



1 Background

North East Lincolnshire's Safeguarding Children Partnership (SCP) holds Practice Learning Line of Sight events each year as part of our [Scrutiny and Assurance Framework](#). Each event focuses on a specific theme and considers a small number of children's cases across early help, child in need, child protection and children in care/leaving care.

Prior to the event, those involved or recently involved with the child/ren and their family are requested to complete a single agency case audit report, with completed reports shared with an Independent Scrutiny Officer (ISO), who will chair the event, alongside panel members which consist of safeguarding partner organisation representatives.

During the event, agencies attend to discuss their practice with the child/ren and family, and as a collective, explore areas of good practice, learning and opportunities for improvement in multi-agency work, and to consider actions.

2 Why it Matters

This event enabled the ISO and panel members to explore how effectively agencies are working together in relation to **child neglect** and to gain assurance that safeguarding responsibilities are being met. It also provided space to highlight good practice, identify learning, and consider where further improvement could strengthen the help, support and protection of children and families.

Working Together 2026 makes clear that neglect is a form of harm that can have significant and long-term impact on children's safety, development and wellbeing, and requires a timely, coordinated and child-centred response.

4 Key Learning

Several themes emerged across the cases, highlighting opportunities to strengthen partnership practice:

- Information sharing between agencies and across local authority boundaries was inconsistent
- Probation involvement and domestic abuse-related information was not always known/visible within the multi-agency response
- Professional curiosity and analytical practice varied with reliance on parental accounts in some cases
- Inconsistent use of tools such as neglect screening, genograms and chronologies limited assessment and planning

7 Further information

[NEL SCP Procedures and Guidance](#)
[Neglect](#) including [Toolkit](#)
[Professional Resolution and Escalation Procedure](#)
[SCP Training and Education Programme](#)

3 Good practice

Across the three children considered, the following areas of good practice were identified:

- Co-ordinated multi-agency involvement across children's social care, health, education, police and housing
- Timely responses following families moving into the area, including prompt health visiting input
- Strong, trusted relationships between practitioners and children, particularly within education settings
- Effective housing responses to unsafe home conditions, including action taken to address risks associated with hoarding, damp and disrepair
- Relationship-based practice that supported collaboration with families and where appropriate, wider family members

5 Next Steps

After each event, an overview is presented at the Safeguarding Practice Learning and Development (SPLAD) Group meeting, with key themes being reported to the SCP Board. Actions are monitored until completion and signed off by the board.

6 Reflect on learning

To support your practice you can:

- Reflect on how professional curiosity is applied when concerns about neglect emerge
- Consider how clearly the child's lived experience is evidenced in assessments and plans
- Revisit and reinforce the use of neglect tools, genograms and chronologies
- Reflect on how information is sought and shared when families move between local authority areas
- Consider how wider family networks, including fathers and male carers, are engaged in planning