**Local Safeguarding Children Group (LSCG): South Norfolk**

**Date:** 10 July 2025  
**Chair:** Josie Wells, Head of Services, NCC – Children’s Services

**Attendees**

* Josie Wells – NCC, Head of Services (Chair)
* Mark Osborn – NSCP
* Evie Shircliff – NSCP
* Nicola Ingham – Assistant Headteacher, Hethersett Woodside Nursery School
* Sam Mason – MTM Youth Services
* Sarah Agger – Community and Partnerships Manager
* Tabatha Breame – South Norfolk and Broadland
* Helen Brown – Locality Manager, Library Service

**1. Safeguarding Overview**

* Please refer to the attached PowerPoint slides for full details.



* Discussion focused on how safeguarding is approached locally, with emphasis on multi-agency collaboration and early intervention.

**2. Homelessness and Housing Options**

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* **Key Stats:** 84% of those at risk of homelessness are supported through early prevention and MDT responses.
* **Approach:** Needs-led, balancing expectations and available options.
* South Norfolk does not have its own housing stock; the council assesses and prioritises housing needs.
* Victims of domestic abuse (DA) can present at any council, which holds a duty of care.
* **Challenges:** Demand exceeds available accommodation.
* **Special Focus:** Care leavers have dedicated protocols to support their transition to independence.
* **Key Message:** Early intervention prevents escalation.
* **Discussion Points:**
  + EHAPs can support early identification and intervention.
  + Importance of regular re-reviews as changing needs may affect housing banding.
  + Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility; early, multi-agency responses are essential.
* **Action:** Contact the housing department directly if needed. Tabatha Breame is also available via email for support. Ensure open communication between families and professionals.

**3. Domestic Abuse**

* See attached slides for full information.



* **Key Themes:**
  + Services must be people-centred, not postcode-dependent.
  + Prevention work with children and young people is vital.
  + The council is working with DAHA (Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance) towards accreditation to improve practice.
* **School Insight:** DA is a recurring theme in CPOMS logs. Staff are seeing more disclosures, including on behalf of others. Staff confidence and approachability are key.
* **Operation Encompass** is supporting early identification.
* **Safe Accommodation:** Includes support for male victims (e.g., 16-year-old sons) and LGBTQ+ individuals.
* **CPD Updates:** School has DA and Neglect Champion CPD on their action plan due to staffing changes.

**4. Service Updates**

* **District Direct Officers** at N&N Hospital are identifying safeguarding needs beyond medical concerns. They will receive CPD on DA to strengthen responses.
* **MTM Youth Services**: Offering a wide range of summer activities—spaces still available. Please promote to children and young people.
* **Community & Partnerships (C&P):**
  + Joint stay-and-play sessions with ECFS in Wymondham.
  + Pop-up sessions being planned for more remote areas post-summer.
  + Plans to extend sessions to MTM for older age groups.
  + Supporting local Pride events.

**5. Next Meeting**

* **Date:** 17 September 2025
* **Format:** In-person
* **Focus:** Joint session with Adults team on **Transitional Safeguarding** (from Early Years through to adulthood).
* **Guest:** Hoping to welcome **Project Connect**, who work with 18–25-year-olds, to share learning and insights.