



	Business as usual/complete
	On track/in progress
	Minor delays
	Major delays
	Not yet started

North Somerset Safeguarding Children Partnership 3-Year Strategic Plan April 2025 – March 2028

Year One: April 2025 – March 2026

Strategic priority	Actions for April 2025 – March 2026	Lead/Owner	Timescale	Updates	Review/Evidence
Leadership					
1. To have effective governance arrangements for safeguarding children – a collective responsibility	1.1) The role and function of the NSSCP arrangements are coordinated and informed by a wide range of partners.	LSP's or DSP's including AD for Education Partnerships	December 2024		MASA Arrangements
	1.2) To ensure effective collaboration with and alignment of work plans with the Community Safety Partnership: Domestic Abuse Board & Violence Reduction Partnership and Adult Safeguarding Board on shared priorities.	Delegated Safeguarding Partners	December 2025		Minuted annual meeting to share priorities and align work plans.
	1.3) Ensure relevant agencies are represented in subgroups and across the priority workstreams. Meeting attendance and progression of workplans supports this.	DSP's including AD for Education Partnerships	June 2025		Minutes and attendance registers
	1.4) Create a multi-agency data set that informs the priorities of the partnership and enables partnership members to ensure the effectiveness of the system.	Quality Assurance and Learning: Driving Continuous	January 2026		Data dashboard report and discussion minutes. Signed multi-agency data sharing agreement

		Improvement Subgroup			
	1.5) Support and challenge the NSSCP to have effective multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in North Somerset as required in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023.	Independent Scrutineer	September 2026		Annual Report 25/26 and commentary
	1.6) Monitor attendance and participation in the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.	Business Manager	October 2025	Attendance registers kept – to be shared at DSP meeting in October.	Minutes and attendance registers as a standing item for DSP meetings.
	1.7) All relevant agencies are included in the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.	Delegated Safeguarding Partners	September 2026		Annual Report 25/26
	1.8) The partnership works effectively to prepare for Joint Targeted Area Inspections (JTAI) – the JTAI theme for September 2025 is Child Sexual Abuse within the home.	Chair of JTAI Group	March 2026		Action plan and area review of JTAI topic performance
2. To improve multi-agency safeguarding practice and outcomes for children through strengths-based, trauma informed, child first, restorative approach.	2.1) Develop a Partnership practice model to support the implementation of the Families First Partnership Programme – in consultation with the QA and Learning Subgroup and partnership workforce leads.	Principal Social Worker - NSC	February 2026		Publication of a Partnership practice model
	2.2) Develop workforce learning and development programme to support the implementation of the practice model.	Multi-agency trainer	February 2026		Workforce learning and development programme in place.
3. To close the loop between quality assurance activity and learning to ensure safeguarding practitioners are equipped with the required knowledge and skills to keep	3.1) Create a new subgroup for quality assurance, audit work and learning and development.	Delegated Safeguarding Partners	April 2025	Launched April 2025.	MASA, Terms of Reference and annual report 25/26
	3.2) Consider how the NSSCP will respond to learning from local reviews and national reviews including: national panel annual report 23/24 Here , national panel report on CSA Here and national panel report on race	Operational Safeguarding Group	December 2025		Publication of Terms of Reference, tools and guidance and annual report 25/26

children safe.	and safeguarding Here and the themes/ recommendations identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • co-ordination or handover between services • professional curiosity or failure to ask the second question • risk assessment and decision-making • children's experiences and voices not being heard and understood • escalation of concerns 				
	3.3) Publish and implement learning from local and national reviews.	Quality Assurance and Learning: Driving Continuous Improvement Subgroup	February 2026		Annual Report 25/26, NSSCP website and any published LCSPR's
	3.4) Implement a multi-agency audit programme.	Quality Assurance and Learning: Driving Continuous Improvement Subgroup	January 2025	The multi-agency audit group began in January 2025.	Annual Report 25/26 and published audit information.
	3.5) Training will be linked to audit and quality assurance activity to inform improvements to practice.	Quality Assurance and Learning: Driving Continuous Improvement Subgroup	March 2026		Annual Report 25/26
4. Workforce shaped and capable to safeguard children and respond to concerns effectively.	4.1) Ensure that the threshold for significant harm and risk is understood by all agencies and how to act quickly and effectively to safeguard children.	Strategic MASH Subgroup	December 2025		Audit of practice
	4.2) Ensure that there are appropriate and quality contacts to the front door from all agencies – including a mechanism for recording, sharing and monitoring information.	Quality Assurance and Learning: Driving Continuous	December 2025		Audit

		Improvement Subgroup			
	4.3) Undertake a regular review of contacts to the front door – including those that result in no further action and engage with partners to understand their experiences of the front door.	Strategic MASH Subgroup	November 2025		MASH audits
	4.4) Ensure that all agencies understand how to contact the front door and the decision-making processes (including MASH).	Strategic MASH Subgroup	October 2025		Front Door handbook/guidance to be published on NSSCP website
	4.5) Set up daily safety briefings and bring updates bi-monthly.	Strategic MASH Subgroup	March 2025	Daily safety briefings are in place – reporting is not.	Report to Strategic MASH Subgroup bi-monthly Report to OSG 6-monthly
	4.6) Develop Front Door that responds to the Families First Partnership Programme delivery plan and share with partners.	Strategic MASH Subgroup	September 2025	On September agenda.	Report to Operational Safeguarding Group
	4.7) Assurance that partnership workforce is compliant by attending NSSCP and individual agency training programmes.	Quality Assurance and Learning: Driving Continuous Improvement Subgroup	December 2025		Section 11 and training course attendance data
	4.8) Update Continuum of Need (threshold) document in line with the expectations of the Families First Partnership Programme.	Strategic MASH Subgroup	February 2026		Publication of Threshold document
5. To ensure the meaningful participation and engagement of children, young people, and families to inform the work of the Partnership.	5.1) Develop a mechanism for the Partnership to hear directly from children and their families in relation to the work of the Partnership.	Independent Scrutineer	March 2026		Agreed proposal for participation process to be published.

Exploitation					
6. To develop a skilled workforce that can identify and respond to exploitation, including effective pathways to prepare, prevent, protect, and pursue, to reduce the risk of child exploitation.	6.1) Tools for identifying children at risk of or experiencing exploitation are shared and understood across the workforce.	ROTH Subgroup	August 2025		Adolescent Safety Framework documents published
	6.2) Practice guidance to be shared and communicated to all partners.	ROTH Subgroup	August 2025		Adolescent Safety Framework documents published
	6.3) Develop a defined data set which supports the partnership's strategic understanding of, and response to, exploitation through the Quality Assurance and Learning Subgroup.	ROTH Subgroup	January 2026		Defined data set approved by ROTH Subgroup Reported to ROTH Subgroup 3 times a year Reported to OSG 3 times a year
	6.4) Develop a cohort data set of children at risk.	ROTH Subgroup via MACS Panel	September 2025	Work is underway to develop this in the MACS Panel.	Report to ROTH Subgroup
	6.5) Creation of a mechanism to evaluate/identify the support services for children at risk of exploitation and as they transition into adulthood.	ROTH Subgroup Safeguarding Adults Board Community Safety Partnership	March 2026		Tool for evaluating support services
	6.6) Share information and resources around exploitation for the community on the website.	Business Manager	January 2026		Page of resources on NSSCP website
	6.7) Review and publish the updated child exploitation strategy in the light of the Casey review.	ROTH Subgroup	November 2026		Strategy published
New Partnership Priorities Identified					
7. The First 1001 Days	7.1) Undertake QA/audit activity (think tank) around this theme identified as a priority through rapid and local learning reviews. Points to consider within this might be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Myth of invisible men 	Quality Assurance and Learning: Driving Continuous	March 2026		Document demonstrating the work/learning on this theme. Annual report 25/26

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDOP • Care experienced parents 	Improvement Subgroup			
8. Domestic Abuse	<p>8.1) Create a work plan in relation to Domestic Abuse and its impact on children in collaboration with DA Board, Community Safety Partnership and Safeguarding Adult's Board that avoids replication and ensures clear responsibilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JTAI evaluation criteria • Implementation of Op Encompass • Myth of invisible men 	Operational Safeguarding Group	October 2025		Document that outlines clear strategic responsibility for Domestic Abuse across North Somerset.
9. Safeguarding implications for children not at school	<p>9.1) Develop a position statement around this theme identified as a priority through rapid and local learning reviews of serious youth violence. Possible contributors to this were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children Missing from Education (CME) • Electively Home Educated Children (EHE) • Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) • Increasing numbers of non-attendance • High numbers of SEMH 	<p>Task and finish group?</p> <p>Heads of service – education</p> <p>Police – Safeguarding</p> <p>Health – ICB</p> <p>YJS</p> <p>CSP</p>	December 2025		Position statement of current picture
	<p>9.2) Develop Partnership response from the position statement.</p>	Operational Safeguarding Group	February 2026		Document demonstrating the work/learning on this theme Annual report 25/26
10. Transitional Safeguarding	<p>10.1) See action 6.5 <i>Creation of a mechanism to evaluate/identify the support services for children at risk of exploitation and as they transition into adulthood.</i></p>	ROTH Subgroup	March 2026		
	<p>10.2) Creation of a multi-agency pre-birth panel to ensure timely & proportionate planning for all vulnerable pregnant people.</p>	Quality Assurance and Learning: Driving Continuous	October 2025		

		Improvement Subgroup			
11. Response to inspection findings	Every organisation to feed learning into the Partnership from inspections and share relevant action plans.	Delegated Safeguarding Partners including AD for Education Partnerships	As inspections occur		Agency action plans monitored and responded to by NSSCP
12. Responding to government reforms	Set up strategic and operational responsibility pathways to respond to government reforms such as the Wellbeing and Schools Bill Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill 2024: policy summary - GOV.UK and the implementation of multi-agency child safety teams.	Children and Young People's Partnership	October 2025		
	Neglect – the neglect programme continues, but the task and finish actions have been completed				
To identify and support the prevention of neglect by improving the safety and wellbeing of children and young people in North Somerset through effective early identification help and effective support.	Complete, implement and launch the Neglect Strategy, Tool Kit and relevant documentation	Neglect Subgroup			Neglect subgroup has been stood down and these actions are complete as reflected in the closing report.
	Agencies identify neglect and raise appropriate referrals in a timely manner				
	Parents and carers report they know how to seek advice and support.				
	Parents and children/young people say early help services have made a positive difference to their lives				
	Through assessment, parents/carers, children, and professionals identify what is working well and what needs to change.				
	Plans to provide support set out clearly what needs to change and how the change will be measured.				
	Staff are confident to recognise all forms of neglect.				
Ensure neglect is included in the multi-agency data set to	The multi-agency dataset reports on neglect and the improvements made in response to positive interventions	Neglect Subgroup			Neglect subgroup has been stood down and these

assess the impact of interventions to support children and families who experience neglect.					actions are complete as reflected in the closing report.
To implement professional development resources to support practitioners to effectively identify and tackle child neglect and support families.	Review of neglect training evidence and its impact in particular the understanding of neglect and its links to domestic abuse, exploitation, and substance misuse, by staff across North Somerset.	Neglect Subgroup			Neglect subgroup has been stood down and these actions are complete as reflected in the closing report.
	Any gaps in knowledge and service provision identified in the review and shared with relevant agency and working group so that mitigating action to address can be taken.				
	Practitioners report increased confidence in identifying and responding to child neglect. Practitioners and front-line managers report that they have the knowledge needed and receive support/guidance in respect of recognising and understanding neglect (Survey/Walk the floor activity/audits)				
	Evaluation of NSSCP training-feedback response required before certificate issued-include a section where an example of how used to improve practice is requested).				
	Actions undertaken following recommendations from local and national learning				
Following local reviews and quality assurance work, action plans are written. They are finalised by action leads and then reviewed the Delegated Safeguarding Partners. Once approved, these plans are shared with the Operational Safeguarding Group to be monitored and progressed if stuck. There will be updates at action level in every DSP meeting and a thematic analysis 3 times a year. This will be shared with the LSPs annually. This will be linked to national panel themes and priorities where possible.					