
Leicester Safeguarding Children Partnership Yearly Report 2025-2026

Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission

Date of meeting: 27 October 2026

Lead Director/Officer: Laurence Jones

Useful information

■ Ward(s) affected: All

■ Report authors: Joanna Fowler, Safeguarding Partnerships Support Officer, Leicestershire & Rutland Safeguarding Partnerships Business Office & Lindsey Bampton, Safeguarding Board Manager, Leicester Safeguarding Board Office

■ Author contact details: lindsey.bampton@leicester.gov.uk T.: (0116) 454 6911

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1. Summary

- 1.1 In their yearly report, safeguarding partners (police, health, and the local authority) must jointly report on the activity they have undertaken in a 12-month period. That reporting should be transparent and easily accessible to families and professionals. The focus of the report should be on multi-agency priorities of the local Safeguarding Children Partnership alongside learning, impact, evidence, and improvement.
- 1.2 In line with statutory guidance and to allow for consistency across local areas, yearly reports should be published by the end of September every year and should be reflective of work undertaken the previous financial year (April to March). The 2025-2026 yearly report of the Leicester Safeguarding Children Partnership was published on partnership website on 29th September 2026.

- 1.3 A summary of the published yearly report is provided as follows:

Overall Message

Strong progress despite rising demand, workforce pressures and national reforms. Governance, quality assurance, multi-agency working and child participation were strengthened.

Partnership Business Priorities for 2025-2027

Child Sexual Abuse, Neglect, Harm Outside the Home, and Belonging.

Key Achievements

Significant progress on child sexual abuse work; new Performance and Audit Groups resulting in an increased number of multi-agency audits completed; recruitment of Young Scrutineers; implementation of learning from national reviews.

Key Challenges

Notable increase in demand at the front door leading to a significant demand in multi-agency meetings, with rises in strategy discussions, Section 47s, Initial Child Protection Conferences and Review Child Protection Conferences; implementation of legislative reforms.

Workforce Development

61 multi-agency courses delivered to 1,723 attendees, with significant increases in practitioner knowledge, skills and confidence.

Priorities for 2026-27

Implement Child Sexual Abuse strategy, publishing refreshed thresholds document; respond to rising demand, embed reforms, strengthen transitional safeguarding, and continue improving child participation.

2. Recommended actions/decision

2.1 There are no recommendations/decisions

3. Scrutiny / stakeholder engagement

3.1 Scrutiny from the Independent Scrutineer forms part of the published report. Scrutiny from the Independent Young Scrutineers has also been received.

4. Detailed report

4.1 Please see the appendix for a copy of the Leicester Safeguarding Children Partnership 2025-26 Yearly Report that has been published in full.

5. Financial, legal, equalities, climate emergency and other implications

5.1 Financial implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The income and expenditure for the Leicester Safeguarding Children Partnership for 2025/26 is included in their yearly report.

Signed: Mohammed Irfan, Head of Finance

Dated: 13 October 2026

5.2 Legal implications

No comments from a commercial legal perspective.

Mannah Begum, Principal Lawyer, City Barrister & Head of Standards

Dated: 26 August 2026

5.3 Equalities implications

It does not propose any direct changes to services, policies or resource allocation and, therefore, no direct adverse equality impacts have been identified.

The Public Sector Equality Duty requires relevant public authorities and bodies exercising public functions to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

The report provides a retrospective account of the work undertaken by the Leicester Safeguarding Children Partnership during 2025–2026. Safeguarding is intrinsically linked to equality, as children and young people who share protected characteristics may experience different or additional risks, barriers to accessing support, or poorer outcomes. The

Partnership's work should therefore continue to consider the differing needs and experiences of children and families, including in relation to age, disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, and pregnancy and maternity where relevant.

Any future proposals arising from the concerns identified, particularly those involving changes to safeguarding arrangements, staffing, access to health advice or partnership panels, should be subject to proportionate equality analysis before implementation.

Signed: Equalities Officer, Surinder Singh, Ext 37 4148

Dated: 27 August 2026

5.4 Climate Emergency implications

There are no significant climate emergency implications directly associated with this report. As service delivery by the council and partners generally contributes to the council's carbon footprint, any impacts could be considered within delivery of related projects, such as encouraging the use of sustainable travel options, using buildings and materials efficiently and following the council's sustainable procurement guidance, as appropriate and relevant.

Signed: Phil Ball, Sustainability Officer, Ext 372246

Dated: 26th August 2026

5.5 Other implications (You will need to have considered other implications in preparing this report. Please indicate which ones apply?)

N/A.

6. Background information and other papers: N/A.

7. Summary of appendices: The appendix is a copy of the published 2025-2026 yearly report from the Leicester Safeguarding Children Partnership.

8. Is this a private report (If so, please indicate the reasons and state why it is not in the public interest to be dealt with publicly)? This is not a private report.

9. Is this a "key decision"? If so, why? This is not a "key decision".