



## Safeguarding Children Partnership Stoke-on-Trent

# Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter.

**(March 2024)**

Welcome to the next edition of the quarterly Stoke-on-Trent Safeguarding Children Partnership (SOTSCP) newsletter. Here you will find details of upcoming events, training opportunities, safeguarding news, policy and procedure updates and much more.

Please don't forget to send us your safeguarding news and updates to share across our multi-agency partners, submissions to [sscp.information@stoke.gov.uk](mailto:sscp.information@stoke.gov.uk). We are particularly interested in case studies, lessons learnt and best practice

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## Graded Care Profile (GCP2)

The GCP2 is an evidence-based assessment tool, developed and licenced by the NSPCC, to help identify and measure the risk of neglect. It helps practitioners to measure the quality of care provided by a parent or carer in meeting their child's needs, especially when there are concerns around neglect.

In April 2021, the former joint Stoke-on-Trent/Staffordshire Safeguarding Board commissioned the GCP2 and agreed its multi-agency implementation across both areas as part of a jointly held neglect policy. Since this time practitioners across Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire have been encouraged to become licenced to use the GCP2 and it forms a core part of our toolkit in understanding and assessing neglect and the risk of neglect.

As multi-agency practitioners, the GCP2 gives us an effective assessment framework to support our interventions with families and carers to focus on the elements of care which are having the most negative impact on their children, enabling us to avoid drift and delay and work in a SMART way. It also provides us with shared language in respect of neglect when we are navigating thresholds to ensure we are able to provide the right support to families at the right time. Most importantly, the GCP2 places the child at the centre of our work and highlights what the child is experiencing in respect of the care they are provided and neglect they are experiencing.

Following the positive implementation of the GCP2 at Stoke-on-Trent City Council, in January we successfully bid to become one of six Phase 2 test sites nationally for the much anticipated GCP2A, an extension of the original tool to assess and work with Neglect in the antenatal period. Partnering with the NSPCC during this test phase will allow our practitioners early use of the GCP2A working with families across the city where there are concerns about the impact of Neglect on unborn children, enabling us to work more effectively with families where Neglect is suspected or known.

Anyone can be licenced to use the GCP2 and free training is available through the Staffordshire Safeguarding Board

**Staffordshire SCB and Stoke-on-Trent SCP - Learning Management System**  
([event-booking.org.uk](http://event-booking.org.uk))

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## Meet the Team



“I am Detective Chief Inspector Amy Martin, I have been a police officer for 16 years having joined Staffordshire police 4 years ago on transfer from West Midlands police, where my back ground was predominately in serious organised crime, gangs and exploitation.

I currently have ownership of the Staffordshire Police Child Protection Team, Violence Reduction Team, Child Exploitation Team, Child Case Conferencing Team and Youth Offending Service within the city. All these teams are under our newly formed Public Protection Unit and are fundamental to the safeguarding of children in the city.

My role in the partnership is to ensure that police work smoothly and jointing with partners and to help remove any barriers in doing do. I am able to contribute experience and evidence from policing and current investigations into learning subgroups and it is my job to implement any identified learning and best practise back into the force.”





## **\*NEW\* FREE Safer Sleep Practitioner Events: Child Death and Learning from Local Modifiable Factors**

These events are for multi-agency practitioners who are experienced in delivering safer sleep messages to new parents, with the aim to:

- Refresh and update prior knowledge, in relation to both the local picture and “Out of routine: A review of sudden unexpected death in infancy (SUDI) in families where the children are considered at risk of significant harm.” (DfE 2020).
- Learn from trends, local modifiable factors and vulnerable groups and how these can support new parents and carers.
- Allow frontline practitioners to talk about their experiences in practice including themes, barriers, difficulties in engagement, and concerns.
- Give practitioners opportunity to suggest ideas of how we can support families to understand and follow safer sleep advice, to suggest tools and resources that might aid this, wider strategies.

The work completed at these sessions can feed into the infant mortality working group, giving the strategic group valuable insight into the reality of working with families and direction in developing local strategies to reduce infant deaths.

**Wednesday 20 March 2024, 10am - 1pm at Thomas Boughey Children's Centre, College Road, Shelton, ST4 2DQ**

**Wednesday 10 April 2024, 10am - 1pm at Hazel Trees, 135 Duke Street, Fenton, ST4 3NR**

**To book a place, please click on one of the above dates. *(If you don't already have an account set up, you must register prior to booking on to a session)***

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## **FREE 'SYNERGY' Training **\*\*limited places\*\*****

**Dates: Tuesday 26 March 2024 OR Wednesday 27 March 2024**

**Time: 9am – 3.30pm**

**Venue: The Factory Floor Space, Potbank Aparthotel, Spode Works, Elenora Street, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 1QQ**

**Trainers: Police Practitioners**

**Synergy** is an interactive table top exercise that follows a young individual who has been radicalized into extreme right-wing ideology.

**The programme's objectives include:**

- Gaining a greater awareness of extremism related issues, such as the process of radicalisation towards violent extremism.

- Recognising the signs displayed by susceptible individuals at risk.
- Diverting people away from the risks of being radicalised.
- Gaining an increased awareness of where and how to refer individuals for further help and support.

### **Target audience:**

These full day events are designed for frontline practitioners working in social care, early years, education, safeguarding leads and others working with vulnerable individuals.

### **Book a place:**

To confirm attendance please email Iftikhar Ahmed on [iftikhar.ahmed@stoke.gov.uk](mailto:iftikhar.ahmed@stoke.gov.uk) with the name, email address of the person attending and what date they would like to attend.

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## **FREE Online Parenting Courses**

Stoke-on-Trent Family Hubs are excited to announce the launch of FREE online parenting courses available at [www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)

This enhancement to the current Supporting Families group work offer means parents can access a range of online support to better understand children's emotional health, brain development and wellbeing.

- Courses are available to support parents from pregnancy to young adulthood.
  - Courses are also aimed at wider family e.g. Grandparents and a specific course aimed at teenagers.
  - They are available in 108 languages and have audio support so that they can be accessed by parents that may not be able to access face to face courses.
  - The courses are modular, with videos, simple exercises and advice, there is also an in built notepad so that parents can copy and paste the information that they have found to be most useful to access later.
  - They can be completed over a period of time and once a parent has signed up to the in your place site, they can access all of the learning on the site free, for life.
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## **Stoke-on-Trent SCP Training**



Stoke-on-Trent Safeguarding Children Partnership provides a series of multi-agency learning and development opportunities, which includes core safeguarding training, a variety of subject specific courses and topic based briefing sessions.

To view what is currently on offer or to book a place on any training event, please click on the button below.

**SCP Training**

**LEVEL 3 TRAINING:**

**Learning from Local and National Reviews**

**Thursday 21 March 2024**, 2pm - 4pm, MS Teams

**FREE TRAINING FOR ALL AGENCIES:**

**Early Help**

**Friday 22 March 2024**, 9.30am - 4.30pm at Hazel Trees

**Lunchtime Briefing: Private Fostering**

**Thursday 18 April 2024**, 1pm - 2pm, MS Teams

**Reducing Parental Conflict**

**Monday 22 April 2024**, 9.30am - 4.30pm at Hazel Trees

**Lunchtime Briefing: Dangerous Dogs**

**Tuesday 23 April 2024**, 12pm - 1pm, MS Teams

**Outcome Star Training**

**Monday 29 April 2024**, 9.30am - 4.30pm at Hazel Trees

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