



## Area Committee Improving Safeguarding and Integrated Working

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the Leeds Initiative  
Local partnerships making things happen



## Content

- New Children and Young People's Plan key priorities on:
  - Safeguarding
  - Enabling integrated working
- New national Ofsted inspection framework for children's services and schools – stronger emphasis on Safeguarding
- Unannounced inspection July 21/22 2009 Identified areas for priority action
  - Response to child protection referrals does not meet statutory guidance and does not ensure that children are adequately safeguarded
  - During the initial reading of records, children were identified as having been left at potential risk of serious harm
  - Inconsistent referrals from agencies
  - Inconsistent assessments by Children and Young People's Social Care

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## Responding to the Unannounced Inspection

- Review of 1600 child abuse and neglect cases since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009 now complete- learning from this has supported the findings of the unannounced inspection and highlighted the need for further action by universal and preventative services in cases that were designated 'NFA'
- Revised S47 guidance issued 6<sup>th</sup> August 2009 and transmitted this through CYPSC and further threshold guidance for all services has been issued
- New leadership team - Jackie Wilson (Chief Officer), Sal Tariq, Ros Cheetham and Gail Faulkner (Heads of Service Delivery Fieldwork) to quality assure and risk assess local response.
- Management of field work services strengthened
- There is local deployment of existing resource to triage referrals at the contact centre seen as 'NFA' and ensure that they are passed to the appropriate services

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## Integrated working

- Improving outcomes for children, young people and families not just a Social Care response.
- Work is underway to improve how services work together in an integrated way.
- Integrated working will:
  - *Ensure children, young people and families get the right services at the right time*
  - *Embed consistent and shared approaches to the accurate assessment of need; and*
  - *Enable proper, swift responses to identified need for all children and young people*

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## A Local Framework for Integrated Working

- Better arrangements being put in place locally to drive and support integrated working
- Additional central resources to improve local integration
- Children's Services Leadership Team
- Four key elements of local integrated working
  - Accelerating the use of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF)
  - Integrated Service Leaders to work in clusters
  - Intervention Panels across clusters
  - Children Leeds Panel to work at wedge level

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## What Local Integrated Working Will Look Like

- **Integrated Services Leaders (ISL's)** to drive the integration of frontline services by embedding CAF, establish more responsive, needs led local teams, solution focused approaches and promote co location and joint working.
- **Intervention Panels** – local multi-agency group to complement CAF process when cases are not progressing or improving outcomes using the CAF and team around the child process
- **Children Leeds Panels** – wedge level senior leaders for complex cases when they are not progressing within targeted and/or specialist services
- Central project support to ensure these panels work effectively.

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#### Areas to explore with the Area Committee

- Developing the role of the children's champion and their involvement with the Wedge Children's Services Leadership Team
- Developing the role of elected member in clusters
- Maximising the opportunities for responding locally to issues relating to children, young people and families e.g. through ALMO's Police relationships, Governing Bodies and through the Corporate Parent role

