



# South Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board and Children's Partnership

Safeguarding Newsletter  
December Edition

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE FOR ALL PARTNERS

DECEMBER 2023

## December Edition

This December edition of the newsletter is a combined newsletter for both the South Gloucestershire Children's Partnership and the Safeguarding Adults Board. Please share widely within your organisation.

This newsletter, and back copies from the last few months are now available on the website. You can find them all [here](#) on the Children's Partnership site and [here](#) on the Safeguarding Adults Board website.

### Spotlight on Training

Bitesize MARAC Workshop – [Book Here](#)

Bitesize Child Exploitation Sessions – [Book Here](#)

Bitesize Thresholds Workshop – [Book Here](#)

Safeguarding Children who do not live at home – [Book Here](#)  
(private fostering)

Bitesize Self- Neglect Workshops – [Book Here](#)

Full programme of Safeguarding Adults Training is [here](#)

Full programme of Safeguarding Children Training is [here](#)



### The Right Help in the Right Way at the Right Time

Our Threshold Document for all organisations working with children in South Gloucestershire has been updated.

[You can find the updated version here](#)

Please make sure you update any copies of The Right Help in the Right Way at the Right Time you have saved or have links to on your intranet or desktops.

We run a Bitesize Session about Thresholds and this document. Its just an hour and there is no charge to attend

[Book Now!](#)

## Stop Adult Abuse Week

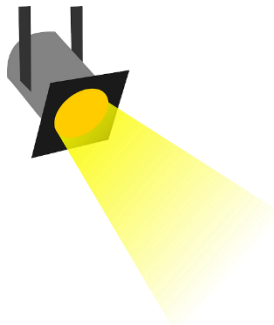


Stop Adult Abuse week was last week – we saw hundreds of practitioners attend a series of lunchtime workshops.

If you missed any of these, they are now available to watch online

[Click here to see the recorded workshops](#)

## Spotlight on Policy Updates



Since the launch of the new [South West Child Protection Procedures](#) website the Children's Partnership are changing the approach to local policy and Procedure documents.

Historically we have had long local documents as well as the South West Procedures and sometimes there have been slight differences which cause confusion.

We will now have shorter local guides that give local contact information that links to the South West Procedures which should help keep everything accurate and up to date and all in one place.

The first three of the new guides were published on 1<sup>st</sup> December. They replace a combined policy that was very out of date.

You can read them here – we would love feedback ([give us your feedback here](#)) about the new approach and design:

- **Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)** – [click here](#).
- **'Honour' Based Abuse (HBA)** – [click here](#).
- **Forced Marriage** – [click here](#).

## What Happening with JTAI?



JTAI is a **J**oint **T**argeted **A**rea **I**nspection. It is a multi agency inspection of a whole local authority footprint and inspects the way we work together as organisations. The inspectorate team is made up of Ofsted, CQC and HMICFRS.

*What is the current theme?* There are two current themes – **Serious Youth Violence** and the **Front Door** to Children's Services. If we are inspected in the next few months it will be on one of these two themes and will look at our response to children.

*How can I find out about the Serious Youth Violence theme?*

The full JTAI Inspection Information is available [here](#) – but the Children's Partnership have produced this short guide – [click here to read](#)

## Sextortion – Avon & Somerset Police Campaign

Last year alone, more than 720 people were blackmailed or bribed in Avon and Somerset through sextortion. Sextortion is when someone threatens to share sexual images or videos of you unless you do something for them - like sharing more photos or paying a sum of money.

This type of crime is sadly becoming more and more common, we've seen a repeated 40% increase in reports each year, over the last two years.

It can happen to anyone, but young males are a particular target for criminals - over 50 per cent of victims coming forward are males under 29 years old.

We want to make it harder for perpetrators to commit this devastating crime and to encourage those who are affected to come forward for help. Please watch and share this video, to help more people understand the risks involved when sharing sexual images and videos.

[Don't Panic! Don't Pay! Don't Communicate! - YouTube](#)

## Making safe memories this Christmas

The team at Avon Fire & Rescue Service (AF&RS) are sharing key advice to help you stay safe at home during the festive season. With lots of people decorating their homes and bringing some seasonal sparkle to their space, Christmas lights are always a popular choice. If you're using lights, AF&RS recommend that you:



- Use LED lights as these operate at a cooler temperature than traditional lights.
- Check your lights for any damage before putting them up. If they are damaged, dispose of them safely.
- Hang lights securely and out of reach children.
- Always turn lights off before going out or to bed.

With lot of lights and decorations, it can be tricky to find enough plug sockets for all your devices. AF&RS strongly advise you not to use multiway adapters at home, and instead opt for a surge-protected extension cable. Always check the output of your cable, and make sure that what you're plugging in does not exceed the limit. You should also ensure that you use the shortest possible cable and position out of the way so that it is not a trip hazard.

For free advice specific to you and your home, use AF&RS free tool today (<https://www.safelincs.co.uk/hfsc/?ref=AVNFRS>). It's quick, easy and can help make sure that you're making memories safely this Christmas.

A leading cause of death among children aged 1 to 4 is hanging and strangulation (36%). We all recognise the dangers of day-to-day items and mitigate the risk wherever possible, such as choosing lanyards that have safety breaks in them, and by using cordless blinds or ensuring blind cords are tied up or secured with winders. However, seasonally there are additional risks for small children that we may be less aware of, e.g., tinsel, fairy lights, bunting, and other decorations.

We can minimise this risk by avoiding tying objects such as bunting, tinsel, garlands, and other lengths of decoration which do not break easily, where a young child can reach it and wrap it around their neck. Even if decorations are placed out of reach, ensure they are fixed securely so they do not drop down to where a child can access them. Also, be particularly mindful of any objects a child can climb on to reach them, as they could lose their footing while they have a decoration wrapped around their neck.

## Reducing Parental Conflict

The practitioner guide <https://www.oneplusone.org.uk/practitioners>

The parent resource <https://www.oneplusone.org.uk/parents>

**Between Us App** For more information watch this short video about the Between Us App <https://vimeo.com/687909842/77cce2d65c>

There are Free e-modules on Reducing Parental Conflict – you can access using this [link](#)

The following resources can be accessed for free by professionals or individuals:

[See it differently](#) – a collection of videos offering tips on how to deal with conflict.

[Click](#) – an online platform and community forum offering expert advice on a wide range of relationship issues.

[Managing conflict | South Gloucestershire \(southglos.gov.uk\)](#)

Conflict in relationships is part of everyday life but conflict, which is frequent, intense, and poorly resolved can have harmful effects on children.

## South West Grid for Learning

SWGfL is back with its annual **Online Safety Day** event, bringing together industry professionals and policy makers from across the UK for an afternoon of informed discussion about how we can all work together to create a safer online world.

Areas for discussion will include:

- **Digital Wellbeing:** Encouraging positive use of technology
- **Online Safety Act:** The Implementation into law and lessons learned
- **Education for 2024:** Challenges facing professionals and available solutions

Online Safety Day will take place from **15:00-18:00, Wednesday 13th December 2023**, at TikTok's London office. It will be an opportunity to get the latest updates and hear from expert voices.

[Book places here](#) to join virtually.



## Family A and Baby M Learning Event

In September the Children's Partnership hosted a multi-agency learning event focusing on the learning from the two CSPRs published in 2023 Family A and Baby M – if you missed it – the recording for this event is now available

[Watch it here](#)



If you would like to be added to the distribution list for newsletters or have something you would like to include in a future edition please get in touch with Sarah Taylor [here](#)