



Durham SCP Multi-Agency Online Procedures

Updated November 2020

An updated version of the DSCP Multi-agency Procedures went live on 9 November 2020, and can be accessed via the DSCP website ([here](#)). You can also register for email alerts when the manual is updated to keep you abreast of changes as they happen ([here](#)).

This time round there has been a large amount of work completed across most sections of the procedures, but principally around practice, terminology and weaving in the Signs of Safety Practice Framework.

Some of the most notable changes have been – Responding to Abuse and Neglect; Referrals; Assessment; Good Practice re Voice of a Child; Children Missing Education; Harmful Sexual Behaviour; and Concealed Pregnancies. It would be of real benefit for you review these sections if refreshing your knowledge. The table below gives a summary of the most notable changes made this time around with links direct to those chapters.

NEW / EDITED CHAPTERS	SUMMARY OF CHANGES
Responding to Abuse & Neglect	Changes have been made to the referral process, e.g. making a safeguarding referral or early help referral. This section has been updated to reflect the change in terminology and the Signs of Safety language that has been implemented in County Durham.
Referrals	Significant updates have been made throughout to reflect the practice in County Durham. Additional information included re Thresholds and Making a Referral This section has been updated in general to reflect the change in terminology and the Signs of Safety language that has been implemented in County Durham.
Assessment	This section has been updated to reflect the change in terminology and the Signs of Safety language that has been implemented in County Durham.
Child Protection Enquiries	Significant updates have been made throughout to reflect the practice in County Durham.
Allegations against Staff, Carers & Volunteers	Complete re-write to reflect the practice in County Durham.
Good Practice re Voice of the Child	Additional information re Young People's Commissioner role and terminology updated to reflect Signs of Safety Language. Local Documents replaced with four new links.
Child Sexual Exploitation (now Child Exploitation)	Chapter heading has been changed from CSE to Child Exploitation. Significant updates have been made throughout to reflect the practice and terminology in County Durham.
Children Missing Education	Significant updates have been made throughout to reflect the practice in County Durham.
Concealed Pregnancies	Significant updates have been made throughout to reflect the practice and terminology in County Durham.
Harmful Sexual Behaviour	Significant updates have been made throughout to reflect the practice and terminology in County Durham.
Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements	Whole Chapter re-written to reflect the local arrangements in County Durham with links added where appropriate
Challenge & Escalation Policy, now Managing Professional Differences	Chapter has been updated and the term Challenge & Escalation has been changed to Managing Professional Differences .