

**Meeting:** Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee

**Date:** 18 July 2016

**Title:** Child Sexual Exploitation update

---

**Author:** Kevin Buck - Safeguarding and Placement Services

**Service:** Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding

**Wards affected:** All

---

## **1. Purpose of Report**

This report provides the Committee with an overview of the current local picture in relation to work being undertaken with respect to child sexual exploitation (CSE). It further updates the Committee following the report on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016 which described the national picture and how this was impacting on North Tyneside.

The report will set out local activity at 3 levels:

- What we are doing in relation to individual cases
- What we are doing across the Council
- What we are doing through wider partnership working

## **2. Recommendations**

The Committee is requested to consider the report, offer comment and advise of any recommendations for consideration.

## **3. Information**

### **3.1 What we are doing in relation to individual cases**

3.2 A review of the Missing Sexually Exploited and Trafficked (MSET) panel is near completion. The role of this panel and the impact on individuals care planning and safety has been the theme of this review.

3.3 As a result of the recent MSET review Social Work Teams in North Tyneside will utilise an updated Risk Assessment tool in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation. This will ensure that information is holistic and detailed with regard to the risks and needs for a young person.

3.4 There are currently approximately 18 young people in North Tyneside identified as being at risk of child sexual exploitation.

3.5 SCARPA remains the predominant service accessed currently for Young People and provides support and intervention in respect of healthy and safe relationships, and the issues of Child Sexual Exploitation. Work is undertaken on a one to one basis and SCARPA have recently begun some group sessions with local education providers. SCARPA run advice surgeries and workshops on a fortnightly basis with social care staff on engaging young people who are at risk, internet safety and responses to going missing. There is capacity

within this work to engage young people from the age of 10 into adulthood. This is of significant benefit and value with regard to transition work into adulthood.

- 3.6 As previously highlighted a practitioner toolbox has been developed providing tools and interventions for social workers engaging in direct work with young people and an audit of care plans for young people at risk of CSE has identified the needs for specific work for each young person.

#### **4. What we are doing across the Council**

- 4.1 The CSE contact group has concluded its work. The final self assessment report is being completed and the actions identified are either being addressed at individual service level or, for the majority, are being included in the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) multi agency sexual exploitation action plan. This plan will be signed off by the LSCB in due course and will guide our partnership working.
- 4.2 The recommendations of the CSE study are being taken forward, for example through the annual constitution review.
- 4.3 Elected Members will receive training on CSE as part of induction for new members and sexual exploitation is now integrated into the member's programme of safeguarding training. This is resourced by Human Resources.
- 4.4 In relation to the communications strategy the children's missing persons lead is working with the nominated officer from the Head of Corporate Strategy and a representative from Adult Services to deliver this recommendation. An audit has been undertaken of what is currently available to raise awareness of CSE and any gaps identified. A young people's group has been consulted on poster design and suggestions shared.
- 4.5 CSE briefing sessions are being delivered quarterly by the LSCB to multi-agency partners.
- 4.6 A quarterly programme of CSE training is delivered to licensed taxi drivers by HR in partnership with the Police. Questions on CSE have been added to the Taxi driver knowledge tests.

#### **5. What we are doing through wider partnership working**

- 5.1 North Tyneside continues to work as part of Operation Sanctuary and the social work secondment has been in place since September 2015.
- 5.2 Bright Futures young women's project work within Operation Sanctuary and are attending schools providing support and education in relation to a range of vulnerabilities. Bright Futures are due to present the drama "Chelsea's choice" at Kings Priory School, Churchill and Norham with a schedule to present at Burnside, Moorbridge and PALS.
- 5.3 As mentioned above the sexual exploitation joint sub group of the safeguarding boards for adults and children and the Safer North Tyneside Partnership is now established and will drive the joint sexual exploitation action plan. This Sub group is now meeting bi-monthly and the Terms of Reference have been agreed by all three boards. The Strategic action plan is going back to sub group in July for agreement.

#### **6. Appendices**

None.