

Contact Officer: Helen Kilroy

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND SAFEGUARDING MEMBER PANEL

Thursday 7 July 2016

Present: Cllrs Hill (Chair), Allison, Holmes, Marchington, Bellamy (observer)

In attendance: Carly Speechley, Assistant Director (Family Support & Child Protection)
Mandy Cameron, Deputy Assistant Director (Learning & Skills)
Helen Kilroy, Principal Governance and Democratic Engagement Officer

Apologies: Cllr Ahmed and Sarah Callaghan

1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Panel considered the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2 June 2016.

AGREED:- That the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 June 2016 be agreed as a correct record.

2 Safeguarding for Children at Risk of CSE

The Panel considered an update on safeguarding for children at risk of CSE and how they were being supported.

Carly Speechley advised the Panel that Kirklees Children's Services developed the Integrated Hub in November 2015 which was based within Dewsbury Police Station and consisted of officers from social care, West Yorkshire Police and voluntary sector workers from Barnardo's and one Business Support Officer. Carly Speechley further explained that in addition to this, four Targeted Young Support Workers had recently joined the Hub and a new Detective Sergeant joined the team at the end of May 2016. The Panel was advised that as the Integrated CSE Hub had been in place since November 2015, a review of its impact was felt to be timely. Carly Speechley advised that the review of the service had identified some concerns around management oversight of cases and inconsistent provision of interventions by social workers and support staff. As a result of this the Service Manager with responsibility for CSE and Missing Children was deployed in May to work alongside the team manager to improve oversight of cases. The Panel was informed that the Council had subsequently appointed a new Team Manager with more significant CSE knowledge.

The Panel was informed that all referrals in relation to CSE received by the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) were passed to the CSE Hub. It was currently an expectation that partner agencies also completed the CSE risk assessment tool which was attached to the referral to support the concerns raised. Feedback from partners informed of several issues with this process including their confidence to complete the assessment correctly and the clumsiness of the document itself. Carly Speechley further explained that similar issues had been identified by the

MASH Team who agreed that the completed CSE risk assessment forms were often of poor quality.

Carly Speechley advised that Kirklees Children's Services had currently identified 84 young people who were linked to concerns in respect of CSE. Officers anticipated that this was not a true reflection of the actual and potential victims of CSE. Carly Speechley explained that Kirklees was urgently addressing this issue by raising awareness within the social work teams and all partner agencies by way of the development and implementation of the training programme and deliverance of information awareness days. The Panel was informed that going forward there would be a rolling programme of mandatory CSE training across all Kirklees Children's Services staff.

Carly Speechley advised that discussions were taking place in respect of adapting the CSE risk assessment tool currently used within Kirklees. The Committee were informed that the tool was not fit for purpose as it did not sufficiently scale risk factors, which encouraged social workers to use the tool literally without applying professional judgement. The Committee was advised that various options were being considered, including the CSE risk assessment model used in other areas within the West Yorkshire consortium. The new tool would also be in line with the Risk Sensible model. Carly Speechley further explained that the Service Manager had identified an assessment tool from a neighbouring Authority which would be adapted to be used by Kirklees.

The Panel was informed that in respect of cases which required a section 47 investigation, strategy meetings were undertaken and chaired by the CSE Team Manager or Team Manager with case responsibility.

In response to a question with regard to how risk was managed, Carly Speechley explained that the social worker would 'hold the ring' on a particular case and manage the entirety of the risk linked to that case if there was a risk of CSE. The Panel was informed that there would be other factors and risks to consider, for example, parenting, poverty and substance misuse. The social worker would call in the appropriate support and intervention according to need.

In response to a question as to how the changes to the workforce were being managed, Carly Speechley advised that there had been some reluctance to the changes amongst staff, but that the Council was investing in significant training and had appointed an Advanced Practitioner specialist in CSE who was providing mentoring and coaching. Carly Speechley went on to explain that early signs were showing that these interventions were making a difference.

The Panel was informed that as part of the improvements, a dedicated full time Principal Social Worker had been appointed, together with 4 Practice Champions on an advanced practitioner grade. The Practice Champions had been trained in specialist areas of work to enable them to support teams as appropriate.

Carly Speechley advised that although the CSE Hub had been in place since November 2015, a mapping system had yet to be developed but was currently underway. The Panel was informed that the mapping system would include names of victims, their associates, perpetrators and CSE hotspots in order to ensure all relevant information was linked. The mapping system would also provide a visual aid to the CSE workers. Carly Speechley further explained that the Hub had begun a process to map and link potential victims and discussions had taken place with

the Police who were in the process of supplying photographs of perpetrators/potential perpetrators/hotspots. The Panel agreed to see the mapping system when it was available.

Carly Speechley advised the Panel that the Contract had been agreed with Liquidlogic for the new IT system, which would be implemented August/September 2016 with a go live date of Spring 2017 (March), subject to no delays. The Panel was advised that the aim of the new IT system was to be able to pool together information on families into one place.

The Panel was informed that the information sharing agreement with MASH had been reviewed and a new agreement proposed, which had been sent to and was awaiting responses from the Police, Health, Education, etc.

AGREED:-

(1) That Carly Speechley be thanked for attending the meeting and that the report on Safeguarding for Children at Risk of CSE be noted.

(2) That the Panel receive an update on the mapping system being developed to link potential victims, perpetrators and CSE hotspots – date to be determined.

3 Children's Society – West Yorkshire CSE Preventative Programme in Schools – Update on position in Kirklees

The Panel considered an update on the work being undertaken within Kirklees linked to the Children's Society West Yorkshire CSE Preventative Programme in schools, which included feedback from the West Yorkshire review meeting held on 24 June 2016. The Panel welcomed Mandy Cameron, Deputy Assistant Director (Learning & Skills) to the meeting.

Mandy Cameron gave an update to confirm that the Children's Society had been regionally commissioned to undertake work within each West Yorkshire Local Authority and Kirklees had been asked to identify schools to take part in the CSE Preventative Programme.

Mandy Cameron advised the Panel that a number of schools within Kirklees had agreed to become Beacon schools which would ensure that their PSHE Education programme would allow children to acquire the knowledge skills and understanding they needed to manage their lives now and in the future. The schools aimed for PSHE Education would be to develop children's self-awareness, knowledge, self-esteem and confidence to be able to stay safe.

Mandy Cameron further explained that the schools identified within Kirklees were:-

- Colne Valley High School
- Manor Croft Academy
- Westborough High School
- Upper Batley High School in conjunction with Batley Girls' Academy
- Moor End Academy

The Panel was advised that Sharon Hewitt had made a bid for 'Chelsea's Choice', which was an innovative applied theatre production that had proved highly effective in raising awareness of CSE amongst young people. Mandy Cameron explained that feedback had been received from schools that confirmed they felt

the PSHE Beacon Programme added value to the school curriculum, but their challenge was how to build capacity within schools to be able to manage this. The Panel was informed that a lot of work had been undertaken within secondary schools on raising awareness of CSE however a system needed to be in place to refresh that work periodically and the Council were looking at a programme to embed in schools.

Mandy Cameron advised the Panel that when they had approached primary schools some had responded to advise that the issue was not for them, so a piece of work was required to convince primary schools to see the relevance for them and their pupils. The Panel was informed that Head Teachers' networks and DSL networks were looking to start a similar programme within primary schools for the next academic school year, which secondary schools had already received.

The Panel noted that GW Theatre performances had been undertaken in a number of primary and secondary schools within Kirklees, as outlined within the report.

The Panel was informed that another issue being looked at was how to develop the approach and materials on raising awareness of CSE within specialist schools and developing a teaching strategy that these schools could use. Mandy Cameron explained that one of the Beacon schools was Ravenshall School at Thornhill Lees and an officer from that school was co-ordinating the approach across the six specialist schools within Kirklees to raise awareness of CSE.

The Panel agreed that the universal offer had to be able to meet the needs of every child to ensure that they had a good grounding in sexual education and CSE awareness raising. The Panel discussed communication and contact with parents and acknowledged that this was easier to do at primary schools when parents were more involved in their children's school life. The Panel agreed that a culture change was needed in engaging with parents and carers in raising awareness of CSE. Mandy Cameron agreed to feedback the comments of the Panel into the ongoing dialogue with schools through the relevant forums to check that this was happening and feedback to the Panel.

The Panel agreed that the universal offer was vital and that resources should be targeted at schools who currently have issues with regard to CSE awareness raising and agreed that officers within the Children's and Learning and Skills services liaise on this matter.

The Panel discussed the safeguarding of home schooled pupils and alternative educational provision. Mandy Cameron advised the Panel that the Council had undertaken significant work in this area and that where requests were made to provide alternative educational provision for children, the child would remain on the role of the school and the school will maintain responsibility for attendance, provision of education and performance and outcomes. Mandy Cameron further explained that a key worker from the school would be responsible for undertaking this role, however, this had proved a challenge for schools in managing this additional work. The Panel was informed that there had been a downturn in numbers of children leaving mainstream schooling for alternative educational provision. The Panel agreed to have a more detailed discussion regarding home schooled pupils and alternative educational provision at a future meeting.

Mandy Cameron advised that she had received a written report from Calderdale Council on the outcome of the West Yorkshire PCC review meeting held on 24 June which had been attended by the PCC, representatives from the five West Yorkshire Local Authorities and the two providers, Children's Society and DW Theatre. The Panel agreed to receive a copy of this report for information.

AGREED:-

(1) That Mandy Cameron be thanked for attending the meeting to give an update on CSE Preventative work within Kirklees.

(2) That the Panel receive a future report on the work being developed to engage with parents and carers on raising awareness of CSE.

(3) That the Panel receive a future report on safeguarding of home schooled pupils and alternative educational provision within Kirklees.

(4) That the Panel receive a copy of the report from Calderdale Council on the outcome of the West Yorkshire CSE Preventative Programme in schools.

4 Update on Key National and Local Issues

The Panel considered an update on the key National and Local issues, including key developments in Kirklees on the L Goddard enquiry and mandatory reporting on wilful neglect.

Carly Speechley advised that the L Goddard enquiry was underway and that as soon as the findings were available, these would be presented to the Panel.

The Panel was advised that no decision had yet been made by the Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS) on mandatory reporting of wilful neglect. Carly Speechley went onto explain that mandatory reporting was 'naming and shaming' Senior Managers within organisations who had failed in their duty to deal effectively with CSE. The Panel agreed to receive an update on this issue when it was available.

The Panel agreed to receive a copy of the latest OFSTED Annual Report which showed that 75% of all Local Authority in the last year were either inadequate or needs improving.

AGREED:-

(1) That the update on national and local issues be noted.

(2) That the Panel receive a future report on the L Goddard Inquiry as soon as the findings were available.

(3) That the Panel receive a future report on mandatory reporting of wilful neglect – date to be determined.

5 Review of Terms of Reference

The Panel considered and reviewed the Terms of Reference for the 2016/17 municipal year.

The Panel noted that there were various Panel's and Board's, including the Corporate Parenting Board and Children's Trust, with responsibilities for Children and the Council needed to look at how they all overlapped and whether they were fit for purpose.

Councillor Hill advised the Panel that a piece of work was ongoing to look at how all the Board's and Panel's fitted together and whether or not they were fit for purpose.

The Panel agreed that the CSE and Safeguarding Member Panel had a specific remit and that monthly meetings were appropriate. The Panel discussed the current Membership and whether or not there needed to be any changes following Council. The Governance Officer agreed to follow up a number of suggestions made by the Panel regarding future Membership.

AGREED:-

(1) That the Terms of Reference of the CSE and Safeguarding Member Panel were fit for purpose.

(2) That the Governance Officer follow up a number of suggestions made by the Panel regarding future Membership.

6 CSE Management Information

The Panel welcomed the new format of the way the Management Information had been presented. Carly Speechley advised the Panel that going forward the numbers of children at the risk of CSE needed to be joined up with the Police and further work was being undertaken to understand why no referrals were coming in from certain areas. The Panel was advised that the information needed to be overlapped with missing children and from that information identify which children were at the risk of CSE, how many were going missing, why and what action was being taken to prevent this. Carly Speechley explained that the data had been significantly challenging to collate and was a work in progress.

The Panel welcomed the key lines of enquiry information on the CSE dashboard 2016/17.

The Panel agreed to receive trend data and comparatives over a period of time. Carly Speechley advised the Panel that work was ongoing with staff with regard to the correct input of information onto the new IT system so that correct reporting could take place. The Panel agreed that information with regard to children with additional needs and whether these were reflected within the referral, should be included within the future performance information. The Panel also agreed that this information should be cross referenced against children under the responsibility of the Learning and Skills Service.

The Panel agreed that the trend information across the District was useful and Carly Speechley agreed to look at whether the information could be broken down into smaller communities.

Carly Speechley advised that the total number of referrals received in the period being classed as at risk, was only 12% and officers were starting to explore this data further as to the reason why.

AGREED:-

(1) That the update on Management Information be noted and that further work be undertaken to investigate future performance information could include trend analysis and comparative data, children with additional needs and CSE Activity broken down into communities.

7 CSE and Safeguarding Member Panel Agenda Plan for 2016/17

The Panel considered the CSE and Safeguarding Member Panel work programme for 2016/17 and agreed agenda items for future meetings.

Panel Members agreed to send any agenda items for future meetings to the Governance Officer.

AGREED:-

(1) That the agenda plan for the CSE and Safeguarding Member Panel for 2016/17 be noted and updated as agreed.

8 Date of Next Meeting

AGREED:-

That the date of the next meeting of the CSE and Safeguarding Member Panel be held on Friday 2 September 2016 at 10.30am to 12.30pm in Meeting Room 1, Huddersfield Town Hall.