

**Cabinet Response to Overview and Scrutiny Recommendations
Completed Action Plan**

Title: Cabinet Response to Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Sub Group Recommendations

In accordance with Section 21B of the Local Government Act 2000, Cabinet are required to provide a response to the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee within 2 months. In providing this response Cabinet are asked to state whether or not it accepts each recommendation and the reasons for this decision. Cabinet must also indicate what action, if any, it proposes to take.

Overview and Scrutiny Recommendation	Officer Commentary	Cabinet Decision (Accept or reject)	Action to be taken (if any) and timescale for completion
<p>Recommendation 1 The North Tyneside Safeguarding Children Board's Annual Report to be added to the annual work programme of the Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee, with the Independent Chair of the Board invited to attend the meeting where it would be discussed. Once submitted to the Sub-committee the report, and the minute of the discussion, be circulated to all Members of the Council for their information.</p>	<p>The North Tyneside Safeguarding Children Board's Annual Report is the key accountability mechanism for the work of the Board. This recommendation will ensure that knowledge and understanding of partnership delivery of safeguarding responsibilities will be effectively communicated to Members.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>On an annual basis in September of each year the Independent Chair of the Board will be invited to the Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee to discuss the Annual Report.</p>
<p>Recommendation 2 Cabinet requests the Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding ensures that local authority officers are enabled to attend the meetings of the North Tyneside Safeguarding Children Board's Sub Groups to</p>	<p>Officer attendance at sub groups in place at senior level. Attendance includes: Business group – chair Senior Manager Safeguarding and Placement Services</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>Existing officer engagement positive with all sub groups. Reporting lines to the LSCB Business group are well established and clear. Further discussions are taking</p>

<p>ensure a consistent membership and clear reporting lines.</p>	<p>QILP – Service Manager LAC and LCT Teams Case Review sub Group – Service Manager Safeguarding Vulnerable Adolescents – Service Manager Safeguarding Training sub group – Service Manager Front Door</p>		<p>place to establish a closer connection between all three boards (LSCB, SAB and Safer North Tyneside) in relation to sexual exploitation.</p> <p>The intention is that further sexual exploitation action plan updates will also be submitted on an annual basis as part of the LSCB annual report.</p> <p>A meeting to consider next steps will take place during January 2016. This will consider further the terms of reference, governance issues and make recommendations to all three boards.</p>
<p>Recommendation 3 Cabinet requests the Chief Executive to require all service areas to appoint a Safeguarding Champion who will participate in the completion of the Section 11 Audit from the North Tyneside Safeguarding Children Board to ensure that all services have recognised that they must have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.</p>	<p>The Section 11 Audit is a comprehensive document that sets out the position of Board partners in relation to safeguarding. The contribution of all service areas will ensure that the Council will more effectively consider its position and identify areas for development.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>Members of SLT have nominated champions and are considering the value of combining this role with established safeguarding adult's champions.</p>
<p>Recommendation 4 Cabinet requests the North Tyneside Safeguarding Children Board invites</p>	<p>North Tyneside Safeguarding Children Board is a partnership body and to work effectively</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>This proposal is accepted as a positive step by the Council. The Independent Chair of the Board</p>

<p>the Chair of the Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee or a designated member of the Sub-committee to attend its meetings as an observer.</p>	<p>needs to engage with all constituent organisations.</p>		<p>will take to the LSCB with a view to the Board accepting.</p>
<p>Recommendation 5 Cabinet requests the Head of Law and Governance undertakes the necessary steps to propose to Full Council an amendment to the Constitution to ensure that child sexual exploitation training is provided to all Members at the same frequency as to officers and that attendance is mandatory and includes information on: what the situation in the borough is what the warning signs are what to do if you suspect something what to do if someone comes to you with a disclosure or a suspicion.</p>	<p>This will be taken forward in the annual Constitution review which starts in January.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>Review to begin in January 2016.</p>
<p>Recommendation 6 Cabinet requests the Standards Committee reviews the current Members and Co-opted Members Code of Conduct and considers including a provision that Members <u>must</u> report any suspicion of sexual exploitation or intelligence received on any safeguarding issues be referred to the authority's Front Door Service and that failure to do so would be considered a breach of the</p>	<p>This will be taken forward in the annual Constitution review which starts in January. Any recommendation will then need to be referred to the Standards Committee for consideration.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>Review to begin in January 2016.</p>

Code of Conduct.			
<p>Recommendation 7 Cabinet requests the Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding to provide a quarterly update, including any information from the police service, on the situation in North Tyneside regarding CSE in the Members Newsletter.</p>	<p>Quarterly sexual exploitation update will be provided and will be informed by the work of the LSCB sub group to ensure that a multi agency perspective is included.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>First update to be provided for March 2016.</p>
<p>Recommendation 8 Cabinet requests the Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development and the Head of Corporate Strategy develop a communication strategy for the NTSCB's CSE Training Strategy to ensure all Members, officers and other interested groups both inside and outside the authority are aware of the training opportunities available and what is expected of them with regard to attendance and keeping up to date.</p>	<p>We recognise that it is critically important that we promote the CSE training which is available to Members, officers and other interested groups both inside and outside the authority and will develop a communications strategy to do this by the end of March 2016. This will make use of all internal and external communication channels including the intranet, Teamwork for officers, the weekly newsletter for Elected Members, the Council website and our regular liaison routes with community and voluntary sector organisations. We will monitor the effectiveness of these communication channels by tracking where people have found out about the training opportunities when they book the training.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>The strategy will be in place by end of March 2016.</p>

<p>Recommendation 9 Cabinet considers amending the process of applying for a private hire or a hackney carriage license and a personal licence issued under the Licensing Act 2003 to require the applicant to have undergone CSE training prior to issue.</p>	<p>During 2015, the Authority delivered CSE training to drivers and private hire operators licensed within the borough. Attendance at training was voluntary since there is currently no mandatory requirement for licensees to undertake this as part of the grant of their licence. The Authority will be consulting on proposals to update its existing Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy during the early part of 2016 as part of a periodic review. The Authority intends to introduce a mandatory requirement for applicants to undertake CSE training and will seek views on this as part of the consultation. Regulation & Review Committee are overseeing the consultation. All sales of alcohol must be authorised by a person who holds a personal licence issued by the Licensing Authority for the area in which they reside. Once issued with a personal licence the holder can authorise the sales of alcohol anywhere in the country. The Licensing Act 2003 states that an Authority must grant a personal licence to an individual if prescribed conditions are met. It is not possible for an</p>	<p>Accepted whilst noting the division of responsibilities between executive and non-executive functions</p>	<p><u>Taxi (Hackney Carriage & Private Hire) Licensing</u></p> <p>Cabinet welcomes the mandatory requirement for applicants seeking Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licences from the Authority to have to undertake CSE training and notes that such a requirement will be consulted on when the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy is consulted on.</p> <p><u>Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing</u></p> <p>Cabinet recommends that the Head of Environment Housing and Leisure look into the possibility of voluntary training on CSE being offered to existing personal licence holders and new applicants for such a licence, and for a report to be submitted to the Licensing Committee.</p>
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	<p>Authority to add to the conditions set out in the Act or to include in the Statement of Licensing Policy a condition that must be met, namely to have undergone CSE training, before being issued with a Licence. It would be possible however on the grant of a personal licence to provide the licence holder with information in relation to CSE and/or offer voluntary training on CSE.</p> <p>All Licensing Act functions are non-executive functions which save for a few exceptions are discharged by the Licensing Committee.</p>		
<p>Recommendation 10 Cabinet requests the Head of Corporate Strategy develop a communications strategy on CSE through the authority's own publications (Our North Tyneside and Teamwork) to dispel some of the myths surrounding CSE and signposting people who are suffering or may suspect CSE is taking place to appropriate support and information. The strategy to include the production of posters to inform people of the warning signs and what to do if they are concerned for display in all Council buildings and offered to</p>	<p>Information and community awareness are crucial aspects of any strategy to enhance the safety of young people and adults. This recommendation will improve the ability of those at risk and those that care for them to recognise warning signs and seek support.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>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. Proposals regarding draft communications to be considered during January 2016 and specific material to be produced in February 2016.</p>

<p>bed and breakfasts, hotels, takeaways and taxi offices.</p>			
<p>Recommendation 11 Cabinet requests the Head of Environment, Housing and Leisure, the Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding and the Head of Commissioning and Investment work with Changing Lives to consider whether there is a suitable venue in Whitley Bay to be made available for use by Changing Lives and their associated partners/programmes as a drop-in centre for young people who may be experiencing exploitation and/or abuse.</p>	<p>Accessibility is a key issue for young people seeking support around the issues of exploitation and/or abuse. Changing Lives currently utilise venues in North Shields and would want to extend their drop-in facility into Whitley Bay.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>Council officers and Changing Lives representatives met in January 2016. Work continues to focus on possible use of the Battle Hill Centre and a visit is being arranged. Changing Lives have also been put in contact with a potential community building in Whitley Bay.</p>