

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

6 January 2015

Report of the Strategic Director for Children & Younger Adults

CHILD PROTECTION MANAGER (VULNERABLE CHILDREN) POST

Purpose of Report

To seek approval to appoint an additional temporary Child Protection Manager to lead on child sexual exploitation and associated vulnerabilities.

Information and Analysis

Child sexual exploitation is a form of abuse. A series of high profile cases has identified that child sexual exploitation has been under-reported, and in many instances, has remained undetected. A recently published report into child sexual exploitation in Rotherham, was written by Professor Alexis Jay. Prof. Jay's report details that around 1,400 children were sexually exploited between 1997 and 2013. In over a third of these cases, the children were previously known to social services because of abuse and neglect.

The Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board, together with Derby Safeguarding Children Board, has agreed a joint strategy to tackle child sexual exploitation in Derbyshire. A key feature of the County's action plan is to develop a post to lead the development of effective strategies.

This post will provide a single line of management oversight of children and young people who are vulnerable as they are at risk of abuse through child sexual exploitation, trafficking, or from going missing. The post will be based within the Child Exploitation Team at the Derbyshire Police HQ. The main duties of the post will be to:

- Oversee appropriate prevention and identification of cases
- Work alongside agencies in referring and assessing children and young people
- Ensure appropriate support to child victims through the prosecution process and beyond

- Assist Derbyshire Police in the identification and prosecution of perpetrators
- Work with the Local Safeguarding Children Board in the implementation of the Child Exploitation Strategy
- Lead in the current trafficking pilot in Derbyshire
- Provide expert advice and support to the children's workforce
- Oversee the management of missing children in Derbyshire
- Responsibility for the development and implementation of the E-Safety Policy across the children's workforce.

Financial Considerations

The post will be grade 13 and the estimated cost for one year will be £53,000 including on-costs. The post will be funded from the CAYA reserve.

Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: - prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity; and environmental, health, human resources, legal, property and transport considerations.

Background Papers

The Independent inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham 1997-2013, Alexis Jay.

HM Government (2009) Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation. Department for Children, Schools and Families.

HM Government (2008) Safeguarding Children who may have been Trafficked. Department for Children, Schools and Families.

HM Government (2014) Statutory Guidance on children who run away or go missing from home or care. Department of Education.

HM Government (2014) Safeguarding children who may have been trafficked- Practice Guidance. Department of Education/Home Office.

Strategic Director's Recommendation

That approval is given for recruitment to this temporary post.

Ian Johnson
Acting Strategic Director for Children & Younger Adults