



[North Somerset Safeguarding Children Partnership website](https://www.nsscp.co.uk)

Summer Edition

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE FOR ALL

Summer 2024

Welcome to this summer edition of our safeguarding children newsletter. Please share widely within your organisation. This and previous newsletters are available on the North Somerset Safeguarding Children website.

Introducing Superintendent, Lisa Simpson

I am so pleased to be involved in the work of the NSSCP. Thank you for such a warm welcome into this great team! I lived and worked in the area for some ten years in the early 2000s and have a real soft spot for this community. I have 28 years policing experience and have enjoyed every minute of it even though the content of my work can be tragic, demanding and sometimes unfathomable. I try never to let go of the principle that we have the privilege to walk into people's lives at some of the worst moments and that we can make a huge difference and impact. I have worked in Bristol in Neighbourhood, Response and CID roles and have been involved in training our CID teams, particularly around vulnerability and interviewing. I was promoted to Chief Inspector when I was pregnant with my first child in 2008, so have been involved in the senior leadership roles of Somerset, North Somerset and in Professional Standards and Neighbourhood policing. I have only this year returned to local policing as the Commander for both Somerset and North Somerset. (It's not at all confusing to find different names 'across borders' for the same meetings and project themes! I am, however, loving the challenge.)

Most recently, I was the lead for the constabulary's approach to improving our service and outcomes to victims and perpetrators of rape (Operation Bluestone). I am hoping to share learning from the work in this project throughout my new role, which shone a light on so much about investigating vulnerability-based crimes. I am most proud though of my family – a husband who has given passionate service to constabulary for 45 years and our children: Freya (14) and Harry (16) who go to school in Taunton. Their patience with my slightly sprawling and chaotic working life is quite humbling!



SPOTLIGHT BULLETIN PLEASE NOTE!

Exciting news! ✨

THE ALL NEW NSSCP WEBSITE HAS LAUNCHED!

Please visit our site that has a clearer layout and updated content. It is easier to access and has all the resources you need. [nsscp.co.uk](https://www.nsscp.co.uk)

This site is available for children and young people, parents and families, professionals and the community.

If there is anything you can't find or would like to be added, please let us know so that we can continue to improve our site.

Contact Zoe Gartland, Business Manager
zoe.gartland@n-somerset.gov.uk

ICON Training



| | |
|----------|---|
| I | Infant crying is normal and it will stop! Babies start to cry more frequently from around 2 weeks of age. |
| C | Comfort methods can sometimes help to soothe the baby and the crying will stop. |
| O | It's OK to walk away if you have checked the baby is safe and the crying is getting to you. After a few minutes when you are feeling calm, go back and check on the baby. |
| N | Never, ever shake a baby. It can cause lasting brain damage and death. |

ICON is an evidenced-based programme aimed at preventing abusive head trauma injuries to babies caused by shaking - also referred to as 'shaken baby syndrome'. Knowing and understanding the ICON message will help you as professionals deliver key messages to parents and carers, to help them understand the normal crying pattern of young infants and give them the tools and interventions to develop successful coping mechanisms.

This training is FREE to all and we want to reach a wide variety of professionals and volunteers. **If you work with families, children, carers, parents or even briefly come across these groups of people, this training is for you.**

These sessions will be offered every other month and across a variety of times.

17th of July at 17:00

19th of September at 10:30

12th of November at 17:00

Please share this course with colleagues. We look forward to seeing you there and being able to share with you the ICON message. Click [BNSSG ICB event tickets from TicketSource](#) to book your place.

Keeping Children Safe in Education

In May 2024, the Government published the updated guide to multi-agency working to help, protect and promote the welfare of children which can be found here. [Keeping children safe in education 2024 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#) This is an information version, pending publication of final version which does not come into force until September 2024.

New Information Sharing Guidance published

The Department for Education have published new Guidance for Practitioners providing Safeguarding Services for children, young people, parents and carers.

[DfE non statutory information sharing advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services for children, young people, parents and carers \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

North Somerset Secondary PSHE Award

A **free** programme managed by the NSC Public Health Team designed to support schools who want to review current PSHE provision against good practice and statutory guidance and plan improvements in areas which have been identified as priorities. Last year, we completed a small pilot and would now like to continue with a larger number of schools. As well as improving provision, the programme raises the profile of PSHE, enabling networking opportunities and funding extra resources. It is flexible, realistic, supportive and responsive to the context of each school.

We will brief interested school staff individually. Schools should email nicky.stead@n-somerset.gov.uk or alison.ball@n-somerset.gov.uk to register interest and arrange a time that is convenient for them. See attached handbook for more information.

Multi-Agency Workforce Development CPD

There is an ongoing workforce development review to improve the Partnership's multi-agency training offer. We will shortly be advertising for a new trainer who will be in place as soon as possible. If you are interested in this part-time position, keep an eye on the NSSCP website for more details soon. In the meantime, we are having to postpone several courses over the next few months.

Our new offer will be published and shared asap. Keep checking this page [Training events](#) for the latest updates.

- ✚ For Prevent training, please visit [Prevent duty training - GOV.UK](#)
- ✚ We have an excellent multi-agency exploitation awareness course that you must attend!
- ✚ The NSSCP are working closely with expert partners to develop a new bespoke DA training offer - more details to follow in the autumn.
- ✚ For colleagues within North Somerset Council, please use the iLearn platform. For all other bookings, please access via CPD online.

Not yet booked a place? See below for details and click on the link [Training events](#) :

| Date | Title | Course leader | Time | Venue |
|----------------------------|--|--|---------------|--------------|
| June | | | | |
| 25 th June | Managing Allegations Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) | James McMillan | 09:30 - 10:30 | Teams online |
| July | | | | |
| 16 th July | The Cumulative Impact of Neglect on Children | Mike Brown | 09:30 - 16:30 | Campus - CR3 |
| 17 th July | Managing Allegations Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) | James McMillan | 09:30 - 10:30 | Teams online |
| September | | | | |
| 10 th September | Advanced Inter-Agency Child Protection | Paul Cox | 09:30 - 1:00 | Teams online |
| 18 th September | Young People and Substance Misuse Intermediate Level | Lucy Frampton | 09:30 - 12:30 | Campus - CR3 |
| 18 th September | Inter-Agency Child Protection Basic Awareness | Paul Cox | 09:30 - 12:30 | Campus |
| 24 th September | Managing Allegations Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) | James McMillan | 09:30 - 10:30 | Teams online |
| 25 th September | Raising Awareness of Child Exploitation: | Androulla Nicolaou/ Ruth Sutherland | 09:30-12:30 | Campus - CR2 |
| 26 th September | Advanced Inter-Agency Child Protection | TBC | 09:00 - 16:30 | Campus - CR2 |

Managing Conversations Drop-in Workshops

Wed 11th September 4.00 – 5.30pm Portishead Children's Centre. St Barnabas Centre West Hill, Portishead, BS20 6LN

Following on from the successful 1-day Neglect Conference held in April, we are pleased to announce a drop-in workshop for all colleagues who might want to discuss ways of engaging families in conversations around safeguarding and child protection. Each session will have representation from partner agencies available to share practice and discuss complexities that you may be experiencing.

Refreshments will be available – No booking required just drop-in! For more information, contact paul.cox@n-somerset.gov.uk

Issue Resolution Policy

This is the North Somerset name for the escalation policy. It can be found here: [Contact details and policies for support](#)

Many thanks to Fiona Bennett, Safeguarding Lead for sharing her experience...

*'As schools, one of the challenges we face is not receiving a response to issues or referrals that we raise with other agencies especially when there has been a fluctuation of staff. In the past, we have spent lots of time trying to chase up information or get answers with no clear or consistent way to have our issues heard. In a meeting with the local authority, we shared our frustrations, and the **Issue Resolution Policy** was shared and discussed. As a MAT we shared this amongst our DSL's team and the feedback from those initiating this has been that following this policy has helped us get the information that we need, and the response was swift with actions put in place for the benefit of the children and young people.*

My advice is to log any times that you attempt to make contact or receive contact that doesn't address your request and use this policy as a way of ensuring you start a conversation with the relevant team. This has helped us to ensure that situations don't escalate or concerns aren't dismissed.'

YGam

Ygam is an award-winning charity with a mission to prevent children and young people from experiencing gaming and gambling harms through awareness raising, education and research. Through a portfolio of evidence-based programmes, they develop and deliver training and resources for a range of groups who have influence over children and young people. [Please see attached information.](#)

Navigating the website

A huge thank you to the digital team for all the hard work transferring endless information and documents to our new site. We are still ironing out a few anomalies but colleagues should be able to find everything they need under the 'professionals', 'policies' or 'training' tabs. [Core procedures \(nsscp.co.uk\)](#) This is often a good place to start your search. If anything is unclear, please get in touch with the business manager.

zoe.gartland@n-somerset.gov.uk



Self-neglect Awareness

The North Somerset Safeguarding Adults' Board (NSSAB) is pleased to present Self-Neglect Awareness Week 8-12th July ([see attached information](#)). Each session will run daily on Teams between 12-1pm, with all professionals living and/or working in the southwest welcome to attend. The NSSAB provides support, guidance, and intervention services for the safeguarding of adults in North Somerset. Self-Neglect Awareness Week aims to raise the visibility of self-neglect in North Somerset, through multiple professional lenses and voices of lived experience. To book, click <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/nssab>

Reconnecting Relationships

Reconnecting Relationships is North Somerset's Reducing Parental Conflict offer. It has been widely recognised that ongoing, intense or unresolved conflict between parents can have a significant impact on children's holistic outcomes. Reconnecting Relationships seeks to work with families to lessen the frequency and intensity of those arguments, and therefore the impact on children. This is a universal offer of support, and open to anyone who would like to know more, works with families or thinks it could benefit them or their team. [Please see the attached flyers for more details](#) or contact abi.steven@n-somerset.gov.uk

Summer Holiday Safety Information



Go to [Water safety - Avon Fire and Rescue Service](#) to learn what to do if you or somebody else falls into water, how you can reduce your risk of drowning and how to respect the water.

Are they ready to stay out or go home alone? [Leaving Your Child Home Alone - Advice | NSPCC](#)