

BRIEFING PAPER

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON WORK TO PREVENT CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
IN SOUTHAMPTON

DATE: 3 NOVEMBER 2016

RECIPIENT: CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL

BRIEFING DETAILS:

This briefing is intended to update on work to prevent Child Sexual Exploitation in Southampton.

The CSE Hub has been established since September 2015 and consists of an Advanced Practitioner & two Youth Engagement workers. There is a close working relationships to the 'Goldstone' - Police CSE Team and Barnados.

The CSE Hub is aligned to the MASH with management oversight provided by a Children's Social Care Service Manager and provides intervention and advice across Children's Services.

The CSE Hub provides the following functions:

- Coordinate the MET Operational Group
- Awareness Raising
- Delivering Multi Agency Training
- Monitoring and Mapping of CSE across the service
- Direct Intervention to young people and parents
- Planning disruption activity
- Advice & Guidance
- QA & Audit

What we have achieved

- Due to improved performance in 2015/2016 the Police Crime Commissioners Officer continued the grant funding for 2016/2017
- Increased CSE risk assessment using the SERAF tool to identify CSE risk levels. Improvement in this area remains steady as the SERAF is increasingly embedded within practice in Southampton. This is evidenced through audit activity & MET Operational Group.
- Positive feedback from the Hampshire Police with regards to the effectiveness of SERAF use in Southampton and the support provided.
- As part of the National CSE Awareness Day on 18th March 2016 the CSE Hub encouraged 41 professionals to make Helping Hands pledges. Professionals involved were from the Fostering Teams, Independent

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Domestic Violence Advisors, Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub, Child Protection Team, Early Help Teams, Child in Need Team, the LSCB, Independent Reviewing Officers and Child Protection Conference Chairs, Council Licensing Team, Hampshire Police, Council Housing Teams, Health, Education and Early Years professionals.

- Achieved awareness raising to a wide range of multi-agency partners
- CSE now a standing item on school Child Protection Liason Officer training for new CPLO's & refresher training sessions.

CSE awareness raising and training delivered:

- 5 half day workshops, 2 full days' workshops – made available to 210 children's social care staff.
- Training day for foster carers and their supervising Social Workers.
- 13 SERAF guidance sessions providing individual guidance to promote use and quality of SERAF.
- CPLO training delivered to 60 attendees
- Workshop delivered to multi - agency staff from various agencies including Children's Services, Adults Services, Education, Police, Health, Southampton General Hospital, Early Years, Voluntary Sector delivered to 30 attendees.
- Session delivered to Children Social Care All Managers meeting re: SERAF and CSE Processes and procedures delivered to 30 attendees
- 2 CSE awareness raising workshops delivered to teachers, teaching assistants and school governors from Vermont Primary School delivered to 20 attendees.
- 12 CSE awareness raising workshops for Year 9 and 10 pupils at Compass Pupil Referral Unit delivered to 51 attendees & to Year 9 girls at Cantell Secondary School (as part of International Women's Week) delivered to 82 attendees.

Total sessions delivered:

- 23 sessions (6 to professionals & 17 to children)
- 315 attendees (126 professionals & 225 children)
- Total advice sessions 51
- Total direct involvement 19
- Attendees at sessions delivered to professionals: 140

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MET (Missing, Exploited, Trafficked) Operational Group

The MET (Missing, Exploited, Trafficked) Operational group further strengthened & developed, the Ops group now takes place over two separate meetings:

- MET case review
- MET operational group general meeting.

This has enabled a focused case review which generates meaningful discussion in the general meeting focussing on emergent themes and creates space for ideas to be considered to improve outcomes enabling Ops Group members to:

- Fully engage in providing updates from their service areas,
- Consider themes, trends and key issues
- Ensure there is a focus on partnership response to issues
- Improved monitoring and reviewing.

A report from the MET case review has been developed outlining key information which is presented at the general meeting. This provides an overview of the MET cohort & identifies key themes & practice issues for consideration and/or action by the MET Ops general group.

Children's Services, Police and Barnardo's are deemed essential attendees for the case review with all other members deemed discretionary. This change has been well received by partners and is improving the Ops Group function.

Hampshire Police have fed back that Southampton Children's Social care deliver the most effective MET operational group across the 4LSCB's within the Hampshire area. Through the development of the Ops Group an impact has already been identified regarding children identified as moderate or significant risk of CSE. As a result there is an increased understanding of the models of CSE most commonly recognised in the Southampton area and of the links between young people, perpetrators and people of concern.

The CSE Hub has established positive working relationships across the multi-agency partnership and continues to develop these. The CSE Hub has achieved improved partnership working and information sharing across organisations, agencies and departments during this period and this is evidenced by the MET Operational Group and the subsequent involvement of key partners in disruption activities. This has been particularly notable with our Housing colleagues who have provided positive feedback on the impact of the awareness raising sessions provided to them resulting in improved staff understanding of CSE.

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Engagement with the night time economy

- The CSE Hub and Barnardo's jointly delivered a 1 hour CSE awareness raising session to members of the taxi trade and licensing department. This had a low attendance rate and highlighted issues in engaging with this sector.
- A meeting with the manager of one of the largest taxi firms in Southampton was arranged to discuss developing a CSE awareness raising strategy for their workforce.
- Consideration has been given to making this a mandatory requirement as currently we are reliant on the taxi trades willingness to engage with CSE Hub & SCC Licencing Dept.
- The CSE Hub will be supporting the delivery of Operation Make Safe training however there has been some delay to the Hampshire Police coordination of this in Southampton. We have linked the Police coordinator with the Southampton LSCB in order to progress this further.

Engaging with diverse and disengaged communities

- The CSE Hub has made contact with Youth Options who deliver detached youth work to consider how we can work together in relation to CSE. They have been invited to become a member of MET operational group in order to further consider the role their organisation can play in tackling CSE related issues.
- Ongoing support has been offered to YMCA accommodation some particularly vulnerable young people residing there.

Number of children identified as being at risk of CSE who have an allocated lead professional.

- Since April – Sep 2016 82 children were identified as being at risk of CSE either at point of referral to MASH, or via other data records in Children's Social care and via the MET Operational Group.
- 69 of the 82 children had a SERAF completed which represents 84.15%.
- Of the 82 children identified as being at risk of CSE (April – Sep 2016) 67 currently have an allocated lead professional within Children's Social care.
- Of the 15 who do not, 13 are now closed to Children's Services or Families Matter, and 2 have a lead professional in another Local Authority.

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- 12 were assessed at mild risk or no risk of CSE at the time of closure, with 1 assessed as moderate risk who had been appropriately signposted to Barnardo's for longer term intervention.

Number of children with a risk management plan in place & QA Activity.

- All 67 children with an allocated within Children's Social Care have a current intervention and risk management plan or this is currently being completed.
- During August/September 2016 the CSE Hub assisted in undertaking CSE audits on 55 cases open to Children's Social Care which included directing actions to be taken to update and review SERAF's and plans relating to risk management and intervention, which has resulted in improvements to plans and assessments across the service. In addition to this above, Children's Social Care staff were issued with CSE pack with guidance and teams were all asked to sign up to receiving it and knowing the processes to follow.

Number of locations identified across the city.

- The CSE Hub completed awareness raising sessions with staff in SCC Housing Department to increase identification of locations where there are potential CSE risks.
- The CSE Hub also worked in partnership with Housing where CSE risks were identified linked to an address in another area of Southampton. Following advice from the CSE Hub the housing officer was able to implement disruption strategies resulting in the risk being reduced.
- The CSE Hub's role in coordinating the MET operational group means we have become increasingly knowledgeable on areas being highlighted as concern, positive links with Housing and Police are assisting in an effective and coordinated approaches to disruption with key partners.

How we measure the impact for those the CSE Hub works with.

- The CSE Hub has developed feedback forms and a scaling tool for use with both children and parents who receive direct work. This will enable us to more effectively measure the impact of interventions provided. We recognise the need to further develop and implement this in order to evidence the positive

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impact of this work and opportunities this creates to ensure CSE concerns do not escalate.

Feedback we have received from service users

- Parent feedback has been helpful in identifying the impact of the intervention models used by the CSE Hub. These have been useful for parents and many felt they had improved knowledge of CSE and what they needed to do to support their child.
- This will be developed further by the CSE Hub when considering models of parental engagement. With specific reference to direct intervention delivered by the CSE Hub, Young People want to be able to develop a trusting relationship with one worker. They don't want to repeat the same information more than once or have to build rapport & trust with multiple professionals. Whilst many direct interventions can be delivered over a short period for some young people who are experiencing multiple issues as well as CSE the intervention may need to stop & start to meet their needs and be delivered at a pace that works for them.
- The CSE Hub is looking at various models and approaches needed to support and offer a flexible intervention in these cases.

Current developments

- Due to developments within the MET Operational Group we are strengthening the information flow between this and the MET strategic Group to inform local response and target resources.
- Improving multi-agency response to disruption strategies linked to repeat missing children.
- Utilising the alignment to the MASH where opportunities are identified for the CSE Hub to offer preventative intervention to Young People & parents at an early stage to address lower level CSE issues and prevent escalation.

Further Information Available From: **Name:** Catherine Parkin / Jane White
Tel: 023 8083 4954/3939
E-mail: Catherine.parkin@southampton.gov.uk
Jane.white@southampton.gov.uk

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