

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

**3 September 2014**

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

**INTERIM SCRUTINY REVIEW REPORT ON SAFEGUARDING**

**1. Purpose of the report**

To present to the Committee the interim report of the Improvement and Scrutiny review into safeguarding for approval.

**2. Information**

2.1 A review into the authority's work on safeguarding was agreed by the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee at its 25 September 2013 meeting. A small working group from the Committee was subsequently formed consisting of Councillors Charles, Frudd, Birkin and Walton.

2.2 The People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee agreed to have a working group on safeguarding and for this to be a standing item. This would include regular updates on the performance of the authority's safeguarding services. The Terms of Reference and a work programme were agreed and to ensure clarity of focus for the working group, specific areas of safeguarding were targeted. It was also agreed that the working group would include vulnerable adults/adults at risk as well as children and young people in the Terms of Reference.

2.3 The review group has met with, and received information from senior managers and officers in the areas of child sexual exploitation, safe internet use, domestic violence, safeguarding training and the business plans and governance of the Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board (DSAB) and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB).

2.4 In summary the interim review, which is in Appendix One, has found good working practices with regard to safeguarding. This has been highlighted by Ofsted's inspection and the overall rating of 'Good'. There is a good provision of training, and visits to front line services show that there are many dedicated and hardworking members of staff. The review has also

found areas of potential development, including training for all Councillors in the area of safeguarding and child sexual exploitation. Additionally, there is a need to regularly scrutinise how the authority is working with partners to deploy the action plans of the DSAB and DSCB.

2.5 The interim review report has been circulated to all those involved in the review process for comment. Any comments received will be presented to the Committee meeting for consideration prior to approving the final report.

### **3. 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.

### **4. Recommendation**

That the Committee approves the report and its recommendations, subject to consideration of any feedback provided at the Committee meeting.

**Councillor Diane Charles**

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

# **Safeguarding in Derbyshire**

## **Safeguarding Working Group – People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee**



### **Interim Report of the Review Working Group**

**3 September 2014**

**Cllr. Diane Charles (Committee Chair)**

**Cllr. John Frudd**

**Cllr. Glennice Birkin**

**Cllr. Daniel Walton**

**David Rose – Improvement and Scrutiny Officer, Derbyshire County Council.**

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## **Acknowledgements –**

The Chairman and Members of the review working group would like to thank the Officers of Derbyshire County Council who have provided briefings and information to the working group so far:

Ian Johnson	Deputy Strategic Director, CAYA
Jane Brooks	Deputy Assistant Director, CAYA
Sara Bartlett	Head of Child Protection, CAYA
Pam Curley	Training Manager, CAYA
Amanda Clarke	Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board Manager
Bob Smith	Head of Youth Offending, CAYA
Traci Good	Family Resource Worker, CAYA
Jill Ryalls	Group Manager, Adult Care

# 1. Introduction

Councillor Diane Charles, Chair of the Improvement and Scrutiny – People Committee and Chair of the Review Working Group, introduces this interim report;

“The issue of safeguarding children and vulnerable adults is one that is close to the hearts of many people. The Authority has statutory duties as well as a wider duty of care to ensure the people of Derbyshire are safe and protected. The Authority has in place structures, processes and most importantly people to ensure risk is minimised to anyone who may be vulnerable.

The recent Ofsted Inspection in Derbyshire of ‘services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and Care Leavers’ gave an overall rating of ‘Good’ and even described some areas of work as outstanding. However, the inspection also highlighted areas of development, most notably around partnership working.

The People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee agreed to establish a working group on safeguarding and for this to be a standing item. Over the last six months, the working group have taken evidence from various areas of the Authority, attended training on safeguarding and visited frontline services such as children residential homes and multi-agency staff.

This interim report presents our findings so far and how the working group intend to progress in the future. Members and officers of Improvement and Scrutiny, Cabinet and officers have worked together to bring this interim review to a conclusion and I would like to thank all those involved for their assistance and contributions so far.”



Councillor Diane Charles

Chair, Improvement and Scrutiny Committee - People

## **2. Executive Summary**

The interim review has found good working practices in the Authority to ensure the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. This has been confirmed by the Ofsted's recent inspection, where the Authority was rated 'Good'.

There are dedicated and hardworking members of staff who work for and on behalf of the Authority, which has been evidenced through frontline visits by Members. There is a good provision of training programmes for people involved in safeguarding, at different levels of people's expertise and need. The Authority is also responding to the ever changing challenges of safeguarding, particularly child sexual exploitation. For example, work is developing on ways to develop internet safety. Additionally, the issue of domestic abuse is being addressed through initiatives to increase reporting of incidents and improving partnership working amongst agencies.

The interim review has also found areas of potential development in the Authority's work on safeguarding.

The Ofsted inspection rated the Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board as 'Requires Improvement'. Although there has been a great deal of work to ensure the issues raised by Ofsted are being addressed, there is a need for continued scrutiny of the Board's business plan. Additionally, although there is work being carried out in the areas of child sexual exploitation and e-safety, strategies are only just being agreed or reformulated. Regular monitoring of the deployment of these strategies will also be scrutinised. Safeguarding training can be developed further for Members to ensure they have adequate knowledge of procedures, in their roles as Community Leaders.

The working group Members has made the following recommendations which the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee – People is asked to accept and refer to Cabinet for approval and implementation of the proposals;

1. The Member Development Programme includes a briefing/training programme on safeguarding issues, both for vulnerable children and adults which all Members receive.
2. The Member Development Programme includes a briefing/training specifically for Members on child sexual exploitation, which all Members receive.

3. When working group Members visit frontline services, they set up regular contact and re-visit within 6 months and reassess after this.
4. The working group brings forward any relevant updates to the areas of Step Up, Step Down, Step Up Fostering and Front Door policies to the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee at an appropriate date.
5. The working group's programme of frontline visits is extended to other providers of support, for example the Community and Voluntary Sector and observing partnership meetings such as case reviews and Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences.
6. The working group provides an update to the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee when appropriate on the issues and work being done to ensure male domestic violence is being recorded, understood and action is being taken by the Authority and partners.
7. The working group provides an update to the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee in on the production of 'Chelsea's Choice' with a view to inviting all Members to watch the production at an appropriate venue and time.
8. The working group provides an update to the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee as and when appropriate on the work being done around the Mental Capacity Act, Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and any potential impacts of the ruling to redefine deprivation of liberties.
9. The working group receives updates every six months on the progress of the Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board and Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board and its business plans and this be reported to the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee as and when appropriate, with recommendations if necessary.
10. The working group receives an update on the Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy once formally adopted and to report to the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee as and when appropriate, with recommendations if necessary.
11. The working group receives an update on the E-Safety Strategy once formally adopted and to report to the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee as and when appropriate, with recommendations if necessary.

The Improvement and Scrutiny Committee – People will monitor the implementation of these recommendations as and when appropriate.

### **3. Background to the Review**

The People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee agreed to have a working group on safeguarding and for this to be a standing item. Terms of Reference and a work programme were agreed and to ensure clarity of focus for the working group, specific areas of safeguarding were targeted. It was also agreed that the working group would include vulnerable adults/adults at risk as well as children/young people in the terms of reference.

Therefore, the following areas of safeguarding come under the scope of the working group:

- Child sexual exploitation
- Domestic violence, with a specific focus on male domestic violence
- Vulnerable adults who may not be known to the authorities
- Derbyshire Safeguarding Board's (Children and Adult) progress against business plans

This will ensure, going forward, lines of inquiry are structured around the business plans of the Authority's work on safeguarding and wider priorities of the Council Plan whilst allocation of resources (for example elected members time) are focused on specific areas. Given this, it was also agreed that child sexual exploitation would be the first area of specific focus. Additionally, the working group will receive regular updates on the progress being made against the Safeguarding Board's business plans.

This interim review, with detailed research by members of the working group, has given rise to a range of recommendations to Cabinet. This will ensure that the Council is meeting its legal obligations and duties as a Service Provider and an employer. The following chapters take each line of inquiry in turn, with the relevant research findings and recommendations.



## 4. Initial Research

The working group held preliminary meetings with officers from the Authority's specialist safeguarding team. Members and officers established initial contact, shared information and allowed Members to familiarise themselves with the safeguarding responsibilities of the County Council. In addition, members of the working group, through the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee received a briefing from the Deputy Strategic Director for CAYA on the Ofsted inspection of safeguarding services.

From the initial discussions, the working group formed various strands of activity, which were summarised as:

- Safeguarding training
- Visits to frontline services
- Increasing knowledge of specific areas of safeguarding work and what is being done by the Authority

The following sub sections detail the initial research and approaches agreed for each line of inquiry:

### 4.1 Safeguarding Training

The working group held discussions with the Training Manager for safeguarding courses and received a briefing on what content was available and to whom.

### 4.2 Visits to frontline services

The working group held discussions with officers from CAYA's specialist services to understand how best to gain experiences and knowledge from people working in frontline services.

Contact details were provided for residential children homes, multi-agency teams and locality managers. The working group arranged visits to frontline services and will continue to do so as part of a rolling programme of meeting frontline staff and those in their care.

#### 4.3 Increasing knowledge of specific areas of safeguarding work and what is being done by the Authority

To ensure that the working group can make informed recommendations based on the current and future issues surrounding safeguarding in Derbyshire, the working group agreed to hold a series of briefings with officers. Discussions were held initially with officers from the specialist safeguarding services in CAYA.

The working group noted that due to the wide ranging work in safeguarding, it was necessary to focus in on specific areas, as described in chapter 3. However, the working group are keen to continue increasing their knowledge base, and have developed an on-going work programme for officer and other partner involvement at monthly working groups.

The following pages detail the findings from the research, analysis and discussions by the different lines of inquiry, together with recommendations, where appropriate.

## 5. Safeguarding Training

### 5.1 Overview

There is an established children's safeguarding training programme which is coordinated and delivered by the Derbyshire Children Safeguarding Board. Additionally, there are courses delivered by the Authority's Community Safety Team, specifically looking at issues such as child sexual exploitation.

The working group received a briefing on Derbyshire's safeguarding training programme for 2014/15. There are dedicated Trainers, paid for in that capacity with the appropriate knowledge (i.e. not practitioners who also train). The training programme is designed for people who work with or for children and covers safeguarding issues at different levels.

A recommended training programme for Members was 'Everybody's Business', which provides the foundation for safeguarding issues to be understood. Several working group members undertook this training course, as detailed in 5.2.

The working group noted that the programme also offers some subject specific training, including:

- Neglect
- Child Development
- 'Toxic Trio' - Domestic Violence, Parental Mental Health and Substance Misuse
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Domestic Violence

Given the focus of the working group, the last two bullet points above were considered worthy of more follow up, as detailed more in 5.3. There are also E-Learning packages that are available to undertake. There is one on private fostering and also a package on Serious Case Reviews.

## 5.2 General Safeguarding Training

Members of the working group attended the 'Everybody's Business' training course in July 2014, which provided an introduction and overview to the issues of safeguarding and the procedures in place for risk assessing safeguarding.

The Learning Outcomes were:

- Understand the principles of safeguarding
- Understand how abuse and neglect affects children and families
- Understand inter-agency roles and responsibilities
- Understand who has lead responsibility at different stages in the safeguarding process
- Understand information sharing
- Understand the role of the Early Help Assessment process

The working group noted that the feedback from Members who undertook the training said that, overall it was beneficial. However, it also noted that the course could be further developed to ensure it provides a basic grounding in safeguarding as stated in the learning outcomes. This could involve ensuring that the course covers specific elements for Councillors, for example what processes are in place for when they have been approached or feel they have seen incidents which may require instigating a safeguarding process.

However, the working group noted the vital importance of Members having a good grounding in safeguarding issues. This is particularly relevant to their roles as Community Leaders and their regular contact and engagement with local constituents.

**The working group recommend that the Member Development Programme includes a briefing/training programme on safeguarding issues, both for vulnerable children and adults which all Members receive.**

## 5.2 Child Sexual Exploitation Training

The working group have agreed to focus its resource initially to the issue of child sexual exploitation. This is detailed more in chapter 7. To develop the knowledge base, the working group members, discussions were undertaken with officers from the Community Safety Team in the Authority.

The Department runs a free training course called 'Identifying child sexual exploitation'. It is designed to assist those people, including Elected Members, in identifying potential Child Sexual Exploitation, which maybe encountered during the course of their work.

The working group noted the offer by the Department to provide a bespoke training course for Councillors. The working group feel that gaining grounding in this area is of vital importance, given the ever increasing focus and attention of this area of work, as well as carrying out duties of community leaders and protecting those that are vulnerable.

**The working group recommend that the Member Development Programme includes a briefing/training programme specifically for Members on child sexual exploitation, which all Members receive.**

## 6. Visits to frontline services

In order to better understand safeguarding issues, the working group agreed to a rolling programme of visits to frontline services. These include children residential homes, multi-agency teams, locality offices and adult residential care homes. The working group are keen to speak face to face with the staff, and where appropriate, the residents/clients of these services.

As of July 2014, the working group have visited the following:

- Albany House / Evergreen, Ilkeston (children's residential home)
- Glenholme, Long Eaton (children's residential home)
- The Getaway, Kirk Hallam (children's residential home)
- Godkin House, Ripley (multi-agency team offices)
- Locality Managers, various

The working group noted there is huge value in undertaking such visits, to gain a frontline perspective. For example, it noted that members of staff have raised the issue over the ability to commit to service levels with staff only on temporary / rolling 12 month contracts.

The working group noted that there should be follow up procedures after visits to frontline services. For example, Members should arrange to make regular return visits, or a repeat visit six months later. This ensures that any issues highlighted can be updated to Members to understand if there have been positive outcomes. This could be applied to all Members and their visited premises, with appropriate records of visits undertaken.

**The working group recommend that when they visit frontline services, they set up regular contact and re-visit within 6 months and reassess after this.**

The working group also noted that they found evidence that some safeguarding teams felt they had the resources but were all very busy with on-going work and managers felt very proud of the staff working there. The 'Step Up, Step Down' system of dealing with care issues was also noted. This is where people can receive more care support at home (Step Up) and get ready

to leave acute hospital and get ready to return home (Step Down). Additionally, the 'Front Door' policy, where someone with care issues can ring a central number which will then pass them onto the appropriate agency was noted. Allied to this, evidence from visits to children residential homes showed concerns over the 'Step Up Fostering' policy (where there is an active drive to recruit more foster carers) by both staff and looked after children. There were also concerns with the review currently being undertaken of all residential children homes. Evidence showed that more knowledge was needed by the working group, and briefings have been arranged for September 2014.

**The working recommends it brings forward any relevant updates to the areas of Step Up, Step Down, Step Up Fostering and Front Door policies to the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee at an appropriate date.**

## **7. Safeguarding issues and work being done**

### **7.1 Introduction**

The working group undertook (and will continue to undertake) briefings and evidence from representatives to develop knowledge of safeguarding issues. Furthermore the working group have received updates on work the Authority, with its partners, are doing to ensure safeguarding of children and adults. In the last six months, the working group have received evidence in the following areas:

- CAYA safeguarding services
- Domestic violence (DV) in vulnerable children and adults
- Safeguarding training programme
- Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board's governance and business plan
- Derbyshire Safeguarding Adult Board's governance and business plan
- Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy and Audit
- E-Safety Strategy and child sexual exploitation on-line

The following subsections detail each bullet point and where appropriate, make recommendations or noted findings.

### **7.2 CAYA safeguarding services**

The working group held discussions with the Head of Child Protection who provided an overview of the safeguarding services at the Authority. Particular attention was given to support provided to children who experienced DV.

In 2013, there were 11,000 referrals to children's services on safeguarding issues. Of these over 4,000 were referred on the back of DV situations. At 36% this is a large proportion of the total referred cases. Once referred, children have plans developed for them under the DV category (witnessing DV is classed as emotional harm).



The working group noted that the Authority also contract out services to support these children and their families to 3 local voluntary sector organisations; Trident REACH, High Peak Women's Aid and North East Derbyshire Women's Aid).

It was also noted that early intervention was crucial in safeguarding children, including those in DV situations where witnessing behaviour in the adult members of their families often led to "copy-cat" traits in the children.

The working group also noted that suggested visits to witness service provision were to;

- Observe child protection conference case meetings
- Observe Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC)
- Speak to some families who receive support
- Visit Women's Aid projects

As part of the working group's programme of frontline visits, detailed in chapter 6, Members have witnessed excellent service provision. However, the programme has so far focused on residential homes and multi-agency teams. The working group noted that extending the scope of frontline visits would be beneficial.

**The working group recommend that their programme of frontline visits is extended to other providers of support, for example CVS and observing partnership meetings such as case reviews and MARAC's.**

### 7.3 Domestic Violence in vulnerable children and adults

The working group received a briefing on the demographic spread of DV incidents in Derbyshire. This was made available from information from Criminal Justice System and Partnership agencies up to 2013/14 Q2.

Overall, there were 5,305 referrals of domestic abuse to CAYA in 2012/13. In the first two quarters of 2013/14, there were 2,293. 93% of referrals (or 4,933) led to further action in 2012/13.

The number of referrals was similar for those aged 1-15, as shown below:

- Unborn        192    (4%)
- Under 1       433    (8%)
- 1 to 4         1,575 (30%)
- 5 to 9         1,431 (27%)
- 10 to 15      1,384 (26%)
- 16+            290    (5%)

There was also roughly an even 50/50 gender split on referrals of children.

The working group noted research that showed between 6-8% of adult females experience DV per year. This equates to an estimate of around 17-23,000 female victims within Derbyshire per year. The Police Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honour Based Violence (DASH) risk forms for DV incidents show around 10,000 individual female victims per year. This is around half the number suggested by the research. However, the working group noted that a large number of victims contact voluntary sector services, some of these will also contact the Police but others do not. By adding the numbers of victims contacting services other than the Police to those the police record will allow estimates of the true number of victims with no contact with any service to be calculated.

The working group also noted the findings of the research which showed that there are many cases of children being victims of abuse from family members, but there are also thousands of children who witness DV in their homes. Over half of the Police recorded DV incidents show there are children within the household. This is 5,000 households known about. Based on the estimated victimisation rates and assuming the same proportion of households with victims who have not reported the incident to the Police have children this is another 5,000 households with children experiencing DV giving an estimated total of 10,000 households. The majority of these will not be in contact with any services and may grow up to think this is normal behaviour.

Further research noted by the working group showed that DV in same-sex partnerships is highly under-reported. Often this is due to an individual previously having a negative experience of dealing with authorities and/or DV agencies not understanding issues faced by same-sex partners. Further work

in promoting the services available to victims within LGBT communities and training frontline staff in issues within same-sex partnerships should be carried out – working with groups such as Derbyshire Friend. Derbyshire County averages around 2% BME cases compared with a population of around 4% (Census 2011).

In 2012/13 there were no LGBT DV cases recorded within Derbyshire compared with three in 2011/12. Male cases were up to 12 from 6 in 2011/12. The first 6 months of 2013/14 within Derbyshire has seen as many cases from black and minority ethnic communities as in the previous 12 months. In 2012/13 there were 5 cases within Derbyshire where the victim had a registered disability up from 2 in 2011/12.

The working group noted the work being carried out by the Authority and partners on these issues. Performance data on DV is always difficult to analyse due to the dichotomy of the desire for less incidents but the need for increased reporting of incidents. The working group welcome efforts being made to ensure there is increased reporting to ensure victims know there are safeguarding processes in place to ensure risk of harm is minimised, or indeed stopped all together.

However, the working group noted that victimisation rates for males, under 16s, and those over 65 are poorly understood but thought to be even more under-reported than female victims. Due to this underreporting and the concern which the working group has around the issue of male DV, it was agreed that this issue should be the subject of more in-depth scrutiny as described in chapter 3.

**The working group recommends it updates the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee when appropriate on the issues and work being done to ensure male DV is being recorded, understood and action is being taken by the Authority and partners.**

#### 7.4 Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board's Governance and Business Plan

The working group received a briefing from the Child Protection Development Manager on the Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board's (DSCB) governance structure and 2013/14 annual report. The working group noted the Ofsted inspection's rating of the Board as 'Requiring Improvement', and sought assurances that action was being undertaken to respond to the recommendations of the inspection. As well as the working group, the People

Improvement and Scrutiny Committee received updates from Senior Management in CAYA about action plans. The working group noted the actions signed off in the DSCB Business Plan and its governance structure to implement it.

The DSCB contains representatives from the Authority and other partner agencies such as the Police, Health and Housing. The Board sits independently of CAYA and its role is to hold all agencies to account on the delivery of their duty to safeguard children. The Chair of the Board has the same role for the Derby Safeguarding Children Board. The basic governance structure is:

- Board – meets quarterly
- Executive Group – meets monthly other than when main board is meeting
- Chief Officers Group – meet twice a year

The Executive Group reviews the Business Plan of the DSCB and its performance against its priorities. There are many sub groups; one of particular note is the Child Sexual Exploitation Steering Group. Joint funding has been agreed between DSCB, the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office and Community Safety to raise awareness in all Derbyshire schools regarding child sexual exploitation, to include a performance by a national drama group regarding the issue. This performance is called 'Chelsea's Choice'. The working group noted the importance DSCB, the Authority and other partners are placing on this production and its positive impact in schools. 7,000 young people are registered to see the performance during the 5 week county wide tour. Working group Members plan to see the production at an appropriate school from November onwards (when the production tour starts).

**The working group recommends that it provides an update to the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee on the production of 'Chelsea's Choice' with a view to inviting all Members to watch the production at an appropriate venue and time.**

## 7.5 Derbyshire Safeguarding Adult Board's governance and business plan

The working group received an update from the Group Manager, Adult Care on the work being carried out by the Derbyshire Safeguarding Adult Board (DSAB).

The working group noted that, in terms of governance, the Adult Board is still developing. However, an Independent Chair has recently been appointed - the current Chair of the Oldham and Tameside Safeguarding Adults Board. A Derbyshire Safeguarding Adult Board is now statute after the Care Bill received Royal Assent on 14 May 2014. Below the current board sits the following sub-groups:

- MCA and DOLS (Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards)
- Learning and Development
- Operations
- Quality and Performance

The working group noted the recent judgement on two cases regarding MCA and DOLS which could have a big impact on the Authority. The ruling threw out previous judgements that had defined deprivation of liberty more restrictively. This means that many people are likely to have been deprived of their liberty unlawfully and without safeguards in settings including care homes and supported living placements. This suggests a significant hike in DOLS case numbers regarding care home placements, and also applications to the Court of Protection to authorise deprivations of liberty in supported living. Initial impact assessments done by the Authority mean there could be a 350% uptake in claims of DOLS, which would cost the Authority at least £1m.

The working group noted the work that has been undertaken in relation to this issue, and the monitoring of its effects as more cases are potentially brought about.

**The working group recommends it provides an update to the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee as and when appropriate on the work being done around MCA and DOLS and any potential impacts of the ruling to redefined deprivation of liberties.**

The working group also noted that the DSCB and DSAB are developing links and working together more. The two boards do have working relationships, and have undertaken to improve them in the last few months. The Ofsted inspection highlighted that links could be strengthened, and steps have already been taken to do this. For example, there has been joint working on a recent Serious Case Review. Also, the 'Think Family' approach was devised by both Boards, and this is being rolled out to frontline staff from both an adults and children's perspective. The working group are keen to ensure that this working relationship continues, to ensure that there are robust processes in place to ensure vulnerable people remain known to the Authority and partners. Additionally, the working group wish to monitor and scrutinise the work being done by both boards and they're making progress against their action plans.

**The working group recommend that it receives updates every 6 months on the progress of the DSCB and DSAB and its Business Plans and this be reported to the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee as and when appropriate, with recommendations if necessary.**

#### 7.6 Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy and Audit

The working group received an update from the Child Protection Manager from CAYA on the work carried out around child sexual exploitation (CSE). Two particular strands of work were discussed; the draft CSE Strategy and the recent Audit conducted by Safe and Sound on behalf of Derbyshire County Council.

The independent author from Safe and Sound was provided with data from the Authority's children's recording system of children and young people missing between June to December 2013. National research has shown that young people that go missing are vulnerable to being targeted by perpetrators involved in CSE.

The working group noted the key findings, which were:

- 30% of people who went missing from care from June-December 2013 exhibited indicators of CSE.
- This figure was 95% for those who lived at home and went missing.
- Indicators of CSE were recognised by professionals working with the young person in most cases. However this was not always in the early stages of a young person's exposure to risk of CSE.

- There was some poor recording identified, as well as some issues around information sharing and partnership working.

As part of the Audit, and to address some of the issues found, 11 recommendations were presented to the Authority by Safe and Sound. These are now being incorporated into a CSE Action Plan. The working group noted that the CSE strategy is under development and Members were invited to consult on the draft Strategy in June and July 2014. The Strategy provides a common way of Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Boards of working together to reduce the level of, and harm from CSE. This will be done equally through prevention, protection and prosecution.

The working group are keen to understand more how the CSE Strategy, once formally adopted will be implemented and what outcomes will benefit Derbyshire.

**The working group recommend it receives an update on the CSE strategy once formally adopted and to report to the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee as and when appropriate, with recommendations if necessary.**

#### 7.7 E-Safety Strategy and Child Sexual Exploitation On-line

The working group received a briefing and update on the issues surrounding 'non-contact' child sexual exploitation, which is mainly from usage of the internet (accessed by various media tools, such as smartphones, tablets, laptops etc...) and children being contacted via this medium.

The working group noted the on-going work to develop a countywide E-safety Strategy. This follows successful working in the High Peak in schools. The Strategy will look at developing accessible information, policies and procedures so parents, teachers and children are aware of the issues surrounding internet usage.

The working group also noted there is also work on-going to explore the benefits of having an E-safety Officer, who will work with schools and other institutions promoting the support that can be accessed to combat the dangers inherent for children on the internet. There is also best practise sharing and regular contact with the Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) Agency. There is also a working group which includes Police Officers from the Cybercrime Division of Derbyshire Police.

The working group noted that this work has come about due to the large rise in non-contact sexual exploitation, particularly among children. The working group were taken through the various issues surrounding internet use and sexual exploitation and cyber bullying/crime. There is underreporting of incidents of child sexual exploitation, particularly non-contact sexual exploitation via the internet.

However, there are tools which children and adults can use to report abuse. The Think You Know website allows users to report abuse, for example a child reporting that they have been inappropriately contacted by someone whilst on-line. There are 1,600 reports of abuse across the country. The reporting is monitored 24 hours a day and someone can intervene if a child is in immediate danger.

The working group noted the March 2014 Authority for Television on Demand study ('For Adults Only? Underage access to online porn') which showed that 1 in 30 of 9-10 years old had accessed hard core pornography via their laptop/desktop. This study did not include smart phones or tablets. The grooming of vulnerable children can start in primary school, for example via on-line gaming or social networks. In secondary schools, 'sexting' is an issue, as well as accessing hard core pornography.

The working group also noted the March 2014 Childline survey (ChildLine tackling sexting with Internet Watch Foundation, National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children). The finding included that, of all the 13-18 year olds asked, 60% said they had been asked for a sexual image or video of themselves. 40% said they had created an image or video of themselves and 25% said they had sent an image or video of themselves to someone else. When these explicit photos are shared, CEOP estimates that 80% of the images are picked up by sexual offenders/people intending to groom.

The working group are keen to monitor and scrutinise the work being carried out to ensure vulnerable children and adults are safeguarded from the potential dangers from usage of the internet. The working group noted discussions with officers which highlighted new websites are being created to attract people to communicate and share. One particular concern of the working group is the future proofing of an E-Safety Strategy, and to ensure that the changing way people use the internet is reflected in this.



**The working group recommend it receives an update on the E-Safety Strategy once formally adopted and to report to the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee as and when appropriate, with recommendations if necessary.**

## 8. Next steps

The working group will continue to meet on a monthly basis to receive evidence of work being carried out by the Authority and partners around safeguarding. The focus for the working group over the next few months will be around child sexual exploitation. This includes:

- A briefing from the Just Whistle organization on the work done on the Safe and Sound project both in Derbyshire and elsewhere
- An update from Derbyshire Police on the work being done around combating non-contact child sexual exploitation
- An update from DSCB on the CSE Strategy and E safety strategy
- An update from DSCB regarding the Chelsea's Choice schools project raising awareness of CSE across all Derbyshire educational settings, including mainstream, special schools and support centres.

As well as the above, the working group will receive briefings on social pedagogy and on work being done on fostering and domestic abuse of vulnerable adults. Regular monitoring of the deployment of strategies will also be scrutinised. This includes the DSCB and DSAB's progress, as well as the CSE and E-Safety Strategies, once formally adopted.

The working group will bring forward to the People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee any relevant reports with recommendations or updates to note as and when appropriate.

## **9. Review conclusions**

The working group acknowledges the work that the Authority and partners have done to ensure the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

The challenge for the Authority is to ensure that there is a continued rigorous approach to safeguarding, especially in light of increased concern from the public due to recent high profile cases, as reported in the media. This is especially important considering the financial context and the policy and service changes which the Council is and will have to make, as well as other partner agencies.

The findings and recommendations from this interim review will help the Authority's continual improvement in the area of safeguarding, and ensure that the working group's on-going scrutiny can be of value to the Authority.