeguarding Children Partnership NSSCP](#)

Winter Edition

**North
Somerset
Safeguarding
Children
Partnership**

**Safeguarding
Newsletter**

Winter Edition

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE FOR ALL

December 2023

Welcome to this winter edition of our safeguarding children newsletter. Please share widely within your organisation.

This newsletter is now available on the North Somerset Safeguarding Children website.



Permanent Business Manager

Dear Colleagues,

Hello everyone! I would like to introduce myself: my name is Zoe Gartland. I have recently been appointed as your Safeguarding Children Business Manager for the North Somerset Partnership. My background is working as a teacher for 23 years and most recently as a deputy head in North Somerset. I look forward to sharing my experience and knowledge with you all and to assist you in helping to build a safer and stronger partnership in North Somerset.

If you have safeguarding children information to share in future newsletters or would like to be added to the mailing list, please don't hesitate to contact me on the e-mail address below.

zoe.gartland@n-somerset.gov.uk

SPOTLIGHT BULLETIN PLEASE NOTE!

Tri X South West Procedures have been updated. You can find a link to the new page here:

[Welcome to the North Somerset Children's Partnership... \(trixonline.co.uk\)](https://trixonline.co.uk)

Any additional local procedures can be found here:

[Local resources | NSSCP](#)

Managing allegations

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

North Somerset's LADO is James McMillan

[07795 092 692](tel:07795092692)

lado@n-somerset.gov.uk

The LADO manages allegations and concerns against professionals and volunteers who work with children. You must contact the LADO immediately and within one working day if a person who works with children has:

- harmed or may have harmed a child;
- possibly committed a criminal offence involving a child;
- behaved in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to a child;
- behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children.

The LADO manages allegations about:

- neglect
- sexual abuse
- physical abuse
- emotional abuse
- grooming

It can also be used to manage less obvious potentially harmful behaviour that happens outside of work.

New training available now!

[Managing Allegations - Local Authority Designated Officer \(LADO\)](#)

Contacting the LADO

If you have a concern or allegation, use the LADO referral and consultation form to report this. [LADO referral and consultation form](#)

For further information click on the link below. [Managing allegations - Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

Please click the link below to read NHS England's response to the Lucy Letby trial verdict. [NHS England » Verdict in the trial of Lucy Letby](#)



DBS checks

Whilst we do have a backlog, we are now fully staffed and are making phenomenal progress. We currently have approximately 5,000 outstanding DBS applications and are working on those received 19 days ago. This includes home-based checks. Please be assured that we are dealing with applications in date order. There is an official DBS hardship escalation route for **applicants** (not employers) to apply for by contacting DBS Customer Services – customerservices@dbs.gov.uk tel: 03000 200 190 They will consider if the criteria are met and instruct us when to escalate an application.

Support for victims of terrorism

Please see links below to find support for victims of terrorism and those affected by the Israeli and Hamas conflict.

[Home Office - Victims of Terrorism Unit \(VTU\) Letter to PCCs - October 2023.pdf](#)

[Home Office - Victims of Terrorism Unit \(VTU\) Overseas Leaflet - October 2023.pdf](#)

Sextortion: help us to empower young people

Help us to halt the rise in cases, by sharing our message.

Last year alone, more than 720 people were blackmailed or bribed in Avon and Somerset through sextortion.

Sextortion is when someone threatens to share sexual images or videos of you unless you do something for them - like sharing more photos or paying a sum of money.

This type of crime is sadly becoming more common: we've seen a repeated 40 % increase in reports each year, over the last two years. It can happen to anyone, but young males are a particular target for criminals - over 50 per cent of victims coming forward are males under 29 years old.

We want to make it harder for perpetrators to commit this devastating crime and to encourage those who are affected to come forward for help. Please watch and share this video on your channels and with your audiences, to help more people understand the risks involved when sharing sexual images and videos.

[Don't Panic! Don't Pay! Don't Communicate! - YouTube](#)

We also have a shortened version that can be [downloaded from Vimeo](#), and added to TikTok or Snapchat accounts, with the hashtag #ASPSextortion, so we can trace its use.

You can also find it on our channels below, if you're able to share or repost: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube short](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Miranda, Comms Officer at Miranda.butcher@avonandsomerset.police.uk

For more information click here



Last Minute Spaces! Run don't walk ...

Multi-Agency Workforce Development CPD

There is an ongoing workforce development review to improve the partnership's multi-agency training offer. We already have an inspiring new trainer who has joined the team delivering many sessions. Training calendar on NSSCP website coming soon!

Not yet booked a place? See below for details:

There are some remaining places available on the following events:

2024

- Advanced Inter-Agency Child Protection - 9th January - 09:00 - 16:30 - Campus – CR2
- Safeguarding in Education Basic Awareness (schools/colleges only) – 15th January - 09:30-12:30 - Campus – CR2
- The Cumulative Impact of Neglect on Children – 17th January - 09:30 - 16:30 – Campus – CR3
- Advanced Inter-Agency Child Protection UPDATE – 19th January - 09:30 - 13:00 – Teams online
- Child Sexual Exploitation (Awareness raising) – 19th January 09:30 – 12:30 – Campus – CR2
- Domestic Abuse Basic Awareness – 22nd January - 09:30 – 12:30 – Campus – CR2
- WRAP – Workshop to raise awareness of Prevent – 24th January - 09:30 - 11:00 - Campus –CR3 TBC
- Managing Allegations James McMillan Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) 30th January - 09:30 – 10:30 (Teams online)
- Advanced Inter-Agency Child Protection – 1st February - 09:00 - 16:30 - Campus – CR1
- Effective Support Document Training (previously The Threshold Guidance) – 1st February - 09:30 – 12:30 – Campus – CR3
- Designated Safeguarding Lead Network (for Schools) – 5th February 09:00 – 11:30 – Campus –CR3
- Advanced Inter-Agency Child Protection UPDATE – 6th February - 09:30 - 13:00 – Campus – CR2
- Designated Safeguarding Lead Network (for Schools) – 7th February - 14:00 - 16:30 (Teams online)
- Inter-Agency Child Protection Basic Awareness– Refresher –8th February - 09:30 – 11:00 (Teams online)
- Safeguarding in Education Basic Awareness (schools/colleges only) –21st February - 09:30-12:30 (Teams online)
- Inter-Agency Child Protection Basic Awareness – 22nd February - 09:30 - 12:30 – Campus –CR2
- Inter-Agency Child Protection Introduction – 26th February -09:30 - 15:00 – Campus –CR2
- Managing Allegations James McMillan Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) 27th February 09:30 – 10:30 (Teams online)
- Effective Support Document Training (previously The Threshold Guidance) –28th February 09:30 – 12:30 – Campus – CR2

Please book your place(s) on <https://www.n-somersetcpd.org.uk>

ICON training coming soon!

Thank you to all those partners who completed the ICON survey. We had lots of responses and are pleased to share that there are new training sessions coming soon. Details will be available on the NSSCP website in the new year.



Myth of Invisible Men

This [national review](#), commissioned by the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel, focusses on the circumstances of babies under 1 who have been harmed or killed by their fathers or other males in a caring role. It identified the significance of men with a background of abusive, neglectful or inconsistent parenting themselves, which can lead to poor mental health, often exacerbated by:

- Substance abuse
- The co-existence of domestic abuse
- Living with the pressures of poverty

This review identified some familiar difficulties in the safeguarding system, most notably problems with information sharing, in different parts of the health service and across the wider safeguarding system. The report outlines a series of challenges to safeguarding partners as well as a four-tier model to help leaders and practitioners develop a full understanding of the history and personal circumstances of fathers to develop more detailed and balanced assessments and engagements.

The professional Consultation Line

If you are a practitioner and are unsure about a situation involving a child or family, you can contact the consultation line for advice from the on-duty social worker.

Professional consultation line [01275 888 690](tel:01275888690)

Monday to Thursday 9am to 5pm and Friday 9am to 4.30pm

Issue Resolution Policy

The NSSCP believes that continual feedback is important in raising standards. Listening and responding to different viewpoints and perspectives enables us to reflect, adjust and improve services. In an effective and healthy inter-agency working culture respectful challenge is a key feature and therefore welcomed.

This policy is for all agencies across the partnership to facilitate agency to agency resolution.

The purpose is to provide a clear pathway for the resolution of professional differences, facilitating a timely resolution ensuring that the needs of the child or young person being discussed are met and their safety and wellbeing is promoted throughout. The local procedure is intended to augment the guidance found in the South West Procedures.

National Updates



We're looking for films made by young people that inspire their friends and others to create positive changes in online spaces! If they've got something original to say about creating a better and safer internet, then we'd love to know about it!

Dates to remember!

Film Competition launches, **26 September 2023** Last date for ALL film entries, **22 April 2024**



This Christmas, a child will contact Childline every 45 seconds on average. For children suffering abuse, Christmas can mean being trapped with their abusers and cut off from friends and support networks. They have no one to turn to.

[Childline](#) is here 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. But we need your help to answer more life-saving calls.

Click the link to find out how you can help.

[NSPCC - The UK children's charity](#)



Let's talk PANTS

With the help of our friendly dinosaur Pantosaurus, Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep your child safe from sexual abuse.

[Learn about PANTS](#)



Walk for Children

Join us on 22 December and walk 5k to raise money for children.

[Sign up](#)



Buy from our online shop

From fun activities for kids to gifts for grown-ups, there's something for everyone.

[Shop now](#)