

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
PEOPLE IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**2 MARCH 2016**

**Report of the Vice Chair of People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee**

**CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION: UPDATE ON PROGRESS**

**1. Purpose of the report**

To update the Committee on the progress of the working group's review of child sexual exploitation (CSE).

**2. Information**

The review of how the authority is working to deter child sexual exploitation was agreed by the Committee on 1 July 2015 and it to be undertaking by the standing safeguarding working group. Lines of inquiry have been established which will encompass service provision (including with victims), partnership working, youth consultation and risk assessment.

The working group has met with senior managers at the Council to discuss the CSE strategy and action plan, which has highlighted a great deal of activity and partnership working. This has included meeting with Derby Safe and Sound and the Derbyshire Safeguarding Children's Board in their role in the strategy.

The working group has gathered evidence showing a good breadth of individual support to victims as well as preventative work with the Police, schools, licensed premises and health bodies.

Evidence has been collected on how CSE risks are identified and monitored, including a visit to the Central Referral Unit at Police HQ. A further meeting with the Police was held on the 30th November with DI Gemma Booth of the Public Protection Unit. Members were briefed on enforcement and investigations of higher level CSE perpetrators as well as how they work in partnership with other agencies.

A full consultation began in early February. The envisaged outcomes of the enquiry would be for the authority to have an understanding of the levels of awareness adults have in Derbyshire with regard to on-line usage of children. Also there will be an understanding of what support is perceived to be available / used and some qualitative insights into how they interact with children on their on-line usage.

Separate one-to-one interviews are planned with children at risk of CSE as part of the normal case work of Children's Services.

Evidence has been gathered from officers in the authority and Derby Safe and Sound with regard CSE training. This has highlighted an integrated approach from different partner organisations and an initial evaluation suggests improvements in the understanding of CSE. The working group have also been briefed on the recently launched 'Say something if you see something' awareness campaign.

Further evidence will be gathered from other victim support services, public health and the multi-agency CSE sub-group of the Derbyshire Safeguarding Children's Board.

### **3. Lines of inquiry (LOI)**

**LOI 1:** The current CSE strategy and action plan and how it is delivering services to prevent CSE in Derbyshire (including on-line safety)

- The working group has held discussions with Sara Bartlett, Amanda Clarke and Julie Oldknow on the strategy and action plan and the Safe and Sound Audit.
- The working group has gathered evidence and produced a report on Starting Point, which includes how children at risk of CSE can be supported via relevant referrals.
- The working group met with Derby Safe and Sound to discuss their role with the authority regarding CSE with a follow up in November 2015.
- The working group is meeting with Parents Against Child Exploitation (PACE) in early 2016.
- The working group met with the Chair of the Derbyshire Safeguarding Children's Board to discuss CSE issues in December 2015. Member involvement in information provision (via leaflets etc...) through Parish Councils highlighted.
- The working group was briefed from Public Health on the development of the Health Needs Assessment. The working group will be briefed further on the health commissioning work done by the authority and partners in March 2016.

### **LOI 2:** How CSE risks are identified and monitored

- The working group has held initial discussions and met DI Booth with Derbyshire Police in November 2015 to discuss risk assessment and how they're working with the authority.
- The working group has visited the Central Referral Unit at Ripley Police HQ to discuss safeguarding issues generally and some CSE issues.
- The working group has been provided with safeguarding performance reports and has held discussions with senior managers which includes local data on CSE (although this is limited).
- Met with Derby Safe and Sound in November 2015.
- The working group was briefed on HMIC's recent PEEL reports on vulnerability and their 'Good' rating.

### **LOI 3:** consulting with young people on their knowledge and awareness of CSE and on-line safety

- Feedback from the Chelsea's Choice productions has been provided.
- The working group gathered evidence and met with officers regarding the authority's e-safety strategy.
- Consultation with targeted group of vulnerable young people will take place over new few months by front line staff, for example youth workers. Initial feedback has been provided from an event in Amber Valley in December (Keeping it Real)
- Consultation with parents/carers/guardians and groups and organisations will take place in February and March 2016.

### **LOI 4.** The CSE training provided to staff and whether front line staff feel that they have the right training and tools to equip them to work effectively with CSE

- The working group met with frontline staff from Ripley MAT and discussed safeguarding issues generally including CSE.
- The working group held a meeting with the DSCB with regarding the safeguarding training programme, including CSE.
- A working group meeting has met with representatives from Community Safety, the Safeguarding Board and Derby Safe and Sound in November to discuss training provision for front line staff.
- Evidence was gathered from the School Improvement Service with regard CSE training and support for schools, including Chelsea's Choice.
- Officers briefed Members in February on how CSE knowledge and awareness is being delivered into schools in Derbyshire.

**LOI 5:** Gaps in service provision

- It is proposed that the relevant senior officers and Cabinet Members (from Children's Services and Health and Communities) are invited to a working group meeting early in 2016 to discuss findings so far from the review and any potential gaps.

**LOI 6:** Good practice in other authorities and whether our partners in District Councils have been adequately briefed - particularly on their licensing function

- The working group has received a summary of desk research of all relevant CSE enquiries, reports and reviews both nationally and internationally.
- Information is being shared with Telford and Wrekin Council who are undertaking a similar scrutiny review on.
- It is proposed that the relevant senior officers from Derby City and borough and district authorities are invited to a working group meeting in early 2016 to discuss how their licensing functions are responding to CSE issues.

**4. Considerations (to be specified individually where appropriate)**

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

**5. Recommendation**

That the Committee notes the progress made in the review of CSE.

**Councillor John Frudd**

**Vice-Chair of the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee – People**