



Bury Safeguarding Children's Partnership (BSCP)
Annual Report 2024-2025

Contents

1. Foreword	3
2. Area Profile	3
2.1 Safeguarding in Bury	4
3. Implementation of Working Together 2023.....	4
4. Governance and Partnership Structure	5
5. Our vision for Safeguarding	5
6. Connectivity	6
7. Finance Report	7
8. Independent Scrutiny	8
9. Subgroup Updates	10
9.1 Complex Safeguarding Subgroup	10
9.2 Neglect Task and Finish Group	11
9.3 Keeping Babies Safe Task and Finish Group	11
9.4 Learning and Development Subgroup	13
9.5 Scrutiny, Performance and Assurance Subgroup	16
9.6 Children's Case Review Subgroup	16
10. Rapid Reviews and Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPRs)	17
10.1 Thematics from Rapid Reviews and LCSPRs	19
10.2 Learning Dissemination and Impact.....	19
11. Strategic Alignment and Future Direction	20
12. Achievements of Partners.....	20
13. Conclusion	20
13.1 Priorities for the Next Year:.....	21

1. Foreword

It is with great commitment and collective ambition that we present the 2024–25 Annual Report of the Bury Children’s Safeguarding Partnership (BSCP). This report outlines the progress made across the borough in strengthening multi-agency safeguarding arrangements, embedding statutory responsibilities, and promoting a culture of partnership, transparency, and continuous learning.

Bury is a vibrant and diverse borough in Greater Manchester with increasing complexity of need. Our safeguarding work is grounded in a shared vision: to ensure that all children in Bury are safe, supported, and empowered to achieve their full potential. The year has brought challenges—including rising demand for services, emerging threats such as online harm and youth violence, and growing awareness of mental health impacts—yet our response has remained rooted in collaboration, evidence, and compassion.

The implementation of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 has been a major focus, bringing with it opportunities to refine governance, strengthen participation, and deepen our collective accountability. Through updated subgroup structures, renewed scrutiny, and an unwavering focus on the voices of children and young people, we have taken significant steps in building a robust safeguarding system that is inclusive, responsive, and prevention focused.

This report demonstrates not only what we have achieved but also the values that underpin our work. We thank all partners, practitioners, and—most importantly—the children and families who continue to shape our understanding and drive our efforts forward.

2. Area Profile

Bury is a metropolitan borough with a population of approximately 196,000, including a significant and growing proportion of children under 18. The borough includes six townships: Bury, Radcliffe, Whitefield, Prestwich, Ramsbottom, and Tottington. These communities are marked by rich cultural diversity, pockets of deprivation, and a dynamic voluntary and community sector.

- Population: Approx. **196,000**
- Children under 18: **44,768 (ONS mid-year estimate)**
- Bury comprises six townships including Bury, Radcliffe, Prestwich, Whitefield, Ramsbottom and Tottington, with a diverse demographic and a growing proportion of children with complex needs and SEND.

- Bury has a proud record of collaborative working as part of **Greater Manchester Combined Authority** and **GM Integrated Care System**, allowing for cross-borough learning and innovation.

2.1 Safeguarding in Bury

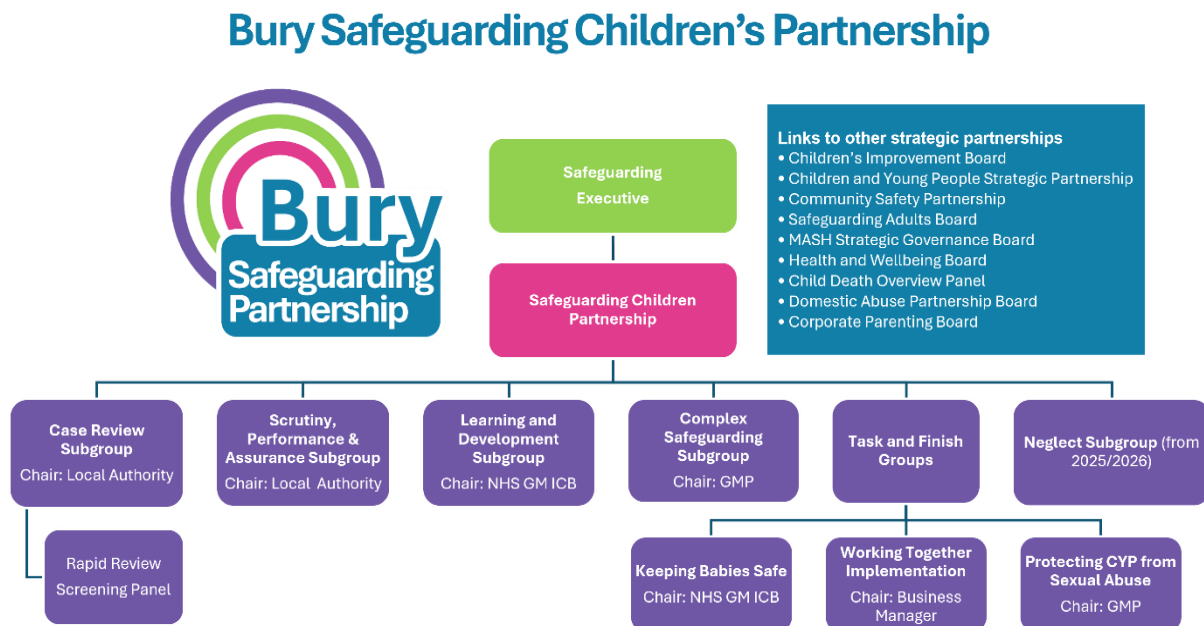
Measure	2023/24 (Bury)	2024/25 (Bury)
Children under 18	~41,000	44,768
Contacts to MASH	9,842	11,609
Referrals to Children's Social Care	3,276	2,903
Section 47 Investigations Initiated	1,012	1,074
Children in Need (CIN)	1,420	1,316
Children on Child Protection Plans	278	253
Early Help Cases (Level 2 & 3)	1,860	1,543
CP Plan Categories	Neglect: 34% Emotional: 55% Multiple: 6% Physical: 5%	Neglect: 46% Emotional: 45% Multiple: 4% Physical: 3% Sexual: 2%

3. Implementation of Working Together 2023

Activities achieved:

As part of the implementation of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023, the Statutory partners reviewed the governance arrangements of the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements during a development day in July 2024. The partnership also worked closely with the North West Regional Improvement Programme Pilot and The Association of Safeguarding Partners to support the implementation of Working Together 2023.

4. Governance and Partnership Structure



The BSCP governance model continues to evolve in line with statutory expectations and best practice. The partnership was led by the Executive Board, which met quarterly and provides strategic direction, oversight, and challenge. This has now been stood down for 2025/2026. The Partnership is chaired by Bury Council's Director of Children's Services and is attended by senior leaders of the three statutory partners (Greater Manchester Police – Bury Division and Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board - Bury locality), alongside other relevant organisations, such as education, and the voluntary sector.

5. Our vision for Safeguarding

"We want all children and young people in Bury to enjoy safe childhoods and to be protected from harm, and to make sure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities regarding safeguarding through multi-agency learning and development"

The Executive Board is supported by a strong and growing structure of subgroups, each aligned to Bury's local safeguarding priorities and Working Together 2023 expectations:

- **Complex Safeguarding Subgroup** – leads on exploitation, abuse and serious youth violence, considering the Greater Manchester Complex Safeguarding Strategy and adolescent framework.

- **Children’s Case Review Subgroup** – oversees all Rapid Reviews, LCSPRs and disseminates learning from national and local CSPRs.
- **Scrutiny, Performance and Assurance Subgroup** – has oversight of quality assurance and scrutiny functions, including multi-agency audits and data. In addition it seeks to monitor the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding practice in line with statutory requirements.
- **Learning and Development Subgroup** – ensures delivery of statutory and thematic training, informed by learning from audit and review.
 - **Keeping Babies Safe Task and Finish** – established due to learning from reviews, to raise awareness of how to keep babies safe in Bury.
 - **Neglect Task and Finish** – ensure the needs of children are identified and responded to at the earliest opportunity via the implementation of Graded Care Profile 2.
- **Working Together 2023 Implementation Task and Finish** – to continue our work to strengthen our multi-agency safeguarding arrangements to ensure compliance with statutory guidance.
- **Protecting Children and Young People from Sexual Abuse Task and Finish** – to progress with protecting children and young people from sexual abuse in response to our reviews.

6. Connectivity

During the 2024–25 reporting period, BSCP has continued to prioritise strengthening connectivity across the safeguarding landscape. This work is essential to ensuring that governance structures are robust, communication channels are clear, and that safeguarding intelligence is shared effectively across all relevant bodies.

To support this integration, BSCP has implemented a structured meeting schedule that reinforces the lines of accountability and governance. This schedule ensures that reporting is timely and that decision-making is informed by a comprehensive view of safeguarding activity across the borough. It also facilitates more consistent engagement between partners, enabling a shared understanding of priorities and emerging risks.

Our Director of Children’s Social Care is Chair of both the BSCP, Domestic Abuse Board & Youth Justice Board, which again strengthens connectivity.

Looking ahead, BCSP will continue to refine these mechanisms to ensure that connectivity remains a cornerstone of effective safeguarding practice. This includes

exploring digital solutions to support information sharing and further embedding cross-board collaboration into routine safeguarding operations.

7. Finance Report

The Bury Children's Safeguarding Partnership (BCSP) is jointly funded by statutory partners and relevant agencies to support the delivery of core safeguarding functions. These contributions enable the partnership to maintain a dedicated business unit, coordinate multi-agency safeguarding activity, manage case reviews, deliver training, and implement national reforms.

Lead Safeguarding Partners agree on the level of funding required to deliver the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements. This includes business and analytical support, independent scrutiny, and core functions such as local child safeguarding practice reviews and multi-agency training.

In addition, agencies provide staff hours to support the work of BCSP and its associated activity including chairing and participation with the board and subgroups, involvement in review panels, policy development, training delivery, etc.

During the 2024/25 fiscal year, partnership contributions totaled £225.465.

Partnership Contributions – 2024/25

Partner Agency	Contribution (£)	% Split
Bury Council	£189,500	84.05%
NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board	£22,040	9.78%
Greater Manchester Police	£13,468	5.97%
Probation Service	£457	0.2%
Total Budget	£225,465	100%

In the 12 months ending 31 March 2025, total board expenditure amounted to £418,460, split across both Children's and Adults'.

This level of spending required a drawdown from reserves, primarily driven by an increase in staffing costs. A significant portion of the budget was allocated to personnel, including the engagement of a consultant to support the Business Unit during the recruitment period for the new Business Manager. Additional costs were incurred for Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and Scrutiny activities.

BCSP currently holds reserves of £211,000, also divided between Children's and Adults' services.

There remains a degree of uncertainty around future partnership demands—such as the number of Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews or commissioned training—which presents both risks and opportunities. The ongoing vacancy for the Business Manager role will necessitate continued consultancy support into the new financial year.

While reserve levels are currently healthy, any expenditure from these funds must be approved by the BSCP Board. Over time, reserves will be used to manage inflationary pay increases, support additional projects, and respond to unforeseen needs, ensuring a gradual and controlled reduction in reserve levels.

Monitoring

The Business Manager reports on the actual and forecasted spend and the levels and use of reserves to the partnership on a quarterly basis. All expenditure against reserves requires Board approval.

Bury Council monitor and provide a Finance Update Report on monthly basis.

The year-on-year budget is decided upon, on an annual basis following discussions with partners to agree their contributions, identify projected spend and review level of reserves.

8. Independent Scrutiny

This has been a very busy and productive year for the Bury Safeguarding Children Partnership. The Partnership has continued to develop and mature. There has been change within the Business Unit with the departure of the Business Manager in February 2025 to a promotional opportunity elsewhere. The statutory partners addressed the vacancy with an interim appointment to the role while the recruitment process was underway. Senior statutory partners were fully engaged in the shortlisting and interview process, and a successful appointment was made.

Partners have been extensively engaged in improving outcomes for children and young people- for example, through the significant partner commitment to the relaunch and embedding of the Family Safeguarding model in Bury. This has been strategically led through the Family Safeguarding Strategic Board and Operational Board with strong cross Board membership and full report back in to the Bury Safeguarding Children Partnership. I have attended both Boards and have been impressed by the commitment of the partners to pulling together to ensure positive momentum.

There has been extensive engagement with the North West Regional Improvement Plan Pilot through the Partnership in the last year, including attendance at conferences and events, and the take up of specific pieces of improvement support. This has been beneficial to the partnership. For example, In February 2025 I was engaged with other representatives from partner agencies in a very positive interactive workshop on young people's engagement and voice through the RIPP. This remains a key focus for the partnership.

With reference to strategic governance, with the maturing of the partnership and greater compliance with "Working Together" 2023, the Partnership Executive which had been chaired by the Chief Executive of Bury Council has been stood down. The Chief Executive now attends Partnership Board meetings on a regular basis and continues proactive engagement with safeguarding.

As Independent Scrutineer, I have attended most meetings of the Case Review subgroup (and have engaged in the oversight of CSPRs and associated action plans) and the SPA subgroup, and some meetings of the other subgroups. The strong linkages between the Case Review subgroup and the Learning and Development subgroup have driven practice improvement- for example through the roll out of the Graded Care Profile training. I was invited to attend the Children's Services Improvement Board which was independently chaired by an LGA Children's Improvement Advisor with representation from the DfE Advisor, making the connection between the Safeguarding Partnership and the broader improvement agenda.

In terms of connectivity between this Board and the Safeguarding Adult Board, I have been engaged in regular cross Board discussions and also attended the Safeguarding Adult Board strategic planning session to strengthen that connectivity.

The North West Independent Scrutineer network has formed and is a valuable point of connection and learning.

Helen Watson, Independent Scrutineer for Bury Safeguarding Children's Partnership

9. Subgroup Updates

9.1 Complex Safeguarding Subgroup

Achievements:

- Training provided by Complex Safeguarding Team (CST) at Bury Fire Training centre with all partners and voluntary sector. Children from across the borough attended to learn about CST / exploitation, decision making, trafficking and Modern Slavery.
- Level 1 and Level 2 Complex Safeguarding training which has been ran ongoing throughout the reporting year.
- Operation Wasdale – a weekly pro-active operation to engage with the community, target hotspot areas and reduce harm to children. Additionally, the CST regularly undertake school visits and inputs each month.
- Bury VCFA host the VRU Alliance Programme in East Bury. The Alliance is made up of 3 VCSE organisations: Early Break, One Message and Bury Defence Academy. The Programme supports young people at risk of serious violence and exploitation into meaningful activities including sports and physical activities. Alongside this also runs a series of mentoring interventions for both young people and families.
- CST Dashboard, alongside implementation of daily governance meeting alongside GMP holding a monthly divisional meeting where Children's Social Care are represented.
- Improved picture throughout reporting period in regard to Return Home Interviews for Children who are missing from home. A Missing from Home improvement plan was implemented to combat earlier issues.
- Delivery Plan has been reviewed and partners kept accountable with updates on their activity supporting complex safeguarding.

Challenges:

- Transitional safeguarding and where this sits within the partnership structure. Work continues to address this issue.

Planned:

- Ongoing work to align the GM Complex Safeguarding Strategy with our local strategy.

9.2 Neglect Task and Finish Group

Achievements:

- Rollout of Graded Care Profile 2 (GCP2) across the Partnership with 17 training sessions available and priority places given to relevant frontline professionals.
- A commitment of trainers from across the multi-agency partnership who also act as GCP2 champions within their single agency.
- Dedicated MS Teams channel to allow collaboration between trainers and easy access to training materials.

Challenges:

- Capacity of trainers versus demand of initial intense roll-out of GCP2.
- Ability to record GCP2 assessments on single agency systems, alongside returning this information in line with GCP2 licensing requirements.
- Attendance and engagement from subgroup members.

Planned:

- Dedicated log-in area on the Bury Safeguarding website with resources and guidance for GCP2 licensed users.
- GCP2 awareness sessions for increased knowledge of GCP2, what this means for our children and young people and how they can contribute.
- GCP2 audits to measure the effectiveness of implementation and subsequent impact on children.
- Recruitment of additional multi-agency GCP2 trainers to ensure and maintain training pool.
- Refresh of our Neglect strategy.

9.3 Keeping Babies Safe Task and Finish Group

Achievements:

- The task and finish group developed an extensive programme of events across ICON week, which ran from 23/09/24 and received national recognition.
- Leading up to the week, ICON was pushed to the forefront of the safeguarding agenda across all partners and the wider community.

- Contact was made with private and day nurseries, primary and secondary schools, childminders, pharmacies, churches, family centre/hubs with information about ICON, training and posters were shared to raise awareness. All were asked to display the posters.
- The local Registrar's Office displayed posters and information leaflets for when new parents attend to register a baby's birth and have since stated that they are keen to receive ICON training.
- NHS ICB Deputy Designated Nurse for Child Protection and Looked After Children has attended school DSL forums in the Spring term to increase awareness of ICON as well as keeping babies safe. This is also embedded as part of the DSL training as well as Safeguarding and Child Protection Training.
- The programme also included the use of resources from the national ICON team, a daily social media message, training sessions delivered by Deputy Designated Nurse for Child Protection and Looked After Children (Bury) ICB and Specialist Nurse Safeguarding Children (NCA) around abusive head injury and an interactive market stall on Bury's world famous market. These training sessions continue to be part of the Learning and Development mandatory training sessions.
- The market stall was particularly well received and was a truly multi-agency event. BSCP are especially proud of having representation from 'Dad's Matter', recognising that dads aren't always included in the delivery of these important messages.
- A brief analysis of the social media campaign is below:
 - 699,157 impressions
 - 200 likes
 - 58 shares
 - 2291 hits (link clicks) to the ICON website.
- Powtoon video has been created as an instructional aid for staff on the Bury Safer Sleeping Toolkit, which is now on our website.
- A survey was issued to gauge practitioner awareness and knowledge of the Safer Sleeping Toolkit with additional resources produced to support and improve practice. This survey was repeated to follow maturation across Bury.

Challenges:

- Issue with Mental Health provision for perinatal mental health – interface meeting now in place between two providers to ensure consideration is given for step-up and down cases.
- Complex landscape of maternity provision in Bury – due to no delivery hospital in the geographical area, maternity guide in draft to aid practice.

Planned:

- Pre-birth protocol – in development, lead by Children’s Social Care ensuring a multi-agency response to pre-birth assessments.
- Keeping Babies Safe strategy

9.4 Learning and Development Subgroup

Achievements:

There were 17 different types of training events delivered in the reporting period, some of which were repeated. In total BSCP delivered 47 sessions, of which 32 were delivered in person.

- The Stressed-Out Brain
- Ketamine in Young People
- Abusive Head Trauma in Babies – Learning from Local Reviews
- Childrens Partnership Learning Day – Learning from Local Reviews
- Children’s Partnership Multi-Agency Safeguarding Training
- Cannabis within Family Life
- Managing Allegations
- Complex Safeguarding L1 & L2
- Basic Awareness Domestic Abuse
- Professional Curiosity & Unconscious Bias
- Domestic Abuse advanced
- Trauma Responsiveness to Hidden Harm
- Reign Collective – Child Sexual Abuse
- Lads Like Us – Lived experience of trauma and adverse childhood experiences

- Dad Matters – Working with Dads in the Perinatal Period
- Prioritising Child Sexual Abuse - Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse – in collaboration with GM Safeguarding Children Partnerships
- Level 1 Perinatal and Parent Infant Mental Health Training
- Level 2 Infant Mental Health Training – 2-day training course

External training events advertised include:

- Preventing Violence Against Women and Girls – Positive Allyship
- Cuckooing
- Identifying Criminal Exploitation
- Identifying Criminal Exploitation through Living Experience x3
- County Lines – National Referral Mechanism (NRM)
- White Ribbon Train the trainer session

7 Minute Briefings (7MB)

Multiple 7MB's have been produced and shared on the BSCP website:

- Educational Neglect
- Home Tuition and Section 19
- Children Missing from Education
- Elective Home Education
- Child Licensing Entertainment / Employment
- Professional Curiosity
- Resolving professional difference / escalation policy

Additional achievements:

- New BSCP Training Calendar in place, informed by thematic learning analysis from LSCPRs & RRs.
- New evaluation form introduced.
- Master training tracker devised to monitor attendance at events and is shared with partners to monitor engagement and attendance.

- BSCP Business Manager and Learning Development Officer have attended Schools Designated Safeguarding Leads Forum to discuss the learning and development training calendar, and to raise awareness of ICON week and the Greater Manchester Safeguarding Procedures and specifically the Escalation Policy.
- Design and delivery of Safeguarding Children training package to support VCFA colleagues.
- Promoted information to schools in relation to private fostering.
- The Learning and Development section of the website has been redesigned with additional content to improve safeguarding.
- Introduction of the use of Eventbrite for booking training.

Challenges:

- Engagement and attendance at the subgroup due to capacity of subgroup members.
- Improvement journey of the partnership has meant there is a back log of learning. In response to this many training sessions have been offered which has sometimes resulted in lack of uptake due to capacity issues.

Planned:

- Combined annual learning event with Safeguarding Adult Board and Community Safety that encompasses all of the learning within a 12 month period relating to Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews, Safeguarding Adult Reviews and Domestic Homicide Reviews to ensure 'Think Family' approach and ensure learning is disseminated to all relevant practitioners.
- Revised and streamlined training calendar, that centres around priorities and areas of concern.
- Publication of training strategy.
- Impact Assurance Form to go live.
- Production of further Powtoon videos to offer varied resources.
- Further development of the BSCP website, ensuring useful and informative resources are available and accessible to the workforce, and volunteers in Bury locality, in line with priorities for 2025/2026.
- Joint Mental Capacity Act (MCA) event to tackle MCA in children.

9.5 Scrutiny, Performance and Assurance Subgroup

Achievements:

- Pre-birth assessment audit – a multi-agency audit was completed with Children’s Social Care alongside a wide range of health colleagues to triangulate involvement and the quality of pre-birth assessments.
- Bruising in non-mobile infants audit – a multi-agency audit was done on ten children, looking at application of this protocol.
- Audit calendar created – this included audits to occur both within the subgroup alongside mapping single agency audits to feedback into for assurance.
- Section 11 audit and Challenge Day - This included a review of the partners’ self-assessment returns and agreement of the areas of focus in the challenge day.
- MASH multi-agency audits – these are now operational and feedback for consideration and assurance of the subgroup.
- Data dashboard has been embedded, shared regularly at the group, prompting reflective discussion on growing concerns, such as Elective Home Education; and also developing a shared understanding of the challenges and progress in the local area at Partnership meetings.

Challenges:

- Still striving to maximise the analysis and intelligence to be gained from individual agency performance monitoring and quality assurance. Changes in membership has led to gaps in information being shared by some agencies during the year.
- Capacity for multi-agency audits – as a time-consuming process, capacity remains of concern from agencies around multi-agency audits of cases.
- Attendance due to capacity constraints.

Planned:

- Further work to develop the findings and impact from the multi-agency audits in this reporting year.

9.6 Children’s Case Review Subgroup

Achievements:

- Created a pool of reviewers and developed the commissioning process for Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPR), included information gathering from other Greater Manchester Partnerships.
- Overseen the development of Rapid Review and LCSPR action plans, including reviews from previous years, overcoming the backlog.

- Beginning of a Rapid Review and LCSPR guidance document to assist with escalation and partners understanding of the processes.
- Reduced actions from Rapid Reviews and LCSPRs.
- Within the subgroup, there is Scrutineer presence to support the effectiveness of the group and a strong culture of partner challenge and positive working relationships.

Challenges:

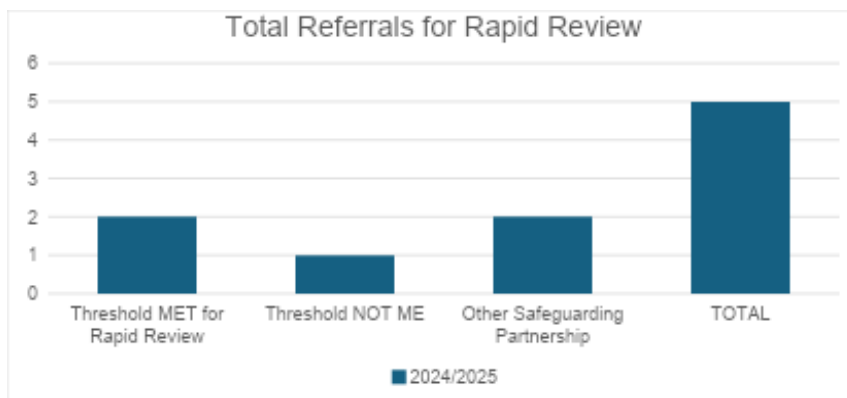
- Consistency of membership has been a challenge as there is a need for good working knowledge of the cases discussed.
- Difficulties in resolving repeat actions and embedding recurring actions.
- Difficulty in identifying a Chair for Rapid Reviews in the Partnership due to the short timeframes required for completion.

Planned:

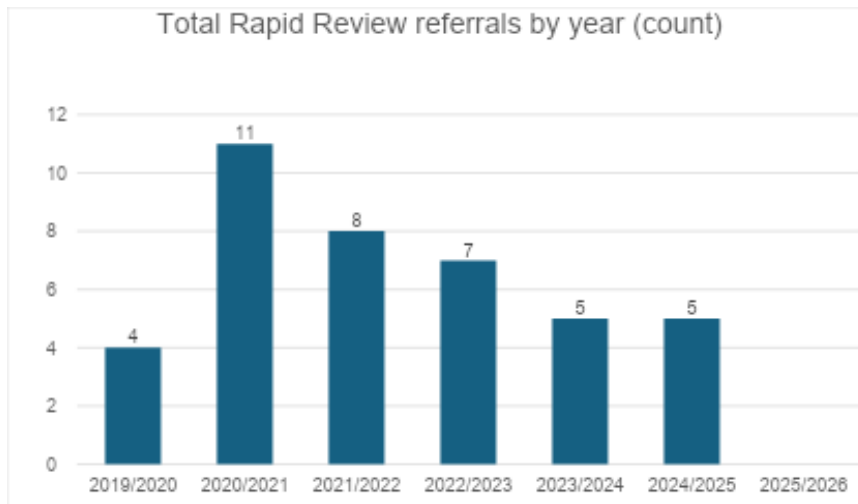
- Development of learning circles and approaches outside of statutory review processes to ensure learning is taken forward.
- Development session in early 2026 to consider the working of the group and ways in which to work more effectively.

10. Rapid Reviews and Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPRs)

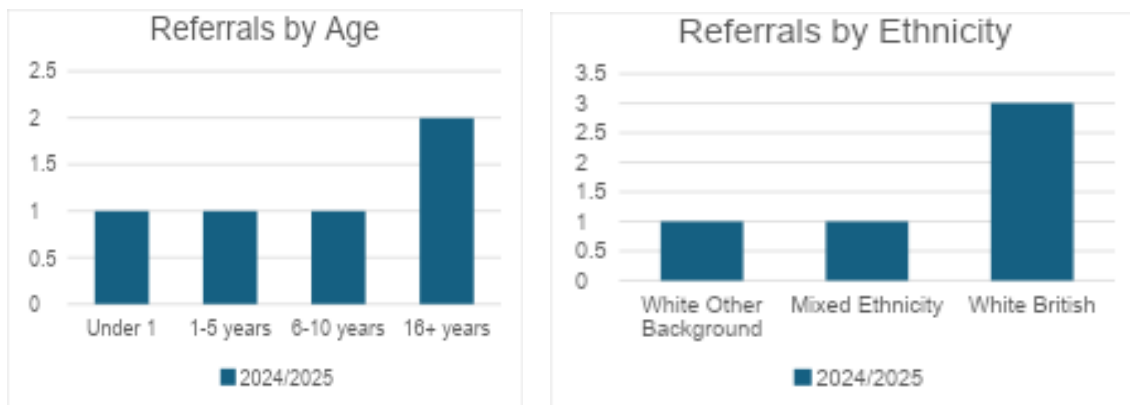
During the reporting year the Bury Safeguarding Children Partnership received 5 referrals for Rapid Review, 2 of which met the criteria for a Rapid Review and proceeded to Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPR).



This number is the same as the previous year's data.



In terms of demographics for referrals, the following was established.



There was only one referral for non-fatal serious harm. This was classified as neglect. In terms of fatal incidences of serious harm. There was once case in each category:

- SUDI/SUDC
- Suicide
- Neglect
- Medical

One LCSPR was concluded in this year from a previous reporting year. This was not published due to ongoing parallel processes and potential identification of the child and family.

The Children's Case Review Subgroup met bimonthly to discuss the action plans following from both Rapid Reviews and LCSPRs. From 2024 to 2025, the Subgroup continues to fulfil its statutory duty to make timely and informed recommendations following a Rapid Review in response to a serious child safeguarding incident. This includes determining whether the threshold is met for commissioning a Local Child

Safeguarding Practice Review (LCSPR), in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023).

Key representatives from statutory and relevant agencies actively contribute to the review process, offering professional insight into how identified learning can be translated into practical, sustainable change within their organisations. Each agency commits to leading on the implementation of relevant actions, monitoring progress, and evidencing impact.

10.1 Thematics from Rapid Reviews and LCSPRs

The following thematics were found across the reviews undertaken in this reporting period, a brief summary is provided with these of some of the work to improve these thematics:

- **Neglect** - Launch of Graded Care Profile 2 neglect tool
- **Voice of the child and lived experience** - Began work alongside Participation People to look into how we are engaging children and young people
- **Unsafe sleeping** - Safer Sleeping Toolkit knowledge has been audited through staff poll, alongside Powtoon video developed to raise awareness.
- **Think Family approach** - Improved training offer more broadly across child and adult safeguarding landscape.
- **Domestic abuse** - Connectivity with the Domestic Abuse Partnership Board.
- **Gender bias** - Work ongoing
- **Parental substance misuse and mental health** - Dual Diagnosis training ran, alongside sessions by Early Break around substance misuse.
- **Parental capacity** - Work ongoing
- **Cultural competency** - Work ongoing
- **Disguised compliance and non-attendance at appointments** - Work ongoing
- **Professional challenge, escalation and resolving of differences** - Escalation process modified and reshared
- **Information sharing** - Work ongoing

10.2 Learning Dissemination and Impact

All learning from Rapid Reviews is systematically shared with the Learning and Development Subgroup to inform the design and delivery of multi-agency training and workforce development. In parallel, the Scrutiny, Performance and Assurance Subgroup undertake audit and assurance activity to evaluate the effectiveness of

learning dissemination and the embedding of practice improvements across the partnership.

11. Strategic Alignment and Future Direction

Work continues in collaboration with the Regional Improvement Plan Pilot (RIPP) initiative to embed participation more deeply within the partnership's governance and operational frameworks. This includes reviewing existing mechanisms for engagement, identifying barriers to sustained involvement, and developing inclusive strategies that ensure all children—particularly those from marginalised or vulnerable groups—have opportunities to contribute meaningfully.

BSCP recognises that participation is not a one-off activity but a continuous process that must be nurtured and embedded at every level. As such, future work will focus on strengthening feedback mechanisms, evaluating the impact of youth voice on service design, and ensuring that participation is not only encouraged but acted upon.

12. Achievements of Partners

This reporting year saw various achievements by Partner agencies which we wish to celebrate:

- **Serious Youth Violence:** “Stop The Bleed” campaign saw delivery of knife crime awareness sessions led by the ICB Designated Nurse with the involvement of a host of partners such as GMP and Education alongside the Community Safety Partnership. This training has been delivered to Care Leavers via the Care Leaver Drop in and has resulted in many children in the borough receiving basic training on how to manage catastrophic bleeding. Alongside this each high school has been issued a bleed kit through collaboration with the School Nurse representatives. The VCFA had Youth-led grant programmes and co-designed VRU initiatives in which Youth Cabinet volunteers assessed grant applications, awarding nearly £5000 to youth-led projects. GMP additionally supported the development and rollout of a new training programme in high schools focused on youth violence prevention.
- Education now have over 90 Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) across schools and colleges, alongside a CME portal with robust tracking systems for Children Missing Education. Additionally, the Section 175 audit had a 95% school and 100% college response rate, allowing full reports with actions plans to be provided.

13. Conclusion

The 2024–25 reporting period has been one of reflection, renewal, and reform for Bury's Children's Safeguarding Partnership. From strengthening governance to embedding participation and deepening multi-agency challenge, Bury CSP has made demonstrable progress against its statutory duties and local priorities.

13.1 Priorities for the Next Year:

1. Neglect:

- Reduce the incidence of neglect and improve identification of different forms of neglect.

2. Public Sector Reforms:

- Implement reforms across the public sector, including NHS England and social care, with a focus on safeguarding children.

3. Child Sexual Abuse:

- Embed the Greater Manchester strategy and develop Bury's approach to child sexual abuse and intra-familial sexual abuse.

4. User Voice and Participation:

- Build on the work of agencies around user voice and participation, ensuring evidence of consultation and co-production in the work of each subgroup.

5. Complex Safeguarding:

- Maintain complex safeguarding as business as usual with the Operational Group continuing to report to the Board.
- Transitional safeguarding.

6. Domestic Abuse:

- Focus on domestic abuse through the lens of children as victims, ensuring connectivity between the Safeguarding Partnership and the Domestic Abuse Partnerships.

While challenges remain—including rising demand, workforce capacity, and the evolving nature of harm—we continue to approach our work with ambition and integrity. Our priorities for the coming year are:

- Strengthen voice of the child integration across the partnership
- Deepen use of data to understand performance and impact
- Embed equitable, trauma-informed practice across all services

We are grateful for the dedication of all partners and the leadership of our young people. Together, we remain resolute in our commitment to making Bury a borough where every child is safe, supported, and able to thrive.