



October

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Welcome to our October 2024 Newsletter

In this newsletter we bring together information which we hope you will find useful and we highlight how the Partnership continues to communicate and keep in touch with all our agencies and provide guidance to support you in your role working with children and adults. In this edition, we focus on For Baby's sake and some new documents produced by the DSP. There is also information about Partnership work, safeguarding updates and new training dates.

Training dates are open for booking on Me Learning, including training on Child Exploitation delivered by Barnardo's.

All dates for children and adult safeguarding training until December 2024 are listed in the courses section of your Me Learning account.

Have you completed our training survey yet? We have shared a short survey with all organisations in order to find out more about training needs with a focus on child exploitation. Please complete the survey before the end of October.

Find the survey [here](#)



DSP Annual Report 2023/2024

The Darlington Safeguarding Partnership has published its Annual Report for 2023/24. The report summarises and reflects on the work of the Partnership over the past year drawing upon a range of data and information to outline the progress made and to illustrate the effectiveness of multiagency safeguarding partnership arrangements across Darlington.



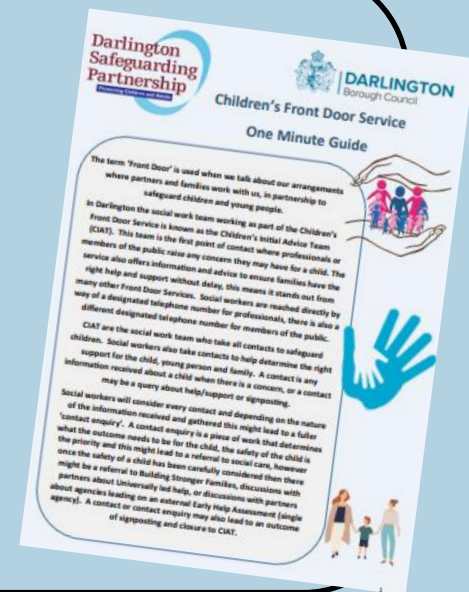
Read the report [here](#)

The following safeguarding campaigns are happening this month. Find out more using the links below:

- National Hate Crime Awareness week (12-19 October) link to the information - click [here](#)
- Mental health awareness day on 10 October - click [here](#)
- Anti-Slavery week 14-20 October - click [here](#)

Darlington Safeguarding Partnership has published a one minute guide on the Children's Front Door Service. The guide provides an overview of the service and how the Children's Initial Advice Team work with partner agencies when a contact is made to the service. The guide also explains what happens when a contact is taken and explores some of the myths and facts.

Read the guide [here](#)



Darlington has been successful in securing funding to enable 5 families to access the For Baby's Sake Programme, which is a trauma-informed therapeutic support programme for parents to help break the cycle of domestic abuse and give their baby the best start in life. The programme offers long term support from pregnancy up until the unborn baby reaches the age of 2 years old.

For Baby's Sake is the first programme for expectant parents that takes a whole-family approach, starting in pregnancy and dealing with the entire cycle and history of domestic abuse, identifying and directly addressing the trauma and traumas that lie at the heart of the problem. Both parents join For Baby's Sake, whether or not they are a couple. The work with each parent includes a focus on the overall wellbeing and development of the baby and any other children.

If you have a family that meets the criteria (as outlined below) you are encouraged to contact the service and/or complete the referral form, they welcome initial conversations to check suitability for the programme before submitting a form.

Criteria for referrals:

- Pregnant, ideally under 28 weeks
- Domestic abuse in the relationship
- Both parents are interested in hearing about For Baby's Sake
- Unborn baby is currently living in the County Durham area.

Further information and how to make a referral are available on the For Baby's Sake website - click [here](#)

Please also find link to YouTube animation about For Baby's Sake - click [here](#)



OUR PLEDGE

To be confident in having open and honest conversations with each other as multi-agency partners in order to do the very best we can for children, adults and their families in Darlington.

Multi-agency working is vital to maintain a focus on children and vulnerable adults while also keeping them at the heart of all decisions.

Our Pledge is an opportunity to:

- Seek out professional conversations with each other at the earliest opportunity
- Have a shared understanding of the strengths and risks within a family
- Actively listen to each other and share important information
- Respect each other's expertise
- Be open and empathetic to the professional views of others
- Be professionally curious and evidence what we say
- Use common language that everyone understands



Concerned about a child?

Contact the Children's Initial
Advice Team
Professionals on **01325 406252**
Public on **01325 406222**

Concerned about an adult?

Contact the Adult
Contact Team
on **01325 406111**



Statutory Safeguarding Partners

Ann Baxter, Independent Chair/Scrutineer
James Stroyan, Group Director of People
Dave Ashton, Detective Chief Superintendent
Chris Piercy, Director of Nursing and Quality