



Dan Price
Cheshire
Police & Crime
Commissioner

Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner's response to the report Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) of the Multi-Agency Response to Identification of Initial Need and Risk in Warrington Borough Council

Title of inspection:

Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) of the Multi-Agency Response to Identification of Initial Need and Risk in Warrington Borough Council

Published on: 21 July 2026

Inspection type: Joint Targeted Area Inspection report

Report summary

The Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) of Warrington, carried out in May 2026 by Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS), found that children and families in Warrington benefit from the early identification of need and risk, supported by strong and effective multi-agency safeguarding arrangements. Inspectors praised the positive relationships between partners across the council, health services, police, schools and the voluntary sector, highlighting a shared culture focused on improving outcomes for vulnerable children. The inspection recognised the effectiveness of Warrington's Family Hubs, the inclusion of education partners within safeguarding arrangements, and the development of the Multi-Agency Child Protection Team (MACPT), which helps families access support earlier.

The report concluded that the overall safeguarding partnership is strong and making a positive difference to children and young people. Inspectors identified only two areas for improvement: ensuring that safety planning information is shared more consistently and promptly across agencies, and strengthening partner agency involvement at the earliest stages of the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (Clare's Law) process. While these issues affected a relatively small number of children, inspectors considered that addressing them would further enhance practice. Overall, the inspection represents a highly positive assessment of Warrington's partnership approach to safeguarding and protecting children

Constabulary response

Cheshire Constabulary welcomes the findings of the Joint Targeted Area Inspection, which recognise the strength of partnership arrangements across Warrington and the positive contribution made by the police in identifying and safeguarding vulnerable children and families. We acknowledge the areas identified for further improvement, particularly in relation to earlier multi-agency engagement within the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) process and the timeliness and consistency of safety planning and information



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sharing. The Constabulary is fully committed to supporting the Warrington Safeguarding Partnership's multi-agency action plan and has already begun work to strengthen our approach in these areas. This includes reviewing and enhancing DVDS processes to ensure earlier partner involvement in risk assessment and safeguarding activity, alongside work to improve how control room and safeguarding functions identify, communicate and escalate risk to support effective safety planning. We will continue to work closely with safeguarding partners to build on the considerable strengths identified by inspectors and to ensure that children and families in Warrington receive the earliest possible protection, support and intervention.

Commissioner's Response:

We welcome the findings of the Joint Targeted Area Inspection and the opportunity it provides to reflect on the effectiveness of our partnership arrangements in supporting and safeguarding children and young people.

The report recognises areas of strong practice, and we are equally committed to addressing the recommendations identified. Working closely with partners, we will ensure that the learning from the inspection is translated into meaningful action and sustained improvement.

Protecting vulnerable children remains a collective responsibility, and we will continue to strengthen our partnership approach to deliver the best possible outcomes for children, young people and their families.

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