

TO: EXECUTIVE
14 MARCH 2017

**RESPONSE TO THE CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & LEARNING OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY REPORT ON CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
Director of Children, Young People & Learning**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Members of the Executive of the response from the Executive Member for Children, Young People & Learning to the Overview and Scrutiny report on child sexual exploitation.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That the following recommendations of the Working Group “Safeguarding is everyone’s business: A Review of Child Sexual Exploitation” and responses are noted as detailed below:**
- 2.2 **Children and Families
Working Group Recommendation 1
Closer work with parents be undertaken to raise their awareness of CSE, to educate them to manage their children’s use of the on-line world and to maintain an open dialogue and set boundaries with their children. Also, consideration be given to having a CSE parenting worker, or some form of direct delivery parenting, to enable work to be carried out simultaneously with the child and his / her parents, such as that offered by Dr Barnardo’s.**
- 2.3 **Working Group Recommendation 2
The awareness and use of the CSE screening tool and prevention work with children and young people identified as having Level 1 vulnerabilities (see Appendix 2) be promoted across partners.**
- 2.4 **Working Group Recommendation 3
The monitoring and management of unauthorised school absences and fixed term exclusions be strengthened, with a particular emphasis on undertaking return interviews.**
- 2.5 **Training
Working Group Recommendation 4
A fluid rolling programme of incremental and age appropriate prevention be pursued to raise awareness levels and provide children with the resilience and knowledge to identify grooming and make safe decisions around internet use and relationships. This should include the production of a suitable primary school poster. In addition to identifying and protecting victims of CSE of both genders, a stronger emphasis be placed on raising boys’ and young men’s awareness of the possible consequences for them of having sex with underage girls.**
- 2.6 **Working Group Recommendation 5
All existing and new taxi drivers in Bracknell Forest receive safeguarding / CSE training during the next twelve months and training be rolled out to neighbouring authorities.**

- 2.7 **Working Group Recommendation 6**
Bespoke training be provided for Attendance Officers to highlight the links between missing pupils and CSE.
- 2.8 **Local Safeguarding Children Board Working Group Recommendation 7**
The LSCB Strategic Sub Group be requested to undertake a stocktake of all CSE school training delivered during the last two years in order to identify and remedy any gaps. A central depository be developed to capture all the education and training sessions being delivered in schools to children, to avoid duplication and identify gaps.
- 2.9 **Working Group Recommendation 8**
The LSCB be requested to evaluate how CSE is incorporated into the Council-wide training programmes, stating who is able to access this training, ensuring outcomes are measured and changes made as a result.
- 2.10 **Working Group Recommendation 9**
The police be requested to provide an intelligence briefing to the Sexual Health Service to establish closer liaison and two way information sharing with that service.
- 2.11 **Working Group Recommendation 10**
Regulatory Services continue to work with the police to rollout the Hotel Watch Scheme across the Borough.
- 2.12 **Working Group Recommendation 11**
The Designated Doctor for Safeguarding be requested to include the use of Summary Care Records in the next mandatory training session for GPs in order to identify, and improve the care for, exploited children and young people through the storing and sharing of patient records.
- 2.13 **Working Group Recommendation 12**
The Clinical Commissioning Group be requested to provide a stakeholder map of who in the organisation is responsible for CSE in Bracknell Forest, the roles of the representatives that attend SEMRAC and who in Health Services they report back to so that information is cascaded through all organisations.
- 2.14 **Working Group Recommendation 13**
The membership of SEMRAC and the CSE Strategic Group be expanded to include a primary school lead and representatives of CAMHS and the Sexual Health Service to enable relevant reports to be received from all involved organisations.
- 2.15 **Working Group Recommendation 14**
The Pan Berkshire SEMRAC chairs add to their agenda the reporting of the top level of 'persons of interest' across Berkshire as a means to compare and monitor possible CSE perpetrators.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Working Group has spent considerable time reflecting on the issues with the support of appropriate officers and partners and the Executive are asked to support the recommendations outlined above.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Not applicable

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The recommendations and early actions in support of these are set out below. There are fourteen recommendations made in the report, 7 have been accepted in full, 5 have been partially accepted and 1, not yet accepted. In regards to the partially accepted recommendations, there are concerns that they would place additional burdens on already stretched resources and therefore they have been accepted in part and actions agreed from within existing resources.

- 5.2 We would like to thank the Working Group for their helpful and well informed report which recognises the work being completed in this area and will enable us to further improve and develop our services.

- 5.3 *Children and Families*

Working Group Recommendation 1

Closer work with parents be undertaken to raise their awareness of CSE, to educate them to manage their children's use of the on-line world and to maintain an open dialogue and set boundaries with their children. Also, consideration be given to having a CSE parenting worker, or some form of direct delivery parenting, to enable work to be carried out simultaneously with the child and his / her parents, such as that offered by Dr Barnardo's.

Partially Accepted

- 5.4 The Early Help Team have been trained and made aware of CSE and the concern over children's use of the internet and online chat rooms. Family and parenting workers work with the whole family to ensure understanding and implications of the potential dangers.
- 5.5 This is difficult to implement within the Councils changing role. Schools generally already provide guidance regarding online safety awareness for parents but can be encouraged more through Headteacher briefings
- 5.6 The relational approach to CSE does suggest a worker should be doing direct work with parents at same time as a different professional is working with the child/young person. This service is not systematically available at this time from within existing resources. Uptake on any CSE workshops targeted at parents that schools have done has been low. To implement this recommendation fully would require additional staff resource.
- 5.7 **Working Group Recommendation 2**
The awareness and use of the CSE screening tool and prevention work with children and young people identified as having Level 1 vulnerabilities (see Appendix 2) be promoted across partners.

Accepted

- 5.8 Use of the CSE screening tool by all partner agencies, has been promoted by the LSCB CSE/Missing Strategic Sub group. The tool has recently been reviewed and updated. The LSCB CSE strategy and action plan has 'Prevention' as one of the 4 key areas that partners have signed up to. Awareness raising will continue through the LSCB Strategic group and SEMRAC.
- 5.9 All our family workers and Youth Workers have been trained in using the screening tool. The Youth Service work closely with identified young people to raise awareness of CSE (sexting/texting /online dangers). The Youth team use the screening tool when conducting return to home interviews for those children who are identified as missing. The tool is used by YOS case managers with all children and young people within both the YOS statutory and prevention services.
- 5.10 **Working Group Recommendation 3**
The monitoring and management of unauthorised school absences and fixed term exclusions be strengthened, with a particular emphasis on undertaking return interviews.

Accepted

- 5.11 The quarterly report from SEMRAC Sept – Nov 2016 shows that positively the overall total of Return Home Interviews completed within 72 hours has increased from last 3 months, from 76% to 87%. Performance variations below, from previous 3 months :
- Youth Service – 16% increase
 - MASH – 8% decrease
 - Duty – 11% increase
 - CSST – 8% increase.
- 5.12 Monitoring and management of unauthorised absences is closely managed by our schools with unauthorised absence one of the lowest in the country. All schools are regularly reminded of their responsibilities. We will continue to use attendance data to target those schools where unauthorised absence is a concern.
- 5.13 All schools are regularly reminded of their responsibility to follow statutory guidance with regard to the use of exclusion. We will further re-inforce this together with the continued need for return interviews.

5.14 *Training*

Working Group Recommendation 4

A fluid rolling programme of incremental and age appropriate prevention be pursued to raise awareness levels and provide children with the resilience and knowledge to identify grooming and make safe decisions around internet use and relationships. This should include the production of a suitable primary school poster. In addition to identifying and protecting victims of CSE of both genders, a stronger emphasis be placed on raising boys' and young men's awareness of the possible consequences for them of having sex with underage girls.

Partially accepted

- 5.15 The police provide prevention programmes for young people in schools, and the YOS also provide a group work prevention programme to girls at risk of CSE. Individual and group work is done in YOS with boys to raise their awareness of consequences. There is a sub group of the LSCB looking at providing prevention programmes for young people regarding sexting.

Unrestricted

- 5.16 This is what good quality PSHE would include and whilst non statutory is part of the inspection process. Schools need to decide what is appropriate for their children. Posters generally have limited effectiveness and are a dated medium. However, Individual schools may decide to design a poster, and a suggested poster for primary schools has been produced during the O&S which will be circulated to schools.
- 5.17 Youth team run sexual health and relationship sessions across the borough that covers grooming and online dangers - these sessions are delivered in all secondary schools (every year group) and one primary, Year 6, currently - but will be offered to all primary schools in Bracknell Forest. Teaching also includes the emphasis on raising boys' and young men's awareness of the dangers and consequences of having sex with underage girls. Parents often ring the youth service directly following these sessions to have further discussions to increase their knowledge and confidence. The Youth Service have an anonymous texting service where young people can text in asking for information or advice on a range of issues/topics related to sexual health and relationships including internet use and grooming and more recently substance misuse.
- 5.18 The CSE Specialist Social Worker located in Childrens Social Care provides a 1-1 service to individual children and young people on a casework basis, covering 'keep safe' work, reducing vulnerability to CSE, safe use of internet, awareness of grooming and enabling young people to identify abusive relationships. She also works with children and young people who have gone missing, completing the majority of return home interviews.
- 5.19 **Working Group Recommendation 5**
All existing and new taxi drivers in Bracknell Forest receive safeguarding / CSE training during the next twelve months and training be rolled out to neighbouring authorities.
- Partially accepted**
- 5.20 The timeframe will not be met for existing taxi drivers but will be for new ones. This condition will apply to the renewal of licences for existing taxi drivers.
- 5.21 Once a training programme has been finalised, there will be a short consultation with trade and take to Committee on 5 January with recommendation of implementation for all drivers and operators from 1 April 2017.
- 5.22 With the move to a joint service with West Berkshire and Wokingham in January 2017 there maybe changes in service priorities but I am aware that those services also have high profile vulnerable groups and this new service may actually increase the work done by the service in the area of protection of children.
- 5.23 **Working Group Recommendation 6**
Bespoke training be provided for Attendance Officers to highlight the links between missing pupils and CSE.
- Partially accepted**
- 5.24 Training will be offered to all school attendance leads on the links between CSE and those children with low attendance.
- 5.25 *Local Safeguarding Children Board*
Working Group Recommendation 7
The LSCB Strategic Sub Group be requested to undertake a stocktake of all CSE school training delivered during the last two years in order to identify and

remedy any gaps. A central depositary be developed to capture all the education and training sessions being delivered in schools to children, to avoid duplication and identify gaps.

Partially accepted

- 5.26 The LSCB CSE/Missing Strategic sub group have requested that the Targeted Services branch of CYPL undertake this work. The Safeguarding manager for schools sits on the Strategic Group. This would require a considerable resource to undertake as training with regard to CSE can be direct or indirect e.g. self-esteem, relationships education. Targeted services will research this and determine what is realistic within the available resources.

- 5.27 **Working Group Recommendation 8**
The LSCB be requested to evaluate how CSE is incorporated into the Council-wide training programmes, stating who is able to access this training, ensuring outcomes are measured and changes made as a result.

Partially accepted

- 5.28 The Corporate Learning and development Team record information on the training provided and inclusion of CSE. They will need to evaluate this in order to take forward this recommendation. The BFC Head of Learning and Development sits on LSCB CSE/Missing Strategic sub group, so this recommendation will be taken forward.

- 5.29 **Working Group Recommendation 9**
The police be requested to provide an intelligence briefing to the Sexual Health Service to establish closer liaison and two way information sharing with that service.

Accepted

- 5.30 Police have offered this to the sexual health service and a briefing is being set up

- 5.31 **Working Group Recommendation 10**
Regulatory Services continue to work with the police to rollout the Hotel Watch Scheme across the Borough.

Accepted

- 5.32 Next hotel watch operation planned for early in 2017. Regulatory services and police will work together on this as previously.

- 5.33 **Working Group Recommendation 11**
The Designated Doctor for Safeguarding be requested to include the use of Summary Care Records in the next mandatory training session for GPs in order to identify, and improve the care for, exploited children and young people through the storing and sharing of patient records.

Not yet accepted

- 5.34 Awaiting confirmation from Dr Caird that she will be taking this forward into the mandatory training for GPs

- 5.35 **Working Group Recommendation 12**
The Clinical Commissioning Group be requested to provide a stakeholder map of who in the organisation is responsible for CSE in Bracknell Forest, the roles of the representatives that attend SEMRAC and who in Health Services they report back to so that information is cascaded through all organisations.

Accepted

- 5.36 The person in the CCG responsible for CSE is Debbie Hartrick as she sits on the CSE Strategic Group. She is Associate Director: Safeguarding. She reports to the Director of the CCG.
- 5.37 Berkshire Health Foundation Trust, represent Health on SEMRAC and the representative reports to Jane Fowler who is the Head of Safeguarding for BHFT.
- 5.38 The CCG do not attend SEMRAC as it is a commissioning organisation and must not be party to patient details. The CCG represent Health at CSE/Missing strategic meetings, not operational meetings.

- 5.39 **Working Group Recommendation 13**
The membership of SEMRAC and the CSE Strategic Group be expanded to include a primary school lead and representatives of CAMHS and the Sexual Health Service to enable relevant reports to be received from all involved organisations.

Accepted

- 5.40 Sexual Health and CAHMS are now represented. A primary school lead for CSE would be a welcome additional member. The Head of PHAB will be approached to identify potential contributor
- 5.41 **Working Group Recommendation 14**
The Pan Berkshire SEMRAC chairs add to their agenda the reporting of the top level of ‘persons of interest’ across Berkshire as a means to compare and monitor possible CSE perpetrators.
- Accepted**
- 5.42 SEMRAC now includes risk grading and discussion of persons of interest at each meeting. This will be taken forward to the pan Berks CSE leads meeting for comparison and information sharing.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 The relevant legal issues are addressed within the report

Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 The Borough Treasurer is satisfied that sufficient resources exist to make the changes set out in the responses detailed in the supporting information.

Background Papers

Report by the Working Group of the Children, Young People & Learning Scrutiny Panel
“Safeguarding is everyone’s business: A Review of Child Sexual Exploitation”

Unrestricted

Contact for further information

Nikki Edwards, Children, Young People & Learning - 01344 354182
nikki.edwards@bracknell-forest.gov.uk