



NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: Tuesday, 22 December 2015

Time: 10.00 am

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

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

Corporate Director for Resilience

Senior 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 27 October 2015	3 - 6
4	CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (CSE) Report of the Head of Democratic Services	7 - 22
5	SAFEGUARDING IN SCHOOLS Report of the Head of Democratic Services	23 - 26
6	SCHOOL EXCLUSIONS IN NOTTINGHAM Report of the Head of Democratic Services	27 - 28
7	WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16 Report of the Head of Democratic Services	29 - 34

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS A PRE-MEETING FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS AT 9.30AM IN LB31.

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

CITIZENS ATTENDING MEETINGS ARE ASKED TO ARRIVE AT LEAST 15 MINUTES BEFORE THE START OF THE MEETING TO BE ISSUED WITH VISITOR BADGES

CITIZENS ARE ADVISED THAT THIS MEETING MAY BE RECORDED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. ANY RECORDING OR REPORTING ON THIS MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S POLICY ON RECORDING AND REPORTING ON PUBLIC MEETINGS, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT WWW.NOTTINGHAMCITY.GOV.UK. INDIVIDUALS INTENDING TO RECORD THE MEETING ARE ASKED TO NOTIFY THE GOVERNANCE OFFICER SHOWN ABOVE IN ADVANCE.

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held at LB 31 at Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3NG on 27 October 2015 from 10.01 am to 11.18 am.

Membership

Present

Councillor Brian Parbutt (Chair)
Councillor Glyn Jenkins (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Azad Choudhry
Councillor Patience Ifediora

Absent

Councillor Josh Cook
Councillor Georgina Culley
Councillor Mohammed Ibrahim
Councillor Neghat Khan
Councillor Chris Tansley

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Steve Comb - Head of Children in Care, Nottingham City Council
Rav Kalsi - Senior Governance Officer

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Josh Cook (non-Council business)
Councillor Georgina Culley (non-Council business)
Councillor Mohammed Ibrahim (non-Council business)

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

3 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Glyn Jenkins as Vice-Chair for the municipal year 2015/16.

4 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – TERMS OF REFERENCE

Rav Kalsi, Senior Governance Officer at Nottingham City Council, introduced the report of the Head of Democratic Services updating the Committee on the terms of reference and the remit for the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED to note the terms of reference for the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee, as detailed in appendix 1 to the report.

5 CHILDREN IN CARE

Steve Comb, Head of Children in Care at Nottingham City Council, delivered a presentation to the Committee with a brief overview of the Council's children in care cohort, highlighting the following:

- (a) Currently, Nottingham City Council is responsible for 596 children in care in the city, which equates to 94 children per 10,000 population. This figure represents a 30 year high. In the financial year 2014/15, 70 children in the Council's care were adopted. At 1 October 2015, 44 children in the Council's care have been discharged as a result of permanent outcomes, such as an Adoption Order, Child Arrangement Order, or a Special Guardianship Order;
- (b) Since April 2012, there has been an upward trend in the number of children who have been admitted into care. This shows that the demand for social care services remains high with requests for support, referrals and re-referrals continuing to increase. The increase in the number of children coming into care is a trend that is mirrored on a national level;
- (c) This trend is also mirrored through our statistical neighbours who show an average of 784 children in care. Nottingham City Council's ambition is to perform significantly better than its statistical neighbours and as a result, have set a target of 575 children in care for the year 2015 – 16. Work is currently underway to reduce the number of those in care, either by exiting children from care via permanent outcomes, such as adoption orders and child arrangement orders, or by preventing admissions into care when it is safe to do so;
- (d) The performance of reviews for children in care remains consistently strong, with year to date figures showing that 99% of reviews are held within timescales. This means that the vast majority of the Council's children are offered the opportunity to influence their care plan in a meaningful and timely way;
- (e) Although the ethnicity profiles of those in care varies, the majority of those in care are white British. Were Nottingham to take unaccompanied asylum seekers into care in Nottingham and family members subsequently arrived, the Council would look to reunite family members, following robust checks with the appropriate authority which is in line with the relevant legislation;
- (f) Of Nottingham City Council's cohort of Children in Care, the majority (32% or 193) are aged 11-15 years old, 29% (173 children) are aged between 5 and 10 years old and 19% (116 children) are aged between 0-4 years. There has been a drop in the number of 0-4 year olds in care in Nottingham, partly because there has been a focus on speeding up permanent solutions, such as adoption orders. There are behavioural issues to consider for those between the ages of 5 – 10 years and there is a focus on permanence through fostering which should feel more like a family home. To support this, more powers are being delegated to foster carers;
- (g) Of the total number of children in care in Nottingham, 44% are the subject of a full care order and 27% are currently accommodated under section 20 of the Children Act 1989 (single period of accommodation);
- (h) Nottingham City Council works with a number of agencies and there is an ongoing challenge as the numbers are high. Many agencies continue to recruit and incentivise their staff and where the Council cannot place a child with a

Council foster carer an agency is used at a cost. There is a regional framework on the prices set by agencies but this can often be departed from where there is an obvious urgent need to place a child;

- (i) The Council's focus is on keeping children within the city boundary, however with such a tight boundary this is not always possible. 83.6% of children in care are placed within 20 miles of Nottingham whereas 16.4% are placed over miles from Nottingham. Nottingham City Council is currently undertaking a piece of work with Nottingham Business School to try and understand why people become foster carers and why people fall away having initially signed up as a foster carer;
- (j) With regards to children leaving care provision, between now and the end of January 2016, 26 young people will be leaving care due to turning 18 years of age. The Council Leaving Care Provision ensures all young people between the ages of 18 and 25 years get the best support possible during their transition to becoming care leavers. Each young person is assigned a Personal Advisor who is available to support young people and ensure their Pathway Plan is adhered to and amended appropriately;
- (k) There has been a marked improvement on educational achievement of children in care for the academic year 2014/15 and the Council continues to recognise the achievements of its children in care cohort through its annual Big it Up events. Two events were held, including a daytime outdoors fun-day event aimed towards the young cohort, as well as an evening awards event aimed at the Council's older cohort and care leavers;
- (l) This month also marked the launch of the 5th annual 'Have Your Say' survey, the results of which are used to shape service delivery and influence the Council's strategic priorities;
- (m) Nottingham City Council has developed the Children in Care Council Recognition Scheme and was launched in September to recognise the many contributions that Children in Care Council members offer through regular attendance. At the end of the year, Children in Care Council members are presented with a certificate to celebrate their achievement;
- (n) All internal residential homes are currently graded by Ofsted as Good or Outstanding and work is underway to maintain and improve grades where possible.

RESOLVED to

- (1) thank Steve Comb for his informative presentation on Children in Care at Nottingham City Council;**
- (2) receive a report in the future on the outcomes of work with Nottingham Business School on fostering in the city;**
- (3) review the findings of the Children in Care Council Have Your Say Survey results at a future meeting.**

6 WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16

Rav Kalsi, Senior Governance Officer, introduced a report of the Head of Democratic Services seeking to establish the programme of activity for the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the municipal year for 2015/16.

RESOLVED to

- (1) review Child Sexual Exploitation, Safeguarding in Schools, and a review of Exclusions at the next Committee scheduled for 22 December 2015;**
- (2) agree the work programme for the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee for 2015/16, as summarised in the report.**

7 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED to meet on the following Tuesday's at 10.00 am:

2015

22 December

2016

**16 January
12 April**

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
22 DECEMBER 2015
CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To consider an overview of the Council’s work on 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

- 3.1 CSE is a form of abuse in which children are sexually exploited. The nationally agreed definition of CSE is:
- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 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

¹ Ofsted report, 19 November 2015, https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/386598/The_20

report made a series of recommendations to local authorities and Local safeguarding Children Boards.

3.6 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.

3.7 Focus for the review

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 have 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 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

[sexual_20exploitation_20of_20children_20it_20couldn_E2_80_99t_20happen_20here_2C_2_0could_20it.pdf](#)

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 relate 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

7 Wards affected

7.1 All.

8 Contact information

Rav Kalsi

Senior Governance Officer

Rav.kalsi@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

0115 8763759

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.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
22 DECEMBER 2015
SAFEGUARDING IN SCHOOLS
REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an overview of the programme for safeguarding in schools in Nottingham.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to use the information provided to scrutinise work taking place on safeguarding children and young people in schools in Nottingham; and identify whether any further scrutiny is required.

3 Background information

- 3.1 Ofsted, the Children Act 2004 and the Department for Education have summarised the definition of safeguarding as:
- Protecting children and learners from maltreatment;
 - Preventing impairment of children’s and learner’s health or development;
 - Ensuring that children and learners are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;
 - Undertaking that role so as to enable those children and learners to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully.
- 3.2 Schools must provide a safe environment and take action to identify and protect any children or young people who are at risk of significant harm. Schools are also required to prevent unsuitable people from working with children and young people, promote safe practice and challenge unsafe practices, ensure staff members receive necessary training for their roles and to work in partnership with other agencies providing services for children and young people.
- 3.3 Each school and college should have a designated safeguarding lead who will provide support to staff members to carry out their safeguarding duties and who will liaise closely with other services such as children’s social care.
- 3.4 Safeguarding in schools can cover a range of specific issues, such as a child missing from education, Child Sexual Exploitation, bullying (including cyber-bullying), domestic violence, faith abuse, mental health, teenage relationship abuse, and gangs/youth violence. The Committee will receive an overview of the current procedures in place to ensure children and young people are safeguarding in schools in Nottingham.

What measures have been put in place to safeguard Nottingham's children?

3.5 We have strengthened safeguarding arrangements for schools by:

Establishing a professional network for Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL's) in school settings in order to disseminate clear and consistent messages about how to keep children safe.

We have established a termly DSL network meeting from May 2015

These meetings cover:

1. National changes- learning from SCRs etc.
2. Local changes, information and partners
3. Locality based case work- opportunities to discuss current cases with DSL's local to area.

We encourage DSL's in all schools and academies to attend the briefings as a 'one stop shop for information and guidance. Topics covered at the network so far this year have included:

National Updates- Statutory Guidance Updates and Key Changes

- ✓ Working Together March 2015
- ✓ Keeping Children Safe in Education 2015
- ✓ Information Sharing Guidance
- ✓ What to do if you are worried a child is being abused
- ✓ Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation
- ✓ PREVENT training

Local Developments

- ✓ Software to support PREVENT strategy
- ✓ Domestic Violence and Abuse
- ✓ Self-Harm Guidance
- ✓ Safeguarding Policy and SCR Framework
- ✓ Private Fostering
- ✓ NGAGE App – frontline assessment
- ✓ Safeguarding and Social Care Referrals
 - Thresholds
 - Referral Process
 - Escalation Process

LSCB Communication

- ✓ FGM communication

SCR and SILP Key Learning Points and Implications

3.6 We have also developed an initiative designed to support the quality assurance of safeguarding procedures and practice in schools and academies at case level. To this end we have developed the role of **Advanced Designated Safeguarding Leads in Schools**. We are currently recruiting to our pilot project which will begin in January 2016 and we have secured resources to support the programme until July 2017.

- 3.7 The programme is using a similar set of principles to the Advanced Skills Teacher (AST) and Specialist Leader of Education (SLE). We have created our first cohort of 18 Advanced Designated Safeguarding Leads. They are currently being recruited for training from January 2016.
- 3.8 The focus of the role is to support clusters of school DSL and includes:
- ✓ Quality assuring school based processes at case level.
 - ✓ Providing direct linkage with social care locality based team managers.
 - ✓ Supporting schools to undertake audit activity including multi-agency audits.
 - ✓ Acting as a forum for communication and consultation in particular between schools and the NCSCB but also with other partnership bodies.
 - ✓ Offering advice and guidance on policy and procedure
 - ✓ Supporting the functioning of the DSL Network including planning, delivery and feedback
 - ✓ Supporting newly appointed DSL's during induction
 - ✓ Cascading training and learning to the cluster of schools that they work with e.g. Prevent
 - ✓ Developing and sharing evidence based good practice.
- 3.9 Clear expectations and practices are described in an ADSL handbook. The 11 clusters identified will align with Social Care school groupings providing opportunities for the two agencies to work more closely together and understand each other's practice more fully.

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 Department for Education, Keeping children safe in education, statutory guidance for schools and colleges. July 2015.

7 Wards affected

7.1 All.

8 Contact information

8.1 Contact Colleagues

Rav Kalsi

Senior Governance Officer

Rav.kalsi@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

0115 8763759

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
22 DECEMBER 2015
SCHOOL EXCLUSIONS IN NOTTINGHAM
REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an overview of school exclusions in Nottingham.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to use the information provided to scrutinise the process for excluding children from schools in Nottingham; and identify whether any further scrutiny is required.

3 Background information

- 3.1 A child should only be excluded from school if they seriously or persistently breach the school's behaviour policy, and it would seriously harm the education or welfare of themselves or others in the school if they remained in school. The decision to exclude a child can only be made by the Head Teacher or Principal.
- 3.2 Good discipline in schools is essential to ensure that all pupils can benefit from the opportunities provided by education. Government guidance supports head teachers in using exclusion as a sanction where it is warranted.¹ However, permanent exclusion should only be used as a last resort, in response to a serious breach, or persistent breaches, of the school's behaviour policy; and where allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school.
- 3.3 The decision to exclude a pupil must be lawful, reasonable and fair. Schools have a statutory duty not to discriminate against pupils on the basis of protected characteristics, such as disability or race. Schools should give particular consideration to the fair treatment of pupils from groups who are vulnerable to exclusion.
- 3.4 Whenever a head teacher excludes a pupil, they must, without delay, notify parents of the period of exclusion, together with the reasons for it.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 None.

¹ Department for Education, Exclusion from maintained schools, Academies and pupil referral units in England, a guide for those with legal responsibilities in relation to exclusion.

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 Department for Education, Exclusion from maintained schools, Academies and pupil referral units in England, a guide for those with legal responsibilities in relation to exclusion.

7 Wards affected

7.1 All.

8 Contact information

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

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
22 DECEMBER 2015
PROGRAMME FOR SCRUTINY
REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1. Purpose

To identify potential topics for scrutiny for 2015/16.

2. Action required

The Committee is asked to consider potential topics for the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.

3. Background information

3.1 The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee will set and manage a work programme to fulfil overview and scrutiny responsibility in relation to children and young people to:

- (i) provide an appropriate and robust level of challenge to those in authority and hold local decision-makers, including the Council's Executive, to account for their decisions, action and performance;
- (ii) review policy and contribute to the development of new policies and strategies of the Council and other local decision-makers where they impact on Nottingham's children and young people;
- (iii) explore any matters affecting Nottingham's children and young people;
- (iv) make reports and recommendations to relevant local agencies in relation to the delivery of their functions, including the Council and its Executive, and monitor implementation of all accepted recommendations.

3.2 To add referrals from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the Committee's work programme.

3.3 To consider referrals from partners and citizens to support effective delivery of a co-ordinated work programme.

3.4 To invite, take account of and respond to the views of local people (including children and young people) about their concerns and the delivery of services in relation to children and young people.

3.5 To be required to consider the following issues / topics when developing the work programme, though the Committee's scrutiny activity need not be limited to these matters:

- (i) Safeguarding

- (ii) Looked After Children
 - (iii) Vulnerable Children and Young People (eg in relation to disability, domestic violence, missing)
 - (iv) Child Sexual Exploitation
 - (v) Early Intervention
 - (vi) Educational Attainment
 - (vii) Commissioning of Services for Children and Young People
 - (viii) Performance of Services for Children and Young People
- 3.6 To consider potential risks to children and young people, how they are being managed and to report concerns as soon as possible to the appropriate individuals/ bodies if risk is identified;
- 3.7 To monitor the progress made by, and effectiveness of the Council and its partners, in addressing the areas of concern and specific recommendations for actions made by Ofsted and any other relevant inspection/ assessment bodies;
- 3.8 To have regard to the work of other committees/ panels/ boards, such as the Corporate Parenting Board and the Local Safeguarding Board, to avoid duplication, but to ensure that such bodies are held to account when appropriate;
- 3.9 To refer any health issues in relation to children and young people to the Health Scrutiny Committee.

Policy briefings

- 3.9 Through the process of developing the programme for the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee, 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 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.

Potential areas for inclusion on the work programme

3.12 Below is a list of areas the Committee might want to explore during 2015/16:

- Child sexual exploitation
- Youth homelessness
- Fostering & Adoption
- Ofsted update on inspection April 2014
- Community learning
- Healthy lifestyles
 - Healthy weight
 - School food plan
 - Drug and alcohol misuse & legal highs
- Domestic violence – impact on children
- Post Ofsted improvement plan update – session on social worker caseloads
- Look After Children – leaving care – focus on pathways for LAC leaving care
- Safeguarding in Schools – focus on sex education and safeguarding risks
- SEND overview
- Young carers in Nottingham – focus the support in place
- Safeguarding Children – Children who go missing (links to CSE?)
- Behaviour in schools (or PRUs)
- Placement of Looked After Children in Schools
- Examination of the role of the Corporate Parenting Board

Regular updates to the committee

- Post Ofsted Improvement update
- NCSCB Updates
- Overall safeguarding performance monitoring
- CSE (noted below as mandatory)

Mandatory topics (under the terms of reference)

- Safeguarding
- Looked After Children
- Vulnerable Children and Young People (eg in relation to disability, domestic violence, missing)
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Early Intervention
- Education Attainment
- Commissioning of Services for Children and Young People
- Performance of Services for Children and Young People
- Monitor the progress made by, and effectiveness of the Council and its partners in addressing actions made by Ofsted

4. **List of attached information**

Appendix 1 – work programme 2015/16.

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

<p>22 December 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Sexual Exploitation • Safeguarding in Schools • School Expansion • Programme for Scrutiny
<p>16 February 2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item 1 • Item 2 • Item 3 • Programme for Scrutiny
<p>12 April 2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item 1 • Item 2 • Item 3 • Programme for Scrutiny

This page is intentionally left blank