

Executive Board – 22 September 2020

Subject:	Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse Report Recommendations Update
Corporate Director(s)/Director(s):	Catherine Underwood, Corporate Director for People
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Cheryl Barnard, Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People
Report author and contact details:	Michelle Roe, Executive Officer Michelle.roe@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
Other colleagues who have provided input:	
Subject to call-in:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Key Decision:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Criteria for Key Decision:	
(a) <input type="checkbox"/> Expenditure <input type="checkbox"/> Income <input type="checkbox"/> Savings of £1,000,000 or more taking account of the overall impact of the decision	
and/or	
(b) Significant impact on communities living or working in two or more wards in the City <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Type of expenditure:	<input type="checkbox"/> Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Capital
Total value of the decision:	
Wards affected:	All
Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s):	01/09/2020
Relevant Council Plan Key Theme:	
Nottingham People	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Living in Nottingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Growing Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Respect for Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Serving Nottingham Better	<input type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):	
<p>On 31 July 2019, IICSA published its findings into the extent of any institutional failures to protect children in the care of Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Councils from sexual abuse.</p> <p>This report provides an update on action undertaken since the publication of this report.</p>	
Exempt information:	
None	
Recommendation(s):	
1 To note progress undertaken since publication of the report.	

1 Reasons for recommendations

- 1.1 On 31 July 2019, IICSA published its findings into the extent of any institutional failures to protect children in the care of Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Councils from sexual abuse. There were two recommendations for Nottingham City Council. Work has been undertaken to address these recommendations and further learning from the Inquiry.

2 Background (including outcomes of consultation)

- 2.1 The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) was established as a statutory inquiry on 12 March 2015 to consider the growing evidence of historical institutional failures to protect children from child sexual abuse, and to make recommendations to ensure the best possible protection for children in future. The inquiry launched 13 investigations into a broad range of institutions identified on the basis of the Panel's criteria for selection of investigations.
- 2.2 In November 2015, Justice Goddard (the then chair of the Inquiry) announced that the independent investigation into child sexual exploitation would look into the historical failure to protect children in the care of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Councils.
- 2.3 Following requests for information and a Public Inquiry, on 31 July 2019, IICSA published its findings into the extent of any institutional failures to protect children in the care of Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Councils from sexual abuse. There were two recommendations for Nottingham City Council:
- Nottingham City Council should assess the potential risk posed by current and former foster carers directly provided by the council in relation to the sexual abuse of children. They should also ensure that current and former foster carers provided by external agencies are assessed by those agencies. Any concerns which arise should be referred to the appropriate body or process, including the Disclosure and Barring Service, the local authority designated officer (LADO) or equivalent, the fostering panel and the police.
 - Nottingham City Council and its child protection partners should commission an independent, external evaluation of their practice concerning harmful sexual behaviour, including responses, prevention, assessment, intervention and workforce development. An action plan should be set up to ensure that any recommendations are responded to in a timely manner and progress should be reported to City's Safeguarding Children Partnership.
- 2.4 The Council created a detailed action plan in response to the formal recommendations from the Inquiry. The plan also committed to address wider learning which emerged throughout the course of the Inquiry. An important area of focus has been a strengthened approach to supporting survivors, including commissioning with partners of new support arrangements for survivors of sexual abuse. The action plan was shared with survivors, wider partners and with the Inquiry. A detailed report of the actions taken is provided at Appendix B.

3 Other options considered in making recommendations

- 3.1 N/A

4 Finance colleague comments (including implications and value for money/VAT)

- 4.1 A contingency request was approved in January 2019 for £0.620m to support the resources required in relation to the above.
- 4.2 Ongoing impacts for care including survivor support and external independent scrutiny is captured in Childrens and Adults forecasting.

5 Legal and Procurement colleague comments (including risk management issues, and legal, Crime and Disorder Act and procurement implications)

N/A

6 Strategic Assets & Property colleague comments (for decisions relating to all property assets and associated infrastructure)

N/A

7 Social value considerations

N/A

8 Regard to the NHS Constitution

N/A

9 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

N/A

10 List of background papers relied upon in writing this report (not including published documents or confidential or exempt information)

10.1 None.

11 Published documents referred to in this report

11.1 Children in the care of the Nottinghamshire Councils: A report of the Inquiry Panel - Independent Inquiry Child Sexual Abuse July 2019