

Our Child Exploitation Strategy 2024-26

Our aim

To create a single whole system response, working in partnership to reduce child exploitation and extra familial harm and protect our communities. All partners understand that anyone under 18 facing these harms, or causing harm to others, must be seen and treated as children and young people first and foremost and our success in tackling child exploitation and extra-familial harm is evaluated against this foundational Principle.

Our priorities



Pursue
Relentless disruption and targeted action



Prevent
Stopping the problem at the source



Protect
Building the highest levels of defence and resilience



Prepare
Tackling child exploitation together

Our Objectives

Implementing the below '4 P' approach to work collaboratively with statutory partners and the voluntary sector to enable a multi agency response to safeguarding children at risk of Exploitation.

Pursue



Work together across the system to pursue those responsible for child abuse in the form of criminal and sexual exploitation through prosecution, disruption, and the use of civil orders to protect the vulnerable.

Ensure good use of all available intelligence including the voices of children, young people, parents and carers to identify, understand and prioritise child exploitation and inform effective decision making.

Effectively target those who exploit and maximise opportunities to disrupt their criminality and bring offenders to justice.

Prevent



Prevent and reduce the risk of exploitation posed to children by working with safeguarding partners, including parents, to identify and support those vulnerable to exploitation at the earliest opportunity.

Use a range of communication and technology to ensure we deliver key messages and create safe physical and virtual spaces in a manner that is most effective and accessible to the community. Raising awareness and a common understanding and approach to recognising and tackling child exploitation.

Identify and deliver contextual safeguarding in relation to place based risk and high-risk locations by engaging a wide range of partners within local communities with a particular focus on Family Hubs, Schools and local councils.

Raise awareness of child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation amongst professionals, public, parents, carers and communities to enable effective identification and reporting mechanisms.

Protect



Work creatively and effectively as a partnership using innovative practice to protect children, young people and communities from exploitation, violence and abuse. Including transitional safeguarding.

Protect children, young people and communities from exploitation, violence and abuse. Provide support using data, intelligence and lived experience to inform the local profile and in-depth needs assessments.

Commit to practice that listens to the voices and experiences of children and young people and places them at the centre focusing on a culture of protection and support not blame.

Utilise local and national best practice to maximise opportunities to bring offenders to justice and protect young people at risk of exploitation.

Prepare



Work together to ensure an effective partnership structure, governance and response to child exploitation that delivers the right support at the right time.

Host an annual child exploitation conference and prepare our staff across the partnership with the skills and training to respond effectively to exploitation concerns.

Effective communication strategy to raise awareness in our communities around early identification and spotting the signs of child exploitation.

Commit to being a learning partnership to improve practice including listening and learning from children, young people, parents and carers.

Our Governance

Executive Oversight

Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Senior Leadership Group

Strategic

Nottinghamshire Safeguarding, Assurance and Improvement Group (SAIG) and Nottingham City Business Management Group (BMG)

Tactical

Tackling Child Exploitation Steering Group (Cross Authority and Cross Partnership)

Operational

Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City multi-agency sexual exploitation (MASE), criminal exploitation (CCEP) and missing panels (Hotspots) and neighbourhood safeguarding and disruption meetings (NSD)

Our Performance

Pursue

Monitor the number of convictions and prosecutions for exploitation related offences involving children.

Monitor and increase the use of criminal and civil orders to target and disrupt those who present the highest risk to children in our communities.

Prevent

Evidence partner and parent confidence in recognising and responding to child exploitation at an early stage through consultation and feedback.

Evidence safe spaces in communities and impact on the reduction of risks.

Protect

Quality assurance of interventions such as panels and risk assessments including the voices of children, young people, parents, and carers.

Individual case studies and reviews that focus on reducing and managing risks including the voices of children, young people, parents, and carers.

Prepare

Deliver annual Exploitation Conference on Child Exploitation Day.

Measure progress against TCE Strategic Self-Assessment Action Plan.

