

## CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD – 19 January 2014

<b>Title of paper:</b>	Safeguarding Children and Young People from Child Sexual Exploitation	
<b>Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):</b>	Helen Blackman – Director of Children’s Social Care	<b>Wards affected:</b> All
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<b>Other colleagues who have provided input:</b>		
<b>Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s) (if relevant)</b>		<b>6<sup>th</sup> January 2015</b>
<b>Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority:</b>		
Cutting unemployment by a quarter		<input type="checkbox"/>
Cut crime and anti-social behaviour		X
Ensure more school leavers get a job, training or further education than any other City		<input type="checkbox"/>
Your neighbourhood as clean as the City Centre		<input type="checkbox"/>
Help keep your energy bills down		<input type="checkbox"/>
Good access to public transport		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham has a good mix of housing		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham is a good place to do business, invest and create jobs		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham offers a wide range of leisure activities, parks and sporting events		<input type="checkbox"/>
Support early intervention activities		X
Deliver effective, value for money services to our citizens		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):</b>		
Continued development of the Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) action plan that includes training for staff and carers, awareness raising for young people, and information sharing where there are worries around possible CSE.		
Future developments will centre on raising the awareness of the wider community of CSE		
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>		
<b>1</b>	That the Board note the performance in the current action plan.	
<b>2</b>	That the Board note the proposed future developments.	

### **1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

1.1 The Child Sexual Exploitation Cross Authority Group [CSECAG] is a sub-group of the Nottingham Safeguarding Children Board and has continued to meet bi-monthly to progress the child sexual exploitation strategy. The work plan has 4 strands:

- **Prevention and response**
- **Safeguarding and protection**
- **Public confidence**

▪ **Bringing offenders to justice:**

- 1.2 This report will inform the Board of the actions to-date, particularly in relation to raising awareness and building a workforce confident and competent in recognising CSE risks and will highlight areas for future development. The proposals noted in this report ensure that children at risk of CSE are identified and supported to reduce risks, and that other children and young people, both those in local authority care and the wider community have access to awareness raising opportunities.

**2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)**

- 2.1 The Corporate Parenting Board received an update in this area in November 2014, specifically on;
- Advice available on the Council's website where young people or individuals have been harmed in the past.
  - The Concerns Network.

This report provides a clear strategic overview of the actions being undertaken to children from sexual exploitation

- 2.2 Child Sexual Exploitation Cross Authority Group (CSECAG) has continued to meet bi-monthly to progress the child exploitation strategy. The work plan has four strands

**2.3 Prevention and Response:**

- 2.4 There have been a number of training sessions for professionals and carers, and the theatre production LUVU2 has been rolled out to schools as well as young people in care.
- 2.5 The concerns network continues to offer staff the opportunity to share low level concerns/worries about a child/adult with a view to preventing or disrupting any risks of sexual exploitation.

**2.6 Safeguarding and Protection:**

- 2.7 Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs) continue to chair strategy meetings where there are concerns regarding CSE risk. From these meetings the data monitoring tool is completed and the information from this is added to the police held data base CARoSE (Children At Risk of Sexual Exploitation). This information is shared monthly with social care to ensure that both agencies are aware of the same children and young people and that there are appropriate plans in place.
- 2.8 NSPCC project 'Protect & Respect' continues to work with young people in order to disrupt and protect from sexual harm. To date twenty-three young people have accessed this programme.
- 2.9 A CSE risk assessment tool kit has been developed for staff to use to assist in risk management. This tool is also presented to bi-monthly Senior Management Profiling Meetings where young people at risk of CSE are discussed and their safeguarding plan reviewed.

2.10 The Chief Constable of Nottinghamshire Police invited the College of Policing to undertake a peer review of CSE. The three-day review was completed in early December 2014. (The outcome of the review was not known at the time of writing this report.)

### **2.11 Public Confidence:**

2.12 Work has recently begun in working with partners in the voluntary sector in both promoting what action is being taken in the City regarding preventing and investigating CSE as well as developing links with groups that could offer support services. The first meeting will be held 12/12/2014.

2.12 Alongside this the police have developed a multi-agency group to develop an action plan centring on community protection and to raise community awareness of CSE within different communities.

### **2.14 Bringing Offenders to Justice**

2.15 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 meetings play a valuable role, creating the opportunity for professionals to share isolated pieces of information about worrying behaviours of either children/young people or adults.

2.16 Child Abduction Warning Notices can be issued by the police to prevent any contact with a named child.

2.17 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.

### **2.18 Future Actions:**

2.19 The next steps will include the following:

- Continued training and awareness raising for staff, carers, and young people. This will include briefing events for GPs and other health professionals
- Working with the voluntary and community sector
- Embedding any recommendations made as a result of the College of Policing Peer review on CSE.
- Development of a CSE co-ordinator post who will take the operational lead in driving practice and learning, as well as developing the operational responses to the work plan.

## **3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS**

N/A

## **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)**

N/A

**5. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS)**

- 5.1 Having a robust CSE strategy and action plan is crucial in the safeguarding of children and young people. For this work plan to be successful it requires ownership and scrutiny at both Corporate Parenting Board, Safeguarding Children Board and Strategic management. Should Nottingham City fail to do so then any investigation of CSE could attract negative media interest that in turn would impact upon the reputation of the Council.

**6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

Has the equality impact been assessed?

Not needed (report does not contain proposals or financial decisions) **X**

No

Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

Due regard should be given to the equality implications identified in the EIA.

**7. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION**

Diagram of CSE Strategy.

**8. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT**

N/A