

REPORT TO: COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

REPORT ON: CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICE

REPORT NO: 339-2016

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

Following the report on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) which was approved by the Policy and Resources Committee on 14th September 2015 (Article X, Report No. 325-2015 refers), this report provides a 12 month update on the ongoing development and implementation of the local action plan to prevent CSE, tackle perpetrators and support vulnerable children and young people and victims in Dundee.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Committee:

- Note continued progress made in the implementation of the local action plan on Child Sexual Exploitation
- Approve newly identified priorities which would be progressed by the Child Protection Committee and Vulnerable Adolescent Partnership
- Request further 12 month updates within the context of annual reports on the Integrated Children and Young Person's Plan from 1 April 2017

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

4.0 MAIN TEXT

Background

The report approved in September 2015 explained how CSE has historically been approached within the context of youth justice arrangements but is now fully recognised as a child protection concern. Public enquiries had illustrated the nature and scale of CSE in some other areas across the UK, led to a consistent definition of the problem and prompted a Scottish Government National Action Plan covering prevention, disruption, prosecution and support. Alexis Jay, who led the enquiry on CSE in Rotherham and has also recently been appointed to lead the historic enquiry into child sexual abuse in England and Wales has given a number of briefings to staff and this has helped inform the local action plan.

In Dundee, the Child Protection Committee had coordinated a self-assessment to inform the development of a local action plan. Under the 5 categories of coordinating a multi-agency approach; recognising CSE; supporting young people and their families; identifying, investigating, disrupting and prosecuting abusers; and collecting and managing data, the action plan has been implemented by the Vulnerable Adolescent Partnership.

The earlier report highlighted that progress was being made in each of these areas and that measures were being put in place to collate data on the full extent and impact of activities using a recognised performance framework. It was also noted that the Scottish Government intended to introduce a requirement for pending Children and Young People's Plans to ensure that local services work together to plan and monitor the delivery of services on CSE.

Developments

Prevention and Early Identification

Since September 2015, the local approach towards CSE has continued to place a strong emphasis on prevention and early identification. This has involved awareness raising and training with children, young people, parents and professionals to enable them to understand CSE, minimise the risks of becoming a victim, identify and report the problem when it might be occurring or has occurred and offer appropriate support. To this end, measures have included:

- Training delivered to 132 front-line multi-agency staff, 60 School Child Protection Officers and 200 Social Care students between August 2015 and August 2016, with positive feedback from participants on their ability to identify and respond to CSE
- Continuing presentations to all of the Local Community Planning Partnerships
- As part of Curriculum for Excellence and in partnership with Tayside NHS, implementation of an age appropriate Tayside Framework focusing on healthy relationships, sexual health and parenthood across ages 3-18 years.
- A 'Life Online' digital footprint session has been delivered to 1,383 Primary 7 pupils by Peer Educators with support from teaching staff and to 171 Secondary 2 Peer Educators by teaching staff as part of Peer Education training
- Specific CSE focused prevention work delivered in primary and secondary schools and Children's Homes by the Women's Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (WRASAC), involving 165 sessions delivered to a total of 2,642 children and young people to date
- A further 43 group work sessions delivered by Barnardo's to a total of 260 young people identified as being at risk of CSE and consultations carried out by Barnardo's with other professionals on young people similarly identified as at risk
- A total of 25,000 copies of a parental 'Guide to the Internet' booklet have been distributed to nurseries and primary and secondary schools and a total of 11 adult e-safety talks have been delivered with input from O2
- A total of 10,000 copies of Barnardo's 'Face the Facts' booklets, which are specific to CSE, have been circulated to secondary schools and an interactive games resource is being developed on the issue of consent
- In the same period, The Corner delivered a range of outreach services to children and young people at a variety of locations across the city, addressing CSE and/or inter-related issues such as mental wellbeing and emotional health
- Information on CSE is also provided on the Protecting People in Dundee website and the Community Safety Partnership Facebook page. The Council and Police Scotland will continue to develop a communication strategy
- Over 120 managers and front line staff from the Council, Police Scotland, Tayside NHS, HMP Perth and the Third Sector are members of the NWG Network, a UK organisation which provides advice on multi-agency strategic planning and practice.

This extensive, continuous work is intended to ensure that children and young people have the knowledge, skills and confidence to keep themselves safe, including with respect to the risks associated with using the internet and mobile technology; that parents are able to offer appropriate guidance and advice; and that professionals are able to identify and respond to CSE, including providing initial support to suspected or known victims.

Further preventative work is carried out with children and young people when they return home after going missing. In partnership with Police Scotland, a Tayside Missing Person Coordinator has been appointed to coordinate all such activity. In the same period, there were a total of 641 reported episodes, with return to home interviews held to screen for potential issues. In total, 55 were identified as vulnerable to CSE and all were offered support.

Supporting Children and Young People and their Families

In respect of supporting children and young people who have been confirmed as victims of CSE or other forms of sexual abuse, in the same period Barnardo's worked with a total of

32 children and young people. This involved 3 aged under 13 years, 5 aged between 13 and 15 years and 24 aged between 16 and 19 years. It included support to address the varying effects of abuse, such as anger, anxiety, fear and lack of confidence.

In respect of supporting children and young people as potential perpetrators of CSE, nationally and locally there has been anecdotal and factual evidence on the inappropriate use of mobile phones and 'sexting'. This often occurs without their full appreciation of the risks and potential consequences for themselves and others. In 2015-16, 12 such children and young people were issued with formal warnings by Police Scotland. There were no offences involving children and young people as perpetrators of CSE.

Tackling Perpetrators

In respect of known adult perpetrators, there have been national and local increases in the number of internet offenders, including offences where the perpetrator made contact with a victim via social networking sites. All such convicted offenders are subject to Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), where they are risk assessed, monitored and supervised by Police Scotland, the Local Authority, NHS and other agencies. A joint inspection of MAPPA has also recommended that further training is provided nationally on the particular issues associated with internet related offending.

Locally, a Multi-Agency Operational Group was established, comprising staff from Police, Council, Health and Third Sector. This group is led by Police Scotland and pro-actively shares intelligence on potential and/or known victims and perpetrators of CSE including information on episodes of children going missing, details of where children and young people are congregating, party flats and the night time economy. This has aided the early identification of problems, disruption activity, prosecutions and targeted support. Membership of this group is currently being reviewed to reflect a broader range of stakeholders who will be in a position to share intelligence on CSE.

The Rotherham Enquiry identified the night time economy as a key feature, involving children and young people congregating around cafes, nightclubs and taxi ranks, where they were exploited by adults. Locally further work will be carried out to engage with the sector in order to explore opportunities for CSE training and awareness raising.

Joint Inspection of Services to Children and Young People

In the Joint Inspection of Services to Children and Young People carried out by the Care Inspectorate between October and December 2015, particular strengths identified by inspectors as making a positive difference to children and young people included the local approach towards CSE and the work of The Corner. In a self-assessment carried out as part of the inspection, partners had also identified a range of ongoing priorities.

Next Steps

As part of Integrated Children's Services, the Child Protection Committee has confirmed that CSE, as a form of sexual abuse, will be one of 4 priorities alongside substance misuse, domestic abuse and neglect. These priorities will be reflected in the pending Integrated Children and Young People's Plan due to be submitted to the Scottish Government in March 2017. Currently, ongoing CSE priorities include:

- Continued implementation of awareness raising and training
- Implementing a CSE specific risk assessment tool
- Links with substance misuse and sexual health services
- Developing an approach towards the night time economy
- Engaging with ethnic minority communities
- Promoting the involvement of children in the design of services
- Continued development of a dataset to better develop and target services

Under the Child Protection Committee, these priorities are being progressed by the Vulnerable Adolescent Partnership.

The Scottish Government has also published an update on the National Action Plan, outlining its plans to develop guidance on best practice, including for medical practitioners; deliver regional workshops; include CSE as a factor to be considered in community justice self-evaluation; develop a better understanding of the full scale and nature of CSE; support the night time economy to recognise and report warning signs; raise awareness in communities; and introduce new civil legislation.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and is attached to this report.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

The Chief Executive, Executive Director of Corporate Services and Head of Democratic and Legal Services were consulted in the preparation of this report.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

Michael Wood
Executive Director of Children and Families Service

October 2016

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TOOL

Part 1: Description/Consultation

Is this a Rapid Equality Impact Assessment (RIAT)?		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Is this a Full Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Date of Assessment:	03/10/16	Committee Report Number:	xxx-2016
Title of document being assessed:		Child Sexual Exploitation	
1. This is a new policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed (If yes please check box) <input type="checkbox"/>		This is an existing policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed? (If yes please check box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2. Please give a brief description of the policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed.		This is an update report on the local implementation of an action plan relating to CSE	
3. What is the intended outcome of this policy, procedure, strategy or practice?		To improve positive outcomes for children and young people in Dundee.	
4. Please list any existing documents which have been used to inform this Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment.		N/A	
5. Has any consultation, involvement or research with protected characteristic communities informed this assessment? If yes please give details.		No consultation has taken place.	
6. Please give details of council officer involvement in this assessment. (e.g. names of officers consulted, dates of meetings etc)		N/A	
7. Is there a need to collect further evidence or to involve or consult protected characteristics communities on the impact of the proposed policy? (Example: if the impact on a community is not known what will you do to gather the information needed and when will you do this?)		No	

Part 2: Protected Characteristics

Which protected characteristics communities will be positively or negatively affected by this policy, procedure or strategy?

NB Please place an X in the box which best describes the "overall" impact. It is possible for an assessment to identify that a positive policy can have some negative impacts and visa versa. When this is the case please identify both positive and negative impacts in Part 3 of this form.

If the impact on a protected characteristic communities are not known please state how you will gather evidence of any potential negative impacts in box Part 1 section 7 above.

	Positively	Negatively	No Impact	Not Known
Race, Ethnic Minority Communities including Gypsies and Travellers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender Reassignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Religion or Belief	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People with a disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socio-economic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy & Maternity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please state)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Part 3: Impacts/Monitoring

<p>1. Have any positive impacts been identified?</p> <p>(We must ensure at this stage that we are not achieving equality for one strand of equality at the expense of another)</p>	<p>Yes – it is intended that all children and young people will benefit from the action plan. The plan is being monitored by the Child Protection Committee and implemented by the Vulnerable Adolescent Partnership.</p>
<p>2. Have any negative impacts been identified?</p> <p>(Based on direct knowledge, published research, community involvement, customer feedback etc. If unsure seek advice from your departmental Equality Champion.)</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>3. What action is proposed to overcome any negative impacts?</p> <p>(e.g. involving community groups in the development or delivery of the policy or practice, providing information in community languages etc. See Good Practice on DCC equalities web page)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>4. Is there a justification for continuing with this policy even if it cannot be amended or changed to end or reduce inequality without compromising its intended outcome?</p> <p>(If the policy that shows actual or potential unlawful discrimination you must stop and seek legal advice)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>5. Has a 'Full' Equality Impact Assessment been recommended?</p> <p>(If the policy is a major one or is likely to have a major impact on protected characteristics communities a Full Equality Impact Assessment may be required. Seek advice from your departmental Equality lead.)</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>6. How will the policy be monitored?</p> <p>(How will you know it is doing what it is intended to do? e.g. data collection, customer survey etc.)</p>	<p>By the Child Protection Committee. Following April 2017, the Children and Families Executive will oversee all services to children and young people.</p>

Part 4: Contact Information

Name of Department or Partnership	Social Work
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Type of Document	
Human Resource Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
General Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strategy/Service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Change Papers/Local Procedure	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guidelines and Protocols	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Manager Responsible	Author Responsible
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Signature of author of the policy:	Glyn Lloyd	Date: October 2016
Signature of Director/Head of Service:	Jane Martin	Date: October 2016
Name of Director:	Michael Wood	
Date of Next Policy Review:	April 2018	