



NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: Wednesday, 6 April 2016

Time: 2.00 pm

Place: LB 31-32 - Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3NG

Councillors are requested to attend the above meeting to transact the following business

Corporate Director for Resilience

Governance Officer: Rav Kalsi **Direct Dial:** 0115 8763759

AGENDA

Pages

1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2	DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS	
3	MINUTES To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2016	3 - 10
4	CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION Report of the Head of Democratic Services	11 - 26
5	LEAVING CARE SERVICE IN NOTTINGHAM Report of the Head of Democratic Services	27 - 28
6	INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY Report of the Head of Democratic Services	29 - 30
7	WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16 Report of the Head of Democratic Services	31 - 38

IF YOU NEED ANY ADVICE ON DECLARING AN INTEREST IN ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA, PLEASE CONTACT THE GOVERNANCE OFFICER SHOWN ABOVE, IF POSSIBLE BEFORE THE DAY OF THE MEETING

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NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held at Ground Floor Committee Room - Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3NG on 9 March 2016 from 14.02 - 15.21

Membership

Present

Councillor Brian Parbutt (Chair)
Councillor Gul Nawaz Khan (Vice Chair)
Councillor Leslie Ayoola
Councillor Azad Choudhry
Beverley Frost (3rd Sector Advocate)
Councillor Mohammed Ibrahim
Councillor Patience Uloma Ifediora
Councillor Glyn Jenkins
Councillor Neghat Nawaz Khan
Councillor Anne Peach

Absent

Councillor Josh Cook
Councillor Georgina Culley
Councillor Pat Ferguson
Councillor Corall Jenkins
Councillor Ginny Klein

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Rav Kalsi - Senior Governance Officer
Catherine Ziane-Pryor - Governance Officer

40 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Georgina Culley (Personal)
Councillor Ginny Klein (Personal)
Councillor Pat Ferguson (Personal)
Councillor Corall Jenkins (Personal)

41 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

42 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2016, are confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

43 PROGRAMME FOR SCRUTINY 2016/17 - WORKSHOP SESSION

Rav Kalsi, Senior Governance Officer, presented the report and delivered a brief presentation, outlining the topics already agreed by the Committee for scrutiny in the next municipal year and proposed potential topic for consideration during 2016/17.

Topics discussed and considered for Overview included:

- (a) Deprivation (Review Panel)
 - (i) jobs, apprenticeships, opportunities;

- (ii) to include an explanation to better understand statistical ranking of deprivation and why Nottingham is now ranked as more deprived than other similar cities;
 - (iii) topics raised within the broader discussion which may link into deprivation including the impact of Universal credit, fuel poverty, teenage pregnancy and vacant allotments;
- (b) An update on the Flood Risk Mitigation Strategy. Nottingham City Council adopted its Flood Risk Strategy in 2014 and the Committee would welcome an update on the strategy and the relationship with partner organisations in the City;
- (c) Customer Access Programme- an update on progress since the issue was last considered in January 2015;
- (d) Neighbourhood Strategy. Overview and Scrutiny has reviewed progress in implementing the Nottingham Growth Plan over the past two years and could now focus further scrutiny activity on the development of the Neighbourhood Strategy;
- (e) Crime and Drugs Partnership and the Police and Crime Commissioner update. Overview and Scrutiny has a statutory duty to review the work of the Crime and Drugs Partnership and would welcome the opportunity to review the Police and Crime Commissioner's priority areas following the election in May. Overview and Scrutiny last considered this as a joint topic in June 2014;
- (f) Safeguarding (possibly to receive an overview and then decide whether to recommend consideration by the Health Scrutiny Panel);
- (a) an update on the Authority's response to the Ofsted inspection since the topic was last examined in November 2015;
 - (b) the recent increase in reported child abuse.

Suggested topics which were declined as they fall within the remit of Health Scrutiny:

- (i) Teenage Pregnancy;
- (ii) Hospital Admissions as a result of crime/assault;
- (iii) Domiciliary Care;

The Committee agreed to invite Portfolio Holders to report on progress against the key themes of 2015/16 and management of their portfolio budget.

The Committee discussed which listed and additional topics should be included within the 2016/17 Scrutiny Schedule:

(1) Transformation and Partnerships

- (a) City Council's Budget Process (Agreed)
 - (i) (a preparatory training session to help members better understand budget processes);
 - (ii) consideration of how effectively the ring-fenced Council Tax increase of 2% for Adult Social Care is being allocated;

- (b) an overview of each Portfolio Holder's budgetary demands when reviewing their Council Plan priorities and challenges in 2016/17;
- (c) Commercialisation – income generation, charging and trading in Nottingham;
- (d) Commissioning and contract management with links to the Council's Procurement strategy;
- (e) Demographic changes and trends within the City, including the aging population and the predicted impact on services;
- (f) Vulnerable Adults Plan:
 - (i) feedback on the plan consultation and how results have influenced processes;
 - (ii) consideration of the outcomes from the first plan and what is now proposed, looking at KPIs and justifications;

(2) Environment and Regeneration

- (a) Fracking (agreed as a topic for a scrutiny review panel) - to examine in more detail the implications as interest in fracking within the County has been declared and to establish the impact fracking could have in Nottingham as a neighbouring authority;
- (b) Air Quality (agreed as a topic for a scrutiny review panel)
 - (i) a better understanding of the scale of the issues, including diesel fumes, and possible responses;
 - (ii) the impact at the time and on-going of the Player's factory fire;
 - (iii) the number and siting of air quality monitors within the City.
- (c) Environmental Infrastructure:
 - (i) cycling in Nottingham and the aspiration to become a 'Cycling City', including the issues caused by utility services' unsympathetic work/repairs to road surfaces (such as sunken drains), air quality for road cyclists, tram line issues;
 - (ii) Waste and Recycling – considering the new IT system in refuse lorries, reviewing the achievement of 'Cleanest City', ensuring that wheelie bins are removed from the streets once emptied, ensuring bins are used correctly (recycling), considering how to address difficulties with the regular changing of shared house tenants;

(3) Policy Development

- (a) Housing Regeneration (agreed as a topic for a scrutiny review panel)
 - (i) the impact of the housing bill, cost of housing and rents, including social housing and the private sector;
 - (ii) what powers exist to address privately owned houses standing empty, how are private void properties monitored and what is/ can be done to address licensed landlord owned properties standing empty;
 - (iii) the lack of affordable housing and what can be done to address this;
 - (iv) impact of universal credit;

- (b) Community Grants
 - (i) attracting appropriate organisations to bid in the commissioning process;
 - (ii) ensuring that performance standards are monitored and achieved;
 - (iii) considering the current area based model and the difficulties regarding boundaries;
 - (iv) scrutiny of voluntary sector budgets –it appears that detailed reporting is not required/ provided;
 - (v) consider the potential for bringing the service back in-house where there is extensive knowledge and understanding.
- (c) Tourism (Experience Nottinghamshire);
- (d) Infrastructure Planning;
- (e) Consultation – consideration of the extent and effectiveness of current methods;
- (f) Staff Engagement – work practices, morale and staff retention;
- (g) Voter Registration
 - (i) a cost benefit analysis of the impact of different approaches by different authorities to encouraging citizens to enrol on the electoral register and vote;
 - (ii) the impact of elections on City Council resources, beyond the Central Government paid work;
- (h) Retaining university graduates within the City;
- (i) Teachers – attracting and retaining teachers in the City;
- (j) to assess the educational provision for children with autism to establish how well equipped schools are to cope with autistic children;
- (4) Public Impact and Performance Management
 - (a) Parking Enforcement – an assessment of officer’s ability to enforce restrictions in the City;
 - (b) Trading Standards and the implications of budget restrictions;
 - (c) Welfare Reforms - as a follow up to the 2014 Council debate;
 - (d) Fuel Poverty –since the publication of the Scrutiny Panel’s recommendations from the 2011 review, what is being done, and how effectively, to support citizens in fuel poverty. To include consideration of the home insulation schemes, the launch of Robin Hood Energy, and the credit rating scheme to enable tenants to gain good credit ratings if paying their rent on time, and therefore enable them to move away from pre-payment metres;
 - (e) Community Protection Officers – their roles and responsibilities, especially as they have a protected budget;

- (f) Fixed Odds Gambling – citizens in Nottingham spent an estimated £480million on gaming machines last year;
- (g) Credit Unions;
- (h) Procurement, Commissioning and Contract Management;
- (i) Libraries- the changing landscape;
- (j) An overall review of how/if the Committee's recommendations have been acted upon and why recommendations have not been acted upon. This would be included within Overview and Scrutiny's Annual Report;
- (k) Young People – Education, Training and Apprenticeship Outcomes
 - (i) definition of apprenticeships, accessibility, quality, success at securing jobs through apprenticeships;
 - (ii) Nottingham City Homes apprentice scheme to be considered;
 - (iii) investigation of the practice by some Colleges which do not inform Futures when young people drop out of courses;
 - (iv) tracking outcomes, statistics of those who fall through the gaps, including the statistics of how many have been identified to have additional educational support;
 - (v) raising aspirations;
- (l) Regional Devolution - to be considered for future work schedules once there is a clearer understanding of the direction of progress;
- (m) Sustainability of Care Homes – what happens to residents when homes close and what measures could be considered if one or more homes were to close at the same time within the City;
- (n) Food Banks in Nottingham (Panel) (to be open to interested members who are not members of the Committee).

RESOLVED

- (1) for the Chair to confirm the schedule of topics for future consideration with the Senior Governance Officer as follows:**
 - (a) Individual Portfolio Holders to report on progress against the key themes of 2015/16 and management of their portfolio budget;**
 - (b) for overview:**
 - (i) Flood Risk Mitigation Strategy (revisit);**
 - (ii) Customer Access Programme;**
 - (iii) Safeguarding;**
 - (c) for Review Panel consideration:**

- (i) Deprivation;**
 - (ii) Housing Regeneration;**
 - (iii) Air Quality;**
 - (iv) Food Banks In Nottingham;**

- (d) for full Overview and Scrutiny Committee consideration:**
 - (i) The City Council's Budget Process;**
 - (ii) Neighbourhood Strategy;**
 - (iii) Crime and Drugs Partnership and the Police and Crime Commissioner;**
 - (iv) Fracking;**
 - (v) Voter Registration/Casting;**
 - (vi) Consideration of how the recommendations of the SEN review are being implemented;**
 - (vii) Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report and actions arising from Ofsted inspection in May 2014;**
 - (viii) Review of how/if the Committee's recommendations have been acted upon;**

- (2) for the following topics to be considered for inclusion within the 2016/17 Overview and Scrutiny Committee work schedule, in a format (Overview/ Review Panel/ full Committee) and on a date to be determined by the Chair in consultation with the Senior Governance Officer:**
 - (a) within the theme of Transformation and Partnerships:**
 - (i) Commercialisation;**
 - (ii) Demographic Changes and Trends in the City;**
 - (iii) Vulnerable Adults Plan;**

 - (b) within the theme of Environment and Regeneration:**
 - (i) Environmental Infrastructure;**

 - (c) Within the theme of Policy and Development:**
 - (i) Community Grants;**
 - (ii) Communications;**
 - (iii) Advertising Policy;**
 - (iv) Tourism;**
 - (v) Infrastructure Planning;**
 - (vi) Consultation;**
 - (vii) Staff Engagement;**
 - (viii) Attracting and retaining teachers;**
 - (ix) Retaining university graduates.**

 - (d) within the theme of Public Impact and Performance Management;**
 - (i) Parking Enforcement;**
 - (ii) Trading Standards;**

- (iii) Welfare Reforms;**
- (iv) Fuel Poverty;**
- (v) Libraries;**
- (vi) Procurement;**
- (vii) Community Protection Officers;**
- (viii) Sustainability of Care Homes;**
- (ix) Young People – training and apprenticeship procedures and outcomes;**
- (x) Fixed Odds Gambling;**
- (xi) Credit Unions;**
- (xii) Regional Devolution.**

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
6 APRIL 2016
CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To consider an update on the Council’s work in tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) in Nottingham.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to consider what action Nottingham City Council is taking to protect children in Nottingham from sexual exploitation.

3 Background information

Focus for the discussion

- 3.1 In December 2015, the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee reviewed the work taking place in the city to tackle child sexual exploitation (CSE) and reported that the City Council had recently appointed a CSE Coordinator to act as an expert and lead professional for both City Council colleagues and professionals from partner organisations to seek advice from. The Co-ordinator disseminates learning and shares best practice and will attend the Committee to report on the work taking place in Nottingham to tackle CSE.

Background

- 3.2 CSE is a form of abuse in which children are sexually exploited. The nationally agreed definition of CSE is:
- 3.3 Sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involving exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where the young person (or third person/s) receive ‘something’ (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and/or other performing on them, sexual activities.
- 3.4 Child sexual exploitation can occur through the use of technology without the child’s immediate recognition where, for example, a child is persuaded to post images on the internet or pass these via mobile phones.
- 3.5 The Children who are most at risk of being sexually exploited are children who:
- Are frequently missing from school, home or residential care;
 - Are vulnerable due to living in neglectful houses;

- Have been separated or trafficked;
 - Are unaccompanied and seeking asylum;
 - Are living in residential care.
- 3.6 In 2014, Sir Michael Wilshaw, Ofsted’s Chief Inspector, commissioned a report to build a clearer picture of how well local authorities and partners are working to prevent child sexual exploitation in their area, to offer protection to its victims, and to pursue and prosecute its abusers.¹ The report made a series of recommendations to local authorities and Local safeguarding Children Boards.
- 3.7 The potential impact of Child Sexual Exploitation on children and young people, communities and statutory service came to public prominence as a consequence of a series of high profile investigations across the Country. Perhaps the most notable of these was in Rotherham, where there were two notable reports initially from Professor Alexis Jay and subsequently from Louise Casey. The City Council and key statutory partners have consistently re-evaluated local practice in response to the findings of these reports.

What measures have been put in place to protect Nottingham children?

- 3.8 Considerable work has been undertaken to protect Nottingham Children and we are continually benchmarking ourselves against best practice and local partners to build on this. Nottingham City Council, along with 9 other Local Authorities has been involved in the Home Office, Department of Local Government and DfE relating to CSE. There have been a number of strands and workshops developed which have informed practice across the country. Copies of a briefing setting out some of the actions taken by the City Council accompany this paper.
- 3.9 In Nottingham City there has been practice guidance to support staff in responding to sexual exploitation for many years. This has been updated and revised to reflect improved understanding of the issue and changes to statutory guidance. The key principles set out in that guidance focus on effective recognition of risk and a robust, coordinated multi-agency response. Where a young person is identified as being at particular risk a multi-agency meeting will be convened to consider how best to protect them.
- 3.10 There has been ongoing training and awareness raising for staff, carers, and young people. This has included briefing events for GPs and other health professionals, in addition to specific CSE training delivered to Magistrates who sit in the Youth Courts to assist with the recognition of CSE and presenting behaviours, which may lead to victims of CSE being criminalised. Work has been undertaken within the voluntary and

¹ Ofsted report, 19 November 2015, https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/386598/The_20_sexual_20exploitation_20of_20children_20it_20couldn_E2_80_99t_20happen_20here_2C_2_0could_20it.pdf

community sectors with events in December 2014 and March 2015. The Safeguarding Children Board has also promoted use of an E Learning package aimed at staff as well as delivering face to face training.

- 3.11 We have appointed a CSE co-ordinator who has been in post since September 2015. The CSE Coordinator takes the operational lead in driving practice and learning, as well as developing the operational responses to the CSECAG work plan. In addition, she manages the Missing Children's Team, which will enable swift identification and intervention for any young people at risk of CSE.

Are there examples of joined-up working across Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County?

- 3.12 The Child Sexual Exploitation Cross Authority Group [CSECAG] is a sub-group of the Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Board and Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board. It meets bi-monthly to progress the child sexual exploitation strategy. This group is chaired by DCI Melanie Bowden. The work plan has 4 strands, which are currently being reviewed and Recovery is going to be included within the plan. The current strands consist of:

- **Prevention and response**
- **Safeguarding and protection**
- **Public confidence**
- **Bringing offenders to justice:**

- 3.13 In addition to the work completed under CSECAG Nottingham City Children's Social care have developed a Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation panel, chaired by Helen Blackman. The purpose of the group is to track children at risk of CSE, and collate information relating to perpetrators and location/hot spots. The group is comprised of colleagues from Children's Services, Education, Community Protection, Police and Health.

- 3.14 Information sharing at a case level is also promoted though

- The Concerns Network is a multi agency process which focuses on early identification of children and young people who are potentially vulnerable. It also collects intelligence relating to specific localities of interest. This network was highlighted in the September 2015 issue of the Home Office Bulletin as best practice.
- The Missing Hotspot meeting, which is a joint meeting between Police and Social care which considers the response to children and young people who go missing on multiple occasions to ensure that their circumstances are recognised and understood.

Is there any engagement with young people to ensure that young people know how to protect themselves?

- 3.15 Where risks are identified that relates to an individual young person a package of support will be put in place to address these. This will include direct work with them to support them to recognise how they are making themselves vulnerable. Support is also provided by the NSPCC Respect and Protect project, which is a specialist CSE service. To date 19 young people have accessed this programme for 1:1 support and 49 young people have been part of preventative group work. The CSE Coordinator works closely with the Team Manager from Protect and Respect to ensure the service is being accessed by relevant children and young people.
- 3.16 In terms of awareness raising at a wider level Nottingham City Council has funded 36 sessions of a LUVU2, which is a theatre production aimed at young people. This has been rolled out to schools, colleges, alternative provisions as well as young people in care, community and youth centres. There were similar sessions delivered in the previous academic year which were well received. We also plan to send out a letter, via schools, aimed at all parents to help them recognise potential signs of risk and highlighting a specialist CSE on-line resource developed for parents.

Are there any examples of safeguarding across the Council Workforce?

- 3.17 Lunchtime seminars have been delivered by Caroline Riley and Liz Tinsley (Service Manager for NSPCC) to enable staff members to discuss concerns relating to specific cases, share good practice and raise their awareness of issues related to CSE and sexual harm.

How authorities plan to disrupt criminal activity and protecting children at immediate risk?

- 3.18 There continues to be improvement in working practices so that investigations of CSE are becoming more robust. This work is reinforced via the training of staff. The focus of the work is on disruption before abuse occurs – to that end the Concerns Network Meeting continues to play a valuable role, creating the opportunity for professionals to share isolated pieces of information relating to specific localities across the city and in relation to worrying behaviours of either children/young people or adults. Where there are immediate and established concerns then social care work closely with the police to investigate and safeguard the child or young person concerned. The Missing Children's Team is also influential in identifying cases of concern and highlighting such cases to Social Care.
- 3.19 Nottingham City is also taking part in an NSPCC pilot to develop a National Framework for assessing young people who present harmful sexual behaviour. This will enable consistent approaches and

interventions in such cases and would assist in the identification of possible future perpetrators. The Assessment of Sexual Harm Arrangements (ASHA) is a meeting which takes place every three weeks to discuss cases of harmful sexual behaviour perpetrated by children under the age of 18 years. This offers a platform for identifying worrying behaviours and assists with the profiling of potential adult offenders.

3.20 Child Abduction Warning Notices can be issued by the police to prevent any contact with a named child. There were 15 issued last year within Nottingham and currently a further 10 have been issued to date of writing.

What are the next steps in Nottingham to keep children safe?

3.21 Training and awareness raising activity will continue to be a key focus. In addition to this next steps will include the following:

- Developing a database of information relating to offenders and potential offenders. This will assist with mapping issues across the city and support professionals in understanding/identifying what leads people to offend in this way. In addition this will assist in the identification of links between offenders and the possibility of young people being trafficked across the city and wider;
- Continue to embed the working practices of the MASE panel to ensure appropriate safeguarding measures are in place;
- Working with regional CSE leads and tier 2 management groups in progressing agreed regional standards.

4 List of attached information

4.1 Briefing for staff and partner agencies.

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None.

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham, August 2014, Professor Alexis Jay.

6.2 Ofsted report – ‘The sexual exploitation of children: it couldn’t happen here, could it?’ 19 November 2014, Sir Michael Wilshaw.

6.3 Department of Communities and Local Government Report – ‘Report of Inspection of Rotherham Borough Council’ 4th February 2015, Louise Casey.

6.4 Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee minutes, dated 22 December 2015.

7 Wards affected

7.1 All.

8 Contact information

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Child Sexual Exploitation

A briefing for colleagues working with children and young people in Nottingham - January 2015

In the wake of the Alexis Jay Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation all of our minds are sharply focused on the lessons being learnt. We are determined to ensure that Nottingham will not succumb to similar failings. Please share this briefing with colleagues working with children & young people.

What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

CSE is different from 'traditional' forms of child abuse. The current Local Authority mechanisms for statutory child protection were originally designed to protect children from abuse and neglect inflicted by family members in their home environment. The work of child protection services has also been extended to tackle individual perpetrators amidst our communities and perpetrators who have managed to manipulate access to vulnerable children through working for schools, community groups or even children's residential care services.

CSE is a form of abuse in which children are sexually exploited. The nationally agreed definition of CSE is:

- sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involving exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where the young person (or third person/s) receive 'something' (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and/or others performing on them, sexual activities.
- child sexual exploitation can occur through the use of technology without the child's immediate recognition; for example being persuaded to post images on the internet/mobile phones.

CSE can be highly organised and committed by lone perpetrators or operate across groups of dangerous adults. Groups or gangs of dangerous adults can be working together as an organised criminal network, with the purpose of grooming children in order to abuse them and make money from their abuse by others. The COFFEY report (Nov 14 post Rochdale) identified 15% CSE cases were perpetrated by groups/gangs, and individual offenders were responsible for 85% of offences. These ratios are also supported by figures from Greater Manchester Police last year.

Violence, coercion and intimidation are commonly linked to CSE. Involvement in exploitative relationships is characterised by the child's or young person's limited availability of choice, as a result of their social, economic or emotional vulnerability. A common feature of CSE can be that the child or young person does not recognise the coercive nature of the relationship with perpetrators and may not see themselves, at least initially, as a victim of exploitation.

The children who are most at risk of being targeted by CSE perpetrators are children who:

- are frequently 'missing' from school, home or residential care
- are vulnerable due living in neglectful households
- have been separated or trafficked
- are unaccompanied and seeking asylum
- are living in residential care.

When taking into account the complex and devious nature of serious, organised criminals, it is clear that addressing CSE requires a broader, cross-agency response. Sometimes the perpetrators are organised through criminal networks which have been established for other elements of criminality such as drug dealing, money laundering or intimidation.

To disrupt the activities of serious, organised criminals new mechanisms are needed including a national approach for local authorities, the Police and other partners to co-ordinate all intelligence relating to their prevention, protection and prosecution activities.

What reports have been published?



1. Professor Alexis Jay

In August 2014 Alexis Jay published her Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham which outlines the key issues relating to CSE between 1997 and 2013.



2. Ofsted

On 19th November 2014 Ofsted's Chief Inspector, Sir Michael Wilshaw, published "The sexual exploitation of children: it couldn't happen here, could it?" which outlines how well local authorities and partners are working to prevent child sexual exploitation.

See Appendices for the recommendations made in both of these reports

What are we doing in Nottingham to protect our children?

Below are six themes which outline the action being taken and the names of professional key contacts. The contact details of the professionals named below are attached in Appendix 1.

1. Getting the right partners on board

Measures had been put in place to protect Nottingham children well before the Alexis Jay Inquiry came to public attention. As an early intervention City, Nottingham had already joined forces with Nottinghamshire County Council to pull together all of the relevant agencies into a Child Sexual Exploitation Cross Authority Group (CSECAG) which is chaired by the Nottinghamshire Police CSE lead, Detective Inspector, Martin Hillier.

CSECAG brings agencies together to co-ordinate a joined up approach dedicated to tackling CSE. The CSECAG is a sub-group of the independently chaired Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Board and the Nottinghamshire County Safeguarding Board.

2. Working with Ofsted

In April 2014 Nottingham City Council had an inspection of services for children in need of help and protection; children looked after and care leavers. The inspection found no areas for immediate action, with all of the cases inspected deemed to be safe. The Ofsted report said: "There are no widespread or serious failures that create or leave children being harmed or at risk of harm. The welfare of looked after children is safeguarded and promoted." Specifically about CSE Ofsted said: "Children who go missing from home and/or education, and those at risk of sexual exploitation are identified and tracked, to ensure that they receive appropriate services to reduce risks."

3. Engaging with young people

3a. Early intervention through schools

Nottingham and its Safeguarding Board have commissioned a theatre group to deliver sessions in schools to raise awareness of CSE. The theatre group has also performed specifically for children in care. The productions engage young people to ensure they know how to protect themselves and also give them the skills to identify if their classmates and friends could be at risk.

The GREAT Project works in schools to build children's self-esteem and teach them about healthy relationships. If children value themselves they are more likely to have the confidence to find their voice and speak out about a destructive relationship with an adult.

3b. Children in internal residential care

Volunteers with relevant professional backgrounds are dedicating time to build the self-esteem of girls in residential care through the Magdalena Project. Offering a strong female role model, young women are supported in self-care with time and compassion, learning to value themselves.

3c. Targeted action through the NSPCC

In Nottingham we are working with the NSPCC through the Protect and Respect Initiative, which works with children and young people from age 11 to 19 who are vulnerable to, or have been a victim of, CSE.

The service works on three levels:

- Protection – educating young people about keeping safe.
- Risk reduction – for when we're really worried about a young person being at risk.
- Recovery – for young people who have been hurt but are now in a safe place and need to make sense of what's happened.

3d. Missing children

A dedicated team, based with Duty in Loxley House, oversee the frequency of incidents and return interviews; using a return interview tool which highlights the risk of CSE. Regular meetings are held to look at the vulnerability of young people missing in relation to the close link with CSE. An additional Family Support Worker has been seconded to this team to help ensure that children have a timely visit if they have been missing. In addition, each residential home operates a rota to visit children at other homes if they have been missing in case they have urgent concerns and need immediate protection.

4. Safeguarding across our workforce

4a. Good practice guidance for workers

The entire multi-agency workforce has access to specific practice guidance on CSE amongst other themes available on the City Council's website <http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/article/23729/Safeguarding-Children-Procedures-and-Practice-Guidance-Documents>.

These guidance documents give our practitioners on the front line of services the direction they need to most effectively assess and support victims and also catch and prosecute offenders. The Social Care lead for CSE is Caroline Riley. The Children in Care lead for CSE is Sharon Clarke.

4b. Workforce training

Whole sections of the children's workforce including Social Care, Residential Care, Police, Schools and Priority Families Practitioners, have been trained to identify the early signs of CSE. The training will enable colleagues to spot the indications of unusual or inappropriate behaviour and intervene early to protect children at risk.

4c. Dedicated Police support

Nottingham has a dedicated Police Officer, PC 1224 Sam Flint, who works exclusively with Children in Care. PC Flint is one of the main co-ordinators of the city-wide CSE Concerns Network Forum which gives all practitioners in the workforce the opportunity to get advice and discuss potential CSE risks with experts to agree the action to take.

4d. The Young People's Panel

Nottingham has a Young People's Panel to support children who are causing concerns in their neighbourhoods. The purpose of the Panel is to ensure the consistent identification of children and young people (and associated adults in family and peer friendship groups) who are either not responding to single-agency involvement, or would benefit from co-ordinated multi-agency interventions. The Panel will ensure that where there are concerns of possible sexual exploitation, the young people will be referred to the CSE Concerns Network Forum through PC Flint.

4e. Challenging and managing effectively

Although Rotherham's Safeguarding Board had appropriate policies and procedures in place these were not implemented successfully and the Board did not monitor the effectiveness or hold services to account. This is not the case in Nottingham with a proactive Independent Safeguarding Board Chair and CSE group (CSECAG) overseeing much of the work in this briefing.

Nottingham City Council is introducing themed fortnights for Social Care staff on issues such as record keeping which were identified as requiring improvement during the inspection. These events will raise awareness amongst colleagues of good practice and if improvements are not made challenge work will be undertaken by managers via supervision meetings.

The Corporate Director, Directors and Heads of Service will be conducting quality assurance dip tests of supervisions, performance appraisals and case files to ensure they are of sufficient standard and provide challenge to improve where needed.

4f. Regular profiling with Senior Management

In 2013 the City developed a profiling tool for children in care who were considered to be at risk of self-harm, missing or CSE. This is a self-serve tool for the workforce to assess and communicate the risks for the most vulnerable children in care and for senior managers across key agencies to meet and oversee robust plans to reduce the risks. The Profiling Meetings are chaired by Alison Wakefield, Service Manager at Nottingham City Council, and have been extended to include a dedicated section for both children in care and at home who are at risk of CSE. The NSPCC attend this meeting to ensure swift allocation and support for vulnerable children.

4g. Creating more capacity

Capacity within the workforce is one of the issues currently being addressed. Recruitment is underway for additional Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs). This will create more workforce capacity to ensure that IROs are more able to follow up the challenges they raise in relation to a young person's case.

4h. Youth Offending Team

A dedicated lead in the YOT, Racheal Osborne, oversees the work with children who sexually harm others and those young people who are at risk of CSE. Bridging these two groups Racheal engages with CSECAG and links to the senior YOT representative, Shelley Nichols, on the Profiling Group.

- 1 The YOT Education, Training and Employment Specialist and CSE Lead obtain regular information on all young people who will be home tutored and YOT will track these young people and cross reference with Police information.
- 2 A YOT case manager, CSE lead, also attends and feeds back from the multi-agency Concerns Network Forum to the wider YOT workforce.
- 3 The Assessment of Sexual Harm Arrangements Panel is a YOT chaired panel comprised of CAMHS, Social Care and the Police. The Panel assesses and devises Intervention Plans for all young people who exhibit sexually harmful behaviour. The Panel has the potential to contribute to tackling CSE in the longer term given research indicates two thirds of perpetrators of CSE have exhibited sexually harmful behaviour pre 13 years of age. The ASHA Panel now screens all cases for such indicators.

5. Raising public awareness

Newsletters across the City Council and all schools have raised awareness of the Alexis Jay Inquiry. The articles included information on 'what to do if you are concerned about a child' and also 'what to do if you think your concerns have not been appropriately listened to'.

Guidance for the public on what they should do if they are concerned about a child is available on the City Council website – just Google 'child abuse Nottingham' - and has recently been published in the Arrow Magazine to all households in the City.

Training and awareness campaigns are being refreshed to target people who may come into contact with young people at risk, for example taxi drivers who may witness inappropriate behaviours or hotel receptionists who may have concerns regarding hotel users.

6. Disrupting criminal activity & protecting children at immediate risk

6a. Tackling dangerous adults linked to CSE

Over the last three years we have actively disrupted any groups of adults suspected of being involved in CSE and we have a live investigation active into one of those groups. The focus of work however is on disruption before abuse occurs to ensure that children in Nottingham are protected.

6b. Child abduction warning notices (CAWN)

Police can issue notices to specific adults in relation to children perceived to be at risk from that adult. The notices are issued by the Police, authorised by an Inspector or above, and prohibit the adult from contact (direct or online) with the child. The notices very clearly place responsibility for actively avoiding all contact with the child, even if approached, with the adult. If breached, the Police can arrest the adult for child abduction and whilst most adults have complied with these notices, one local adult was sentenced to custody for breach. A breach can carry up to seven years imprisonment so they are a good deterrent.

6c. Using intelligence

The City wide Concerns Network Forum provides an opportunity for all agencies and children in the City to report early indicators and isolated pieces of information, no matter how small, about worrying or unusual behaviour by adults where they suspect their motive.

The Police research, organise and share this information. Once collated, this information can help to identify dangerous households and children at risk. This is an innovative local partnership dedicated to disrupting criminal activity at an early stage and protecting children.

Most recently our local leads have arranged to share their information with the Regional Crime Unit and this information will contribute to a national intelligence picture.

Where there are immediate and established concerns for children, colleagues from Social Care work closely with the Police Sexual Exploitation Investigation Unit to investigate the concerns with the aim of protecting the children and seeking prosecution of the adults.

What next in Nottingham?

1. Acting on the recommendations of recent reports

In Nottingham we are currently scrutinising our practice against the recommendations of the Alexis Jay report and the recent Ofsted report – see the Appendices. A breakdown of the recommendations of the reports have been shared with all partners, including Social Care staff, Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Board and its sub-groups, and the Police to ensure a multi-agency approach.

For each recommendation all agencies will record:

- the measures which they have already put in place

- the action which is currently underway and
- what further action is required to ensure each recommendation is robustly addressed.

Following this a full plan will be shared with relevant senior officers for quality assurance. The actions identified will be reported back to the CSE Sub-group and the Safeguarding Children Board to ensure the actions are being progressed and there is sufficient monitoring, oversight and challenge.

2. Working with the voluntary and community sector

Nottingham is working with Prostitute Outreach Workers (POWs) as they deliver a new education programme, RAISE, to prevent young adults from being compelled or manipulated into a life of prostitution.

Women's groups and voluntary organisations came together in December 2014 with CSESAG and the City Social Care workforce for a large community engagement event aimed at discussing CSE and listening to the insights of these specialist groups.

3. Inviting a national policing Peer Review:

In Nottinghamshire we have been working with the College of Policing to take part in an independent peer review of our partnership approach to tackling CSE across the City, County and the Police. The national body will work alongside their partners in safeguarding to conduct the review, something which they are also undertaking in South Yorkshire and Leicestershire. The results will provide us with a valuable opportunity to obtain the insights of national peers, identify areas of improvement and share good practice.

What can I do to support the fight against CSE?

- If you believe that a child is at immediate risk and in need of protection then you should call the Police on **999** immediately. Alternatively, if you feel the child is a risk of abuse or neglect, but not in immediate need of protection, you should call the Police on **101**.
- Children's Social Care at Nottingham City Council can be contacted on **0115 876 5600**.
- If you do not feel comfortable speaking to the Police or Social Care you can phone the Free NSPCC Confidential Helpline on **0808 800 5000**.
- You can also report crimes anonymously through Crime Stoppers on **0800 555 111**.

More support and information is available on the Nottingham City Council website here:

<http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/article/23726/Are-you-worried-about-a-childs-well-being> or simply Google 'child abuse Nottingham' and this page will appear as a top result.

If you are worried about any of our children or young people, **and you do not feel your concerns are being listened to or acted upon**, please ensure you report this to Helen Blackman, Director of Children's Social Care, or to Alison Michalska, Corporate Director for Children and Adults, and they will personally follow it up. Their contact details are in Appendix 1.

Thank you for your support.

Appendix 1: Key Leads & useful contacts

Helen Blackman, Director of Children's Social Care, Nottingham City Council:

helen.blackman@nottinghamcity.gov.uk Tel: 0115 8764710

Alison Michalska, Corporate Director of Children & Adults, Nottingham City Council:

alison.michalska@nottinghamcity.gov.uk Tel: 0115 8763332

The CSE lead for Nottinghamshire Police is Detective Inspector Martin Hillier.

martin.hillier@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk Tel: 101 Ext: 817 4090

The lead for the CSE Concerns Network is PC 1224 Sam Flint. Sam is also the dedicated Children in Care

Police Officer sam.flint@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk Tel: 07711443797

The CSE lead for Social Care is Caroline Riley, Service Manager, Nottingham City Council

caroline.riley@nottinghamcity.gov.uk Tel: 0115 876 64147

The CSE lead for Children in Care is Sharon Clarke, Service Manager, Nottingham City Council

sharon.clarke@nottinghamcity.gov.uk Tel: 0115 876 5032

The CSE lead for the Youth Offending Team is Racheal Osborne, Practice Specialist, Nottingham City Council

racheal.osborne@nottinghamcity.gov.uk Tel: 0115 876 1203

The lead for the Profiling Meetings is Alison Wakefield, Service Manager, Nottingham City Council

alison.wakefield@nottinghamcity.gov.uk Tel: 0115 876 4528

The Missing Children's Workers can be contacted through Andrew High, Senior Practitioner, Nottingham

City Council andrew.high@nottinghamcity.gov.uk Tel: 0115 876 4842

Information about the GREAT project in schools can be found here:

<http://www.equation.org.uk/the-great-project/>

Information about the NSPCC Protect & Respect work can be found here:

<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/fighting-for-childhood/our-services/services-for-children-and-families/protect-and-respect/>

Appendix 2: Findings from the Alexis Jay report

Below are recommendations from the report by Prof Alexis Jay, Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham (1997 – 2013) published on the 26th August 2014.

A. Risk Assessment

- **Recommendation 1:** Senior managers should ensure that there are up-to-date risk assessments on all children affected by CSE. These should be of consistently high quality and clearly recorded on the child's file.
- **Recommendation 2:** The numeric scoring tool should be kept under review. Professional judgements about risk should be clearly recorded where these are not adequately captured by the numeric tool.

B. Looked After Children

- **Recommendation 3:** Managers should develop a more strategic approach to protecting looked after children who are sexually exploited. This must include the use of out-of-area placements. The Borough should work with other authorities to minimise the risks of sexual exploitation to all children, including those living in placements where they may become exposed to CSE. The strategy should include improved arrangements for supporting children in out-of-area placements when they require leaving care services.

C. Outreach and Accessibility

- **Recommendation 4:** The Council should make every effort to make help reach out to victims of CSE who are not yet in touch with services. In particular, it should make every effort to restore open access and outreach work with children affected by CSE to the level previously provided by Risky Business.

D. Joint CSE Team

- **Recommendation 5:** The remit and responsibilities of the joint CSE team should be urgently decided and communicated to all concerned in a way that leaves no room for doubt.
- **Recommendation 6:** Agencies should commit to introducing a single manager for the multi-agency CSE team. This should be implemented as quickly as possible.
- **Recommendation 7:** The Council, together with the Police, should review the social care resources available to the CSE team, and make sure these are consistent with the need and demand for services.

E. Collaboration with CYPS

- **Recommendation 8:** Wider children's social care, the CSE team and integrated youth and support services should work better together to ensure that children affected by CSE are well supported and offered an appropriate range of preventive services.

F. Ongoing work with victims

- **Recommendation 9:** All services should recognise that once a child is affected by CSE, he or she is likely to require support and therapeutic intervention for an extended period of time. Children should not be offered short-term intervention only, and cases should not be closed prematurely.

G. Post abuse support

- **Recommendation 10:** The Safeguarding Board, through the CSE Sub-group, should work with local agencies, including health, to secure the delivery of post-abuse support services.

H. Quality Assurance

- **Recommendation 11:** All agencies should continue to resource, and strengthen, the quality assurance work currently underway under the auspices of the Safeguarding Board.

I. Minority Ethnic Communities

- **Recommendation 12:** There should be more direct and more frequent engagement by the Council and also the Safeguarding Board with women and men from minority ethnic communities on the issue of CSE and other forms of abuse.
- **Recommendation 13:** The Safeguarding Board should address the under-reporting of sexual exploitation and abuse in minority ethnic communities.

J. The issue of race

- **Recommendation 14:** The issue of race should be tackled as an absolute priority if it is a significant factor in the criminal activity of organised child sexual abuse in the Borough.

K. Serious Case Reviews

- **Recommendation 15:** We recommend to the Department for Education that the guiding principle on redactions in Serious Case Reviews must be that the welfare of any children involved is paramount.

Appendix 3: Findings from the Ofsted report

Below are findings and recommendations from the Ofsted report "The sexual exploitation of children: it couldn't happen here, could it?" published on the 19th November 2014.

The report was commissioned by Ofsted's Chief Inspector, Sir Michael Wilshaw, to build a clearer picture of how well local authorities and partners are working to prevent child sexual exploitation in their area, to offer protection to its victims, and to pursue and prosecute its abusers.

Inspectors found that local arrangements to tackle sexual exploitation are often underdeveloped, and leadership frequently lacking. Some areas have only begun to address the issue strategically within the last 12 months, despite statutory guidance being issued more than five years ago.

The report's findings include:

- Inconsistency in the quality of care planning for young people, leaving some exposed to the risk of sexual exploitation
- The way data is collected by many police forces is of limited value because it does not effectively collate crime and prosecutions that are specifically linked to child sexual exploitation
- Training in identifying the warning signs of exploitation was of good quality - but was reaching an insufficient number of professionals
- Many local authorities are still failing to provide good support to children in care who go missing once they have returned, nor are they effectively making the connection between child sexual exploitation and children who are missing from school
 1. It is acknowledged there is an issue with numbers who are home educated/not on roll (see YOT section for action the YOT is taking to address this)
Sources: The Ofsted 2010 Survey 'Children missing from School' and 'Pupils missing out on Education' 2013 – Michael Wilshaw.
- Several local authorities have developed specific campaigns to raise awareness of child sexual exploitation - which are being delivered well, particularly through schools
- All authorities had taken some steps to increase wider community awareness of child sexual exploitation, including engagement with faith and community leaders, but these approaches have tended to be ad hoc and reactive.

The Ofsted report recommends:

- Local authorities and partners should develop and publish a child sexual exploitation action plan that fully reflects the 2009 statutory guidance as a matter of priority
- Authorities and partners must ensure that information and intelligence is shared proactively across the partnership to improve the protection of children and increase the rate of prosecutions
- LSCBs should ensure that the local authority and its partners have a comprehensive action plan in place to tackle child sexual exploitation, and hold partners to account for the urgency and priority they give to their collective and individual contributions
- Local authorities must ensure that managers oversee all individual child sexual exploitation cases, and make sure that plans are progressing appropriately
- Local authorities must make sure that every child returning from a missing episode is given a return interview. Information obtained from the interviews should be used to inform and improve future operational and strategic activity
- Authorities and their partners should make sure that local strategies and plans are informed by the opinions and experiences of those who have been at risk of or have suffered from child sexual exploitation
- The Government should review and update the 2009 supplementary guidance so that it reflects recent research, good practice and findings from child sexual exploitation reviews and criminal investigations.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
6 APRIL 2016
CARE LEAVERS
REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To review the work undertaken and progress being made by the Leaving Care Service.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to consider the support available to those leaving the Care Service in Nottingham.

3 Background information

- 3.1 Nottingham City Council has a statutory duty to provide services to those young people defined as Care Leavers under the Statutory Guidance; The Children Act 1989 Guidance and Regulations; Volume 3, Planning Transition to Adulthood for Care Leavers, The Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000, Children and Young Persons Act 2008.

- 3.2 Nottingham City Council's Leaving Care Service endeavours to ensure that each young person is provided with a service that is tailored to meet a young person's needs, which is reviewed to ensure their transition into adulthood is successful.

- 3.3 The Leaving Care Service provides services to:

- Eligible young people are those young people currently looked after and have been looked after for a period of 13 weeks or periods amounting to a total of 13 weeks which began after age 14 and ended on reaching 16;
- Relevant young people are those young people who are:
 - Not looked after;
 - Aged 16/17 and before this, ceased to be looked after for a period or periods amounting to 13 weeks after reaching 14.
- This includes those young people (16/17) who were detained/secured or detained under the Mental Health Act in hospital and had been looked after for a period or periods amounting to 13 weeks after reaching 14.
- Persons qualifying for advice/assistance are defined as persons aged between 16 and 21, whereby a Special Guardianship order was in force.

3.4 Nottingham City Council has a duty to provide and sustain young people defined as Care Leavers with suitable accommodation. The Act defines suitable accommodation as the following:

- That which is reasonably practical and suitable for the young person with regards to their needs;
- That which the responsible Authority finds satisfactory with regards to the character and suitability of the landlord/provider;
- Accommodation that complied with Health and Safety Legislation;
- That which takes into account young people's views, training, education and employment needs.

3.5 The Committee will hear from the Council's Director of Children's Integrated Services.

4 List of attached information

4.1 Appendix 1 – Leaving Care Service Report (to follow).

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None.

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 None.

7 Wards affected

7.1 Citywide

8 Contact information

8.1 Rav Kalsi
Senior Governance Officer
Rav.kalsi@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
0115 8763759

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
6 APRIL 2016
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1 Purpose

- 1.1 The Committee is asked to review Nottingham City Council's International Strategy.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to consider the impact of the Council's International Strategy and establish whether further scrutiny is required.

3 Background information

- 3.1 Overview and Scrutiny has previously considered the impact of Nottingham City Council's Growth Plan and at its meeting in December 2015, it was decided to focus on the Council's progress in developing an international strategy.
- 3.2 In addition to its role as a major UK core city, Nottingham is also a member of the Eurocities network. Nottingham City Council continues to attract foreign inward investment and research from the University of Nottingham's Globalisation and Economic Policy Centre shows that Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) can have a range of positive impact in the city, such as boosting domestic productivity and making the city's economy more efficient.

International activity

China

- 3.3 Nottingham has developed strong connections with China and in particular, Nottingham's sister City of Ningbo in which the University of Nottingham has a campus. Nottingham Trent University and Central College are also active in China. Nottingham City Council, working in partnership with the University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University, Invest in Nottingham Club, UKTI and private sector businesses has developed a China Forum to build upon relationships established in Ningbo to increase trade, investment and collaboration activity.

India

- 3.4 Nottingham City Council has been working with local business leaders and partners in Chandigarh, Haryana and Delhi to develop an investment bridge between Nottingham and these cities. Nottingham has developed strong business and cultural links with India, and in particular the Punjab.

Germany

- 3.5 There are first-class civic and trade connections between Nottingham and Karlsruhe, which is Nottingham's oldest twin city. The two have been linked for well over 40 years and via the Invest in Nottingham Club, a Germany UK forum has been established in order to analyse the market's prospects.

Midlands Engine

- 3.6 In March 2016, the government published its proposals for the Midlands Engine which includes ambitious plans to make the area an engine of growth. The Midlands Engine is the result of 11 Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) coming together with a plan to boost productivity, attract inward investment, increase connectivity and build a regional tourism offer. The Midlands Engine focusses on five key themes – skills, innovation, transport, promoting the region and finance for business.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 None.

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

- 5.1 None.

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

- 6.1 None.

7 Wards affected

- 7.1 Citywide.

8 Contact information

- 8.1 Rav Kalsi
Senior Governance Officer
Rav.kalsi@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
0115 8763759

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
6 APRIL 2016
PROGRAMME FOR SCRUTINY
REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1. Purpose

To consider and set the overall programme and timetable for scrutiny activity for the forthcoming year.

2. Action required

The Committee is asked to

- 2.1 agree the items scheduled on the work programme for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Review Panels for 2016/17.

3. Background information

- 3.1 One of the main roles of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is setting, managing and co-ordinating the overall programme of scrutiny work. This includes:

- mapping out an initial programme for scrutiny at the start of the municipal year
- monitoring progress against the programme throughout the year, and making amendments as required
- evaluating the impact of scrutiny activity and using lessons learnt to inform future decisions about scrutiny activity.

- 3.4 In setting the programme for scrutiny activity, the Committee should aim for an outcome-focused work programme that has clear priorities and is matched against the resources available to deliver the programme. It is intended to hold fewer, but more in depth reviews which will enable panels to explore and challenge more.

Commissioning scrutiny reviews

- 3.5 Delivery of the programme will primarily be through the commissioning of time-limited (2 to 3 meetings maximum) review panels to carry out reviews into specific, focused topics. All reviews must have the potential to make a positive impact on improving the wellbeing of local communities and people who live and/or work in Nottingham; and to ensure resources are used to their full potential, reviews must have a clear and tight focus and be set a realistic but challenging timetable for their completion.

- 3.6 In setting the programme of scrutiny reviews, it is important that the programme has flexibility to incorporate unplanned scrutiny work requested in-year. However, the Committee will only be able to schedule unplanned work after it has reassessed priorities across the scrutiny programme and considered the impact on existing reviews of the diversion of resources. When the Committee monitors the overall programme for scrutiny at each meeting there will be opportunity to do this.
- 3.7 The Committee held a workshop session in March 2015 and identified a number of areas for consideration during 2015/16. These topics have been identified and are listed in Appendix 1 to this report.
- 3.8 When establishing a review panel, the Committee needs to decide on:
- a clear and tight remit for the review
 - a timescale within which the review should be carried out
 - size of review panel, including whether any co-opted members should be involved
 - chair of the review panel (to be appointed from the pool of five scrutiny chairs)

and should have regard to the need over the year to engage as many councillors as possible in the scrutiny process.

Policy briefings

- 3.9 Through the process of developing the programme for scrutiny, the Committee may identify issues which call for a policy briefing. The purpose of these briefings is to inform councillors about a current key issue or to prepare councillors for review work that has been commissioned. These informal briefings will not be occasions for scrutiny to be carried out, although they may result in a suggestion for a new scrutiny topic, which would need to be considered by this Committee against the current programme for scrutiny and available resource.
- 3.10 Policy briefings will not form part of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's agenda but will be held separately and be open to all councillors to attend.

Monitoring programme for scrutiny

- 3.11 On an ongoing basis the Committee will be responsible for managing and co-ordinating the programme for scrutiny and assessing the impact of scrutiny activity. At all future meetings the Committee will monitor the progress of the programme, making amendments as appropriate.

4. List of attached information

The following information can be found in the appendices to this report:

- Appendix 1** – Feasibility criteria for topics
Appendix 2 – Long list of main scrutiny topics
Appendix 3 – List of scrutiny review panel topics

5. **Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information**

None

6. **Published documents referred to in compiling this report**

None

7. **Wards affected**

Citywide

8. **Contact information**

Contact Colleagues

Rav Kalsi

Senior Governance Officer

Rav.kalsi@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

0115 8763759

Appendix 1 - feasibility criteria includes:

Decision making and being a critical friend	Is it a topic/key decision which requires consultation with Overview and Scrutiny <u>prior</u> to the decision being taken.	Yes – include. No – apply other criteria and consider removing
Public Interest and relevance	Is the topic still relevant in terms of it still being an issue for citizens, partners or the council in terms of performance, delivery or cancellation of services?	Yes – apply other criteria and consider inclusion No – apply other criteria and consider removing
Ability to change or influence	Can the Committee actively influence the council or its partners to accept recommendations and ensure positive outcomes for citizens and therefore be able to demonstrate the value and impact that scrutiny can have?	Yes – apply other criteria and consider inclusion No – apply other criteria and consider removing
Range and scope of impact	Is this a large topic area impacting on significant areas of the population and the council’s partners <u>or significant impact on minority groups</u>? Is there interest from partners and colleagues to undertake and support this review and will it be beneficial?	Yes – apply other criteria and consider inclusion No – apply other criteria and consider removing
Avoidance of duplication of effort	Is this topic area very similar to one already being scrutinised in another arena or has it already been investigated in the recent past?	Yes – consider involvement in the existing activity or consider removing No – apply other criteria and consider inclusion.

List of Overview and Scrutiny Committee topics

The Committee can identify any topics to be put forward as ideas for potential policy briefing sessions at this stage – this process can be ongoing throughout the year.

Date	Topic
9 May 2016	Overview and Scrutiny Committee terms of reference Sub-Committee terms of reference
8 June 2016	Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture – Council Plan priorities and overview Air Quality in Nottingham Work Programme
6 July 2016	Portfolio Holder for Early Years and Early Intervention – Council Plan priorities and overview Trading Standards in Nottingham Work Programme
7 September 2016	Portfolio Holder for Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration – Council Plan priorities and overview Crime and Drugs Partnership and Police and Crime Commissioner Update Work Programme
5 October 2016	Portfolio Holder for Community Services – Council Plan priorities and overview Library Services in Nottingham Work Programme
9 November 2016	Portfolio Holder for Energy and Sustainability – Council Plan priorities and overview Flood Risk Mitigation Strategy in Nottingham Work Programme

Date	Topic
7 December 2016	Update from the Leader of the Council – Council Plan priorities and overview Community Grants and the Voluntary Sector Work Programme
4 January 2017	Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing – Council Plan priorities and overview Nottingham City Safeguarding Children’s Board Annual Report Update on Council’s response to actions arising from Ofsted Inspection in May 2014 Work Programme
8 February 2017	Portfolio Holder for Jobs, Growth and Transport – Council Plan priorities and overview Tourism in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Work Programme
8 March 2017	Portfolio Holder for Schools – Council Plan priorities and overview Neighbourhood Strategy in Nottingham Work Programme
5 April 2017	Work Programming session for 2017/18

List of Scrutiny Review Panel topics

The Committee can identify any topics to be put forward as ideas for potential policy briefing sessions at this stage – this process can be ongoing throughout the year.

Date	Topic	Comments
	Deprivation in Nottingham	Links to the drop in Indices of Deprivation figures released in 2015 as identified in the Nottingham Plan
	Effectiveness of the City Council's consultation processes	
	Fracking in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire – cross boundary impact	
	Private rented sector in Nottingham	
	Scrutiny of 2% precept for adult social care – cost analysis and benefit	
	Cost benefit analysis of Council input into the election process – what has the Council done to encourage people to vote in the city	
	Use of food banks in Nottingham	
	Parking enforcement in Nottingham	Assessment of officers' ability to enforce parking restrictions in the city
	Cycling in Nottingham	

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