



**NORTH YORKSHIRE  
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**

# **Safeguarding Our Vulnerable Public Accountability Meeting July 2022**

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# Presentation Content



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- Safeguarding Definitions
- Safeguarding History
- National, Regional, Local overview.
- What have we done? Recruitment permanent SG, Training Aim, Structure, Policy Procedure, fab four, E learning partnership referrals, Evaluation of performances, S&W handbook. Performance Evaluation
- Self Assessment Implementation
- Partnership, Regional Work – Fatal Fire Review Meeting
- Future challenges and workstreams



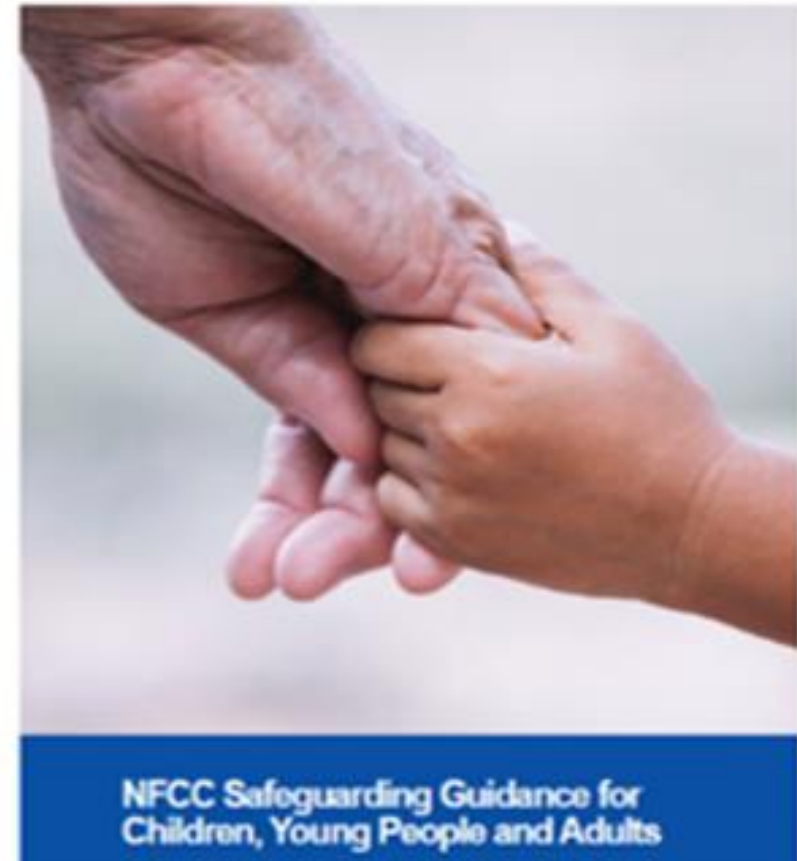
# Safeguarding in NYFRS is Everyone's Responsibility



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*‘ The fire and rescue service have a key role in safeguarding the most vulnerable people in our communities, our access into people's homes, which is built on trust and respect means we see things that others may not. It is our duty to act in order to safeguard, a duty which we take incredibly seriously. ’*

Phil Garrigan, NFCC CYP Chair



**NFCC Safeguarding Guidance for  
Children, Young People and Adults**

# HMICFRS Inspection – Areas for Improvement



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- “The service should ensure staff understand how to safeguard vulnerable people and how to correctly make safeguarding referrals”
- “Although it was clear to us that staff are willing to identify safeguarding issues and make appropriate referrals, the lack of consistent training and in-depth understanding in this area is a concern. We heard many staff saying they would refer people directly to the Police. In some circumstances, a lack of understanding and confidence leads to staff being overly cautious and unable to identify the difference between safeguarding and vulnerability
- “The service’s duty manager is the out of hours safeguarding contact, but duty managers do not receive any enhanced level of training in this area”

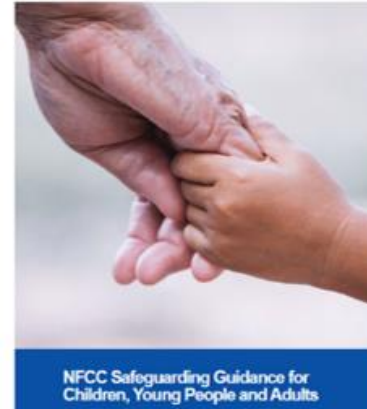
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# National Safeguarding Activity

- NFCC Safeguarding Guidance For Children, Young People and Adults
- National Operational Safeguarding Guidance
- Safeguarding Fire Standards
- Safeguarding Fire Standards Implementation Tool



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**NFCC**  
National Fire  
Chiefs Council



# What Have We Done?



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- Appointed Safeguarding Manager
- Service Aim
- Accountability Framework
- Quarterly Service Compliance Meeting
- Standards Board Implementation Tool
- New Policy and Procedure
- Safe & Well Handbook Guide

## Service Aim



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## ***Safeguarding Service Aim***

***North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service fully understand our key role in safeguarding the most vulnerable people in our communities. It is our statutory and moral duty to ensure we do everything within our power to keep vulnerable people safe and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk of abuse or neglect.***



# Service Plan



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## **We will:**

- **Ensure everyone that works for NYFRS recognise that the protection and safety of vulnerable people is ‘Everyone’s Responsibility’ and therefore have a role to play in safeguarding those most vulnerable from neglect and abuse.**
- **Adhere to legislative safeguarding frameworks and embrace this statutory duty.**
- **Align our Safeguarding activities with the Fire Standard Board recommended practices.**
- **Work in effective partnerships for the protection of those identified as vulnerable and at risk from exploitation or abuse.**
- **Work in effective partnerships to protect individuals identified as being vulnerable to radicalisation or being drawn into supporting terrorist activity.**
- **Refer vulnerable children and adults to other partners where there is identified need.**
- **Raise awareness, educate and train staff and volunteers to recognise, report and refer those who are identified as vulnerable in our communities**
- **Ensure that information regarding safeguarding children, young people and adults is proactively shared appropriately across relevant organisations.**
- **Ensure we have safer recruitment procedures and practices in place to help deter, prevent and detect people wanting to work within our service who may pose a risk to children, young people and adults at risk**
- **Comply with data protection legislation when handling personal data; include storage, recording, retention, and destruction of information**

# Safeguarding Accountability Framework



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## Appendix 4. Safeguarding Accountability Framework

### **Responsible Person (CFO, delegated to Deputy Chief Fire Officer)**

Accountability for demonstrating strategic commitment to safeguarding and compliance at the highest level.

#### **Needs to:**

Hold Level 1 & 2 Safeguarding Children and Adults qualifications.  
Report to OPFCC and Scrutiny Committee via meeting structure.

### **Named Person (Director of Capabilities)**

Day to day accountability for ensuring NYFRS are responsive and compliant with statutory requirements at a tactical leadership level.

#### **Needs to:**

Hold Level 1 to 4 Safeguarding Children and Adults qualifications.  
Report to the Responsible Person via meeting structure. (TLT/SLT/SDPG)

### **Designated Lead (Head of Prevention and Protection)**

Delegated responsibility for some elements of the named person. Coordination of safeguarding compliance meetings.

#### **Needs to:**

Hold Level 1 to 4 Safeguarding Children and Adults qualifications.  
Report to the Named Person via meeting structure.  
Chair and coordinate safeguarding

### **Safeguarding Officer**

Day to day responsibility for case management. Liaising with local safeguarding boards by representing the service at and participation in meetings.

#### **Needs to:**

Hold Level 1 to 4 Safeguarding Children and Adults qualifications.  
Report to the Designated Lead/ Named Person via meeting structure.  
Provide section 11 and audit returns to safeguarding boards.  
Provide supervision to staff members.

# Quarterly Service Compliance Meeting



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## Safeguarding Compliance Meeting

### Terms of Reference

#### Purpose

The purpose of the meeting is to provide assurance that North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (NYFRS) are compliant with government legislation and guidance in relation to safeguarding children and adults at risk.

#### Objectives

- Ensure compliance in relation to legislation, our service aim and policy.
- Assess the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements
- Scrutinise our self-assessment documentation aligned to the Safeguarding Fire Standard
- Ensure safeguarding principles are being embedded throughout NYFRS

#### Accountability and Reporting Arrangements

The outcomes of this meeting will be delivered by the Chair to the Safeguarding Responsible Person and other Strategic Leadership Team Members.

#### Membership

The meeting will be made up of:

- Chair – Head of Prevention & Protection
- Deputy Chair – Station Manager Prevention

- Safeguarding Officer
- WM Prevention
- Health & Wellbeing Manager
- People Operations Manager
- Talent & Development Manager
- Operational Assurance Representative
- Information Management Manager
- OFPCC Fire Scrutiny Officer
- Secretarial Support

**Quorum** - The quorum for a meeting is a minimum of 6 Members, one of which should be the Chair or Deputy Chair.

If attendee is unable to attend the meeting. Wherever possible, a deputy should attend to give section update and take away any actions.

**Frequency of Meetings** - The safeguarding compliance group will meet quarterly. Additional meetings may be called by the Chair as necessary.

**Monitoring Effectiveness** - An annual review of the effectiveness of the meeting against the terms of reference will take place.

**Terms of Reference** - The terms of reference will be reviewed annually or in the event of significant national legislation change.

# New Policy and Procedure

Draft Copy V1.0



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## North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service Safeguarding Policy And Operating Procedure

[www.northyorksfire.gov.uk](http://www.northyorksfire.gov.uk)



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### CHILD CONCERN REFERRAL PROCEDURE

Is the Child Suffering Significant Harm or in Danger?

**NO**

No immediate danger of harm exists

however concerns for long term welfare remains

Attempt to gain consent from parent/carer

Advise the parent/carer that you will be sharing the information with NYFRS Safeguarding Officer who may need to pass the information on to other agencies. It may not be appropriate at all with the parent/carer if it is going to Place the child/you or any Other member of staff at risk.

**YES**

Child is in immediate danger

or its not safe to stay in current situation

Contact Control and request Police Attendance

stipulating it is a Child Protection Concern. Request for any other relevant services.

Staff should remain at the scene until the Police arrive

Have another member of staff present. Do not discuss your concerns with the parent/carer, if it will make the situation worse.

In all cases an Internal Safeguarding Referral Form must be completed as soon as possible

For assistance, in Office hours, contact Safeguarding Officer (SO) on 07880475171. If outside office hours contact Duty Tactical Officer (DTO) via Control. The DTO can submit external safeguarding referrals to Social Care on behalf of NYFRS.

For safeguarding concerns, please remain in attendance until contact has been made with SO or DTO.

### ADULT CONCERN REFERRAL PROCEDURE

Is the Adult Suffering Significant Harm or in Danger?

**NO**

No immediate danger of harm exists

but concerns for long term welfare remains. If its appropriate, ask 'What would you like to happen?' (Think; Making Safeguarding Personal)

Attempt to gain consent to share

Consider Mental Capacity. If the person lacks Mental Capacity in relation to this specific decision, then consent is not required. (Think - acting in the Person's Best Interests, safety of others.)

Advise the person that you will be sharing this information with NYFRS Safeguarding Officer, who may need to pass this information onto other agencies.

If consent has not been given, NYFRS Safeguarding Officer will only share if it is in the Public's Best Interest, if the person lacks capacity, is subject to coercion or to prevent further serious harm. Contact police on 101 if a crime has been committed.

**YES**

Take the person to a place of safety and stay with them

Have another member of staff present. Establish the welfare concern. If its appropriate, ask, 'What would you like to happen?' (Think; Making Safeguarding Personal)

Contact Control who will inform Police/Ambulance via 999

Stay at the scene until the Police arrive. Hand over to the Police.

If it is appropriate to do so advise the person of your actions

and inform them that you will be sharing the information with NYFRS safeguarding officer who may need to share the information with other agencies.

In all cases an Internal Safeguarding Referral Form must be completed as soon as possible, within 24 hours

For assistance, in Office hours, contact Safeguarding Officer (SO) on 07880475171. If outside office hours contact Duty Tactical Officer (DTO) via Control. The DTO can submit external safeguarding referrals to Social Care on behalf of NYFRS.

For safeguarding concerns, please remain in attendance until contact has been made with SO or DTO.

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# Safe & Well Prevention Handbook



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**Prevention Handbook**  
CYC Area



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**Prevention Handbook**  
NYCC Area

- Supports Crew with details of Domestic Fire Risk
- Referrals & Signposting
- Safeguarding
- Local Information

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# Safeguarding Standards Implementation Tool



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Please fill in the contact details below:										
Fire and Rescue Service			North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service							
Contact Name			Hannah Oakley							
Contact Email Address			<a href="mailto:hannah.oakley@northyorksfire.gov.uk">hannah.oakley@northyorksfire.gov.uk</a>							
Contact Phone Number			7880475171							

Criteria	Description	Priority			Impact			Compliance		
		Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High	Fully Compliant	Partially Compliant	Non-compliant
1a	Have a responsible person within the service at the highest strategic level (where reasonable), that demonstrates the services commitment to the importance of safeguarding and is responsible for ensuring: a) the service is and remains compliant with legislation and follows relevant guidance	0	1	1	0	0	2	2	0	0
1b	b) the service's Designated Safeguarding Leads or Head of Safeguarding, where applicable, are appropriately qualified and suitably trained in accordance with legislation and the requirement of Local Safeguarding Adults and Children's Boards	0	1	2	0	1	2	3	0	0
2	Only use accredited persons to provide safeguarding training	0	1	2	0	1	2	3	0	0
3	Educate, train and support employees and volunteers, relevant to their role, in the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk of harm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Align local training to its Community Risk Management Plan and the NFCC's Safeguarding Guidance for Children, Young People and Adults	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Implement appropriate and proportionate processes that minimise the risk of recruiting people who may be	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

WW

Dashboard

NYFRS commitment - safeguard

1a. Responsible person

1b. Responsible person



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## Regional/National Safeguarding Meetings

- NFCC & Regional Safeguarding Practitioner Group Meetings for FRS
- Recent regional Safeguarding L4 course
- NYSAB and NYSCP Subgroup and Learning and Review Meetings
- LSP Meetings
- DA Forum Meetings

# Training & Evaluation



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- Safe & Well, Safeguarding Assurance Review
- New E learning Package
- New Policy Teams Meetings
- Duty Tactical Officer Training
- Fire Protection Advisors & Inspectors



# How we work with our Partners?

- Section 11 Annual Peer review (Children and Young People)
- Smooth Referrals processes
- Shared Training (Hoarding)
- Safeguarding Week
- NYFRS now a Safeguarding Adults Board member. Attendance at all levels
- NYFRS attend Prevent and CONTEST boards.
- Partnership Meetings (MASM)

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## Domestic Homicide Reviews and internal Fire Fatality Reviews

- How lessons learnt and best practise come in to our Organisation
- How we identify and share learning outcomes from our fire fatality reviews.
- How we share this nationally and now regionally.

# Results



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- All staff have clearer understanding of safeguarding and how to make referrals
- Referral pathways in and out for NYFRS are efficient, effective and measured
- Well developed relationships with partner agencies regarding safeguarding and early intervention programmes.
- NYFRS tactical delivery plan supports service strategies.
- We measure our performances through peer review and the safeguarding implementation tool

# Future Challenges and Workstreams



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- DBS journey, Future Costs & Safer Recruitment
- Capacity in relation to increased identified vulnerability and safeguarding referrals
- Public Safety Officers to receive enhanced training in Safeguarding
- More time allocated to Safeguarding on acquisition courses at all levels
- Annual improvement in knowledge of safeguarding and increased numbers of referrals to continue
- Embedding OFPCC VAWG strategy into our working practices.

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# Any Questions?