



SOUTHEND Safeguarding Partnership

Southend City Council
Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board
Essex Police

2022/2023 Annual Report
Easy Read

Introduction/Executive Summary

This Easy Read document contains a summary of the full Annual Report which was co-owned and jointly constructed by Southend’s three Statutory Partners (Southend City Council, Essex Police and Mid & South Essex Integrated Care Board).

Safeguarding is in part a description of what services across this Partnership do to respond to people living with vulnerability or going through difficulties. Those services strive to make safeguarding a way of thinking and working. Partners remain determined to ensure safeguarding and wellbeing are at the heart of strategies within Southend.



Vision

Southend Safeguarding Partnership (SSP) prevents Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults in our community from experiencing harm or exploitation; and intervenes where and when appropriate if this does occur.



Mission

- To create opportunity for Partners to work together.
- To develop trust in the Partnership; so that we can help each other to find better ways of doing what we do.
- To ensure Partners work together to reduce the causes of harm to our communities.
- To act as a critical friend and to highlight areas needing improvement.



Strategy

The Partnership Strategy was created with multi-agency input in 2021 and sets out 16 key themes for the Partnership.

The below details the progress that the Partnership has made on delivery of the 2020-2024 strategy.

Domestic Abuse	Safe Environment/ Healthy Living	Partnership	Public, Family, Voice of Child / Adult	Data / Information Sharing	Audit / Monitoring / Peer Review / Supervision
Training	Learning (Case Reviews)	Recruitment	Reporting & Recording	Mental Health	Escalation
Professional Curiosity	Decision Making & Supervision	E-Safety	Governance		

*At time of publishing this report, the Partnership are working on the next Strategy which will begin in April 2024.

Workstream Reports

Southend Safeguarding Partnership Boards (SSPA and SSPC) are multi-agency partnership meetings. They co-ordinate strategic development of adults and children's safeguarding across the Southend area; ensuring the effectiveness of the work undertaken by partner agencies. Below the Board sit a number of subgroups, some which have a joint adult & children's focus and some that focus on either adult or children's work.

SSPC Audit, Quality & Assurance (AQA) Subgroup

Holds responsibility to lead, support and co-ordinate multi-agency audits, to identify good practice, strengths and areas of practice that requires improvement.



Key work undertaken by the subgroup:

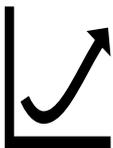
- Section 175/157 Schools Safeguarding audit – the self-assessment audit was completed and returned by 58 schools in Southend. No fundamental concerns were identified.
- Section 11 Statutory Partners audit – work has begun to shape the 2023 Section 11 audit following the previous audit undertaken in 2021.
- Practitioner & Service User Feedback - a section has been added to the website to capture feedback from practitioners & service users and will help to shape the direction of the SSP.

SSPC Performance Subgroup

Holds responsibility to review the performance of safeguarding arrangements of Partner Agencies, including the way they work together, and monitor the delivery of action plans from relevant reviews.

Key work undertaken by the subgroup:

- Review of the SSP Data Dashboard – regular review of the dashboard data is undertaken, and deep dive reports requested for further information.
- Graded Care Profile 2 Training (GCP2) – training launched in 2021 and over 200 professionals have since been trained to use the GCP2 tool



SSPA Performance, Audit, Quality & Assurance (PAQA) Subgroup

Holds responsibility to review the performance of safeguarding arrangements of Partner Agencies and monitor the delivery of action plans from relevant Case Reviews

Key work undertaken by the subgroup:

- Review of the SSP Data Dashboard – regular review of the dashboard data is undertaken, and deep dive reports requested for further information.



*** From February 2023, it was agreed that both the SSPC PAQA and Performance subgroups due to the cross over of work and to reduce the demand being placed on Partners attending both meetings.*

SSP Learning & Development (L&D) Subgroup

Identifies areas of learning and development across partners provision of services for Adults and Children; and supports the delivery of improvement where necessary.

Key work undertaken by the subgroup:



- Development and support of the SSP Conference held in March 2023 and attended by over 300 professionals in Southend.
- Roll out of Harmful Sexual Behaviour training, following learning from a case review. Over 200 professionals trained during the year.
- Roll out of GCP2 training, following learning from reviews and Neglect Needs Assessment. Currently over 200 professionals trained to use the tool.

SSP Neglect Subgroup

Holds the responsibility to identify local areas and communities where Neglect is most often experienced and where Partners can work together to prevent and respond to Neglect.

Key work undertaken by the subgroup:



- Neglect Needs Assessment (NNA) undertaken by external consultancy to understand Neglect in Southend and what further can be done by Services to support individuals.
- Action plan following the NNA created and owned by the subgroup with clear deadlines and areas of work.

SSP Exploitation & Missing (E&M) Subgroup

Holds responsibility to ensure Partners work together to enable residents in Southend to be protected from abuse, violence and exploitation.

Key work undertaken by the subgroup:



- The subgroup continued to deliver the SSPC Child Exploitation & Missing Action Plan 2021-2023. The plan focused on 5 key areas of work: understanding the problem, prevention, protection, prosecution & disruption and overcome & support.

SSP Safeguarding in Education Forum

The forum champions the voice of education within the Partnership and shares information to strengthen safeguarding knowledge within education whilst acting as a networking forum for education professionals.

Key work undertaken by the subgroup:



- Continuation of information sharing to a well-attended, on average 50 professionals across education, forum
- Learning from section 175/157 audits shared with the forum and areas to strengthen added to forward plan to support

SSP Safeguarding Community Forum

The forum provides information to users and providers of services wider than the SSP and acts as a networking forum to share information and strengthen safeguarding knowledge across sectors.

This is a new forum set up in 2022/23 and membership and format will continue to be shaped by the sectors.



SSPC Child Practice Review (CPR) Subgroup

Holds responsibility to help partner agencies to have an understanding of the case review process, alongside the statutory guidelines appropriate to a notification of a serious incident.

Key work undertaken by the subgroup:



- Overseen the completion of Child F Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review (LCSPR)
- Undertaken a Rapid Review of Child H which resulted in the recommendation to complete an LCSPR.
- Monitoring and completion of the Consolidated Action Plan (CAP) to gain assurance from Partners on recommendations identified by local LCSPRs.
- Review of national learning of 4 high profile LCSPR recommendations

SSPA Safeguarding Adults Case Review Panel (SACRP)

Holds responsibility to help partner agencies to have an understanding of the case review process, alongside the statutory guidelines appropriate to a notification of a serious incident.

Key work undertaken by the subgroup:



- Delivery of Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) A, including identifying learning and producing a 7-minute learning document for professionals
- Completion of a SAR in Rapid Time for SAR B, resulting in learning being identified for Partners.
- Review of 6 regional cases to ensure learning was in place across Southend partners.
- Production of the CAP for adult reviews to ensure assurances are captured from learning identified.

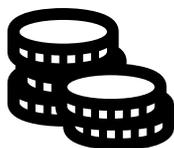
Published LCSPR and SARs

A summary of the cases and issues is included in the table below:

Type of Activity	Themes identified
LCSPR – Child F (Closed)	Mental health, exploitation, neglect, housing, missing episodes, transition, adultification and communication
LSCPR – Child H (Ongoing)	Transitioning, engagement, mental & physical health, adultification, housing, missing episodes and communication
SAR – B (Closed)	Housing/accommodation, risk assessment, escalation processes, planning & case management and mental health
SAR* – C (Ongoing) <i>*This is now progressing using an 'Action Learning' process</i>	System failings within care homes, communication and escalation processes
SAR – D (Ongoing)	Substance abuse, mental health, accommodation/housing, escalation, risk management and thresholds
Action Learning – AT (Ongoing)	Mental health, substance abuse, housing/accommodation, risk management, communication and planning & case management

Finance

Southend Safeguarding Partnership budget contributions for 2022/2023 consist of £87,779 from each of its three strategic partners. Over 70% of the SSP budget is assigned to pay any on costs of employment.



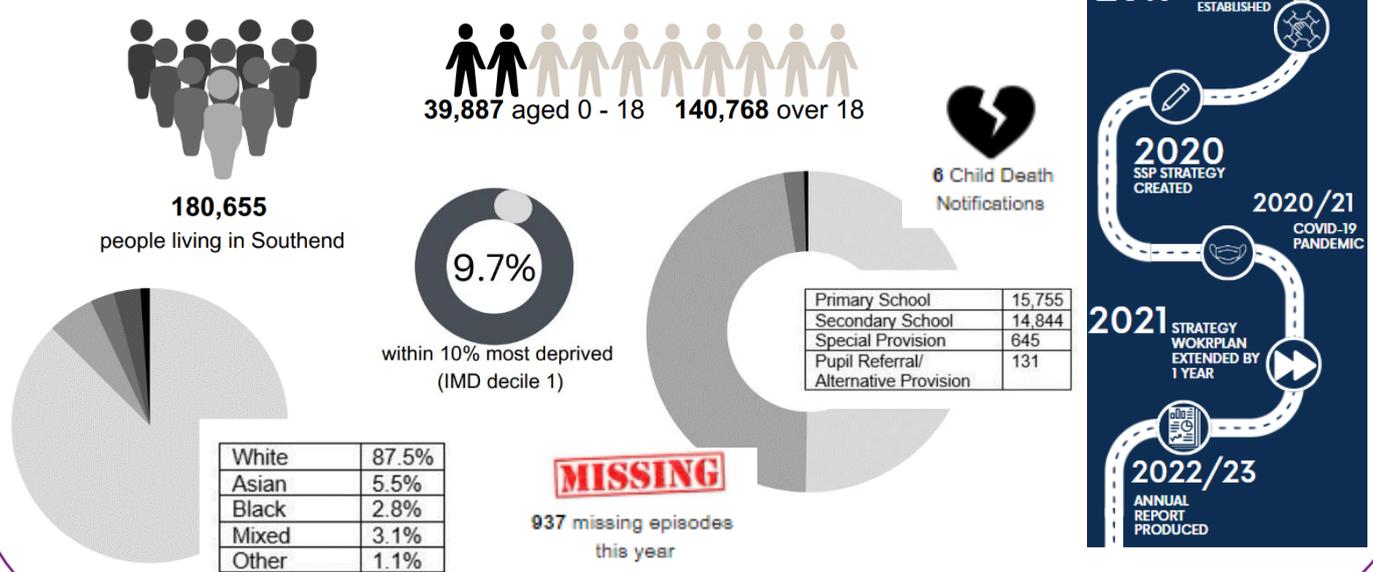
The 2022/2023 budget outturn includes reserves of £178k due to vacancies within the team and the number of reviews being less than expected for the 2022/23 year. A Business Case for 2023-2024 budget was put to the Strategic Partners in August 2023, and include provision of: multi-agency training and the development of website, social media and data analysis.

Training

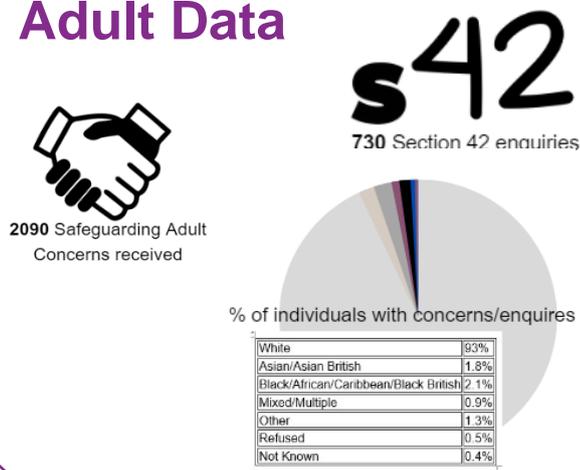
A number of training events were supported by the Partnership in 2022/2023. These ranged from:

<p><u>World Day Against Trafficking (29th July 2022)</u></p> <p>Alongside a number of organisations across Southend, SSP celebrated World Day Against Trafficking by hosting an awareness stool and carrying out over 130 individual conversations with members of the public.</p>	<p><u>Safeguarding Adults Week (21 – 27 November 2022)</u></p> <p>The SSP held 4 virtual lunch and learn sessions on various safeguarding topics which were attended by approximately 200 staff across Partnership organisations</p>	<p><u>Safeguarding Southend Together Conference (24th March 2023)</u></p> <p>A multi-agency event hosted by SSP and attended by over 300 professionals across Southend. 8 safeguarding workshops covering both Adult & Children topics were well attended. A 'marketplace' networking event also showcased local services that support Southend residents.</p>
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Southend Demographics



Adult Data



Children Data

