

29th February 2016

**To the Chair and Members of the
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE’S OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL**

CSE ASSURANCE UPDATE

Relevant Member(s)	Cabinet	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Councillor Nuala Fennelly lead Member for Children’s Services		All	None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report provides the Independent Chair of Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board’s (DSCB) updated assessment of the response to child sexual exploitation (CSE) in Doncaster. The Independent Chair’s first assessment was published in December 2014. This update report addresses the Chair’s ten key CSE assurance questions, focusing in particular on progress in relation to the areas for development identified in the December 2014 report. (See Appendix 1.)
2. Good progress has been made in implementing the DSCB CSE Action Plan. Interim progress with that plan was considered by the Panel at its meeting on April 2nd 2015. A summary report on the CSE Action Plan is provided at Appendix 2. The Board is refreshing the CSE Action Plan for 2016-17. The new priorities can be found in section 12 of Appendix 1.
3. OFSTED’s review of the DSCB, published in November 2015 found that ***‘there has been good coordination by agencies in order to tackle child sexual exploitation in Doncaster....a child sexual exploitation sub-group and workstream chaired by a Police Superintendant coordinates well the operational partnership working’.***

EXEMPT INFORMATION

4. Not exempt.

RECOMMENDATIONS

5. The Panel is asked to:
 - (a) consider and comment on the analysis of progress against the DSCB CSE Assurance Questions;
 - (b) consider and comment on the summative report on the CSE Action Plan 2015-16;

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

6. The Overview and Scrutiny function has the potential to impact upon all of the Council's key objectives by holding decision makers to account, reviewing performance and developing policy. This is achieved through making robust recommendations, monitoring performance of Council and external partners and reviewing issues outside the remit of the Council that have an impact on the residents of the borough.

BACKGROUND

7. John Harris the independent Chair of the Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board, presented *Responding to CSE in Doncaster – an Assurance Report* at the meeting of the Panel on 9th December 2014. His report concluded that, although there was significant progress in responding to CSE in Doncaster, there remained a number of areas for improvement: better quality intelligence and performance information about the incidence of CSE; more targeted outreach work with minority ethnic communities; strengthening of management oversight of the multi-agency CSE team; more effective long-term interventions with victims and those at risk; a more strategic approach to protecting looked after children (LAC) at risk of CSE; more robust arrangements for the care and support of children missing from home and care. These areas for development were addressed in short-term action plan, which was considered in detail by the Panel.
8. The Independent Chair's report was considered at a meeting of Full Council on March 3rd 2015. The Council resolved to raise awareness about CSE and work in partnership with other organisations and the wider community to protect children and young people. It requested that regular reports about progress in responding to CSE be made available to elected members.
9. A progress report on the CSE Action Plan was considered by the Panel at its meeting on April 2nd 2015. Members were reassured that the framework developed and reported to the Panel at its meeting in December, 2014 continued to be effective

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

10. There are no specific options to consider within this report as it provides an opportunity for the Panel to consider and comment on the Independent Chair's updated assessment of the effectiveness of the response to CSE in Doncaster.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

11. There are no specific options to consider within this report

IMPACT ON COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

	Outcomes	Implications
1	<p>All people in Doncaster benefit from a thriving and resilient economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Be a strong voice for our veterans</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i> 	<p>The Overview and Scrutiny function has the potential to impact upon all of the council's key objectives by holding decision makers to account, reviewing performance and developing policy through robust recommendations, monitoring performance of council and external partners services and reviewing issues outside the remit of the council that have an impact on the residents of the borough.</p> <p>Responding to CSE is a key aspect of effective safeguarding of children and young people by the council and partner agencies. CSE can have a devastating impact on social integration, economic well-being and life chances of young people. It is also has a profoundly damaging effect on families and communities.</p>
2	<p>People live safe, healthy, active and independent lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i> 	
3	<p>People in Doncaster benefit from a high quality built and natural environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i> 	
4	<p>All families thrive.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i> 	
5	Council services are modern and value for money.	
6	Working with our partners we will provide strong leadership and governance.	Responding to CSE is a key area where effective partnership working is required.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

12. There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

13. There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

14. There are no specific human resource implications arising from this report.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

15. There are no specific technology implications arising from this report.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

16. Section 149 Equality Act 2010 contains the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). This obliges public authorities, when exercising their functions, to have 'due regard' to the need to:
- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct which the Act prohibits;
 - Advance equality of opportunity;
 - Foster good relations between people who share relevant protected characteristics and those who do not.
17. The relevant protected characteristics under the Equality Act are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. The duty also covers marriage and civil partnerships, but only in respect of eliminating unlawful discrimination. The relevant characteristics in to the issues in this report are sex, age and race.
18. The CSE Action Plan includes commitments to more direct and more frequent engagement with women and men from minority ethnic communities on the issue

of CSE and other forms of abuse. It also seeks to address the under-reporting of sexual exploitation and abuse in minority ethnic communities.

CONSULTATION

19. No specific consultation has taken place in relation to this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Responding to Child Sexual Exploitation in Doncaster – Assurance Report by the Independent Chair of Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board.

Schools, Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel, 9th December 2015

CSE Action Plan Update Report Schools, Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel April 2nd 2015

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