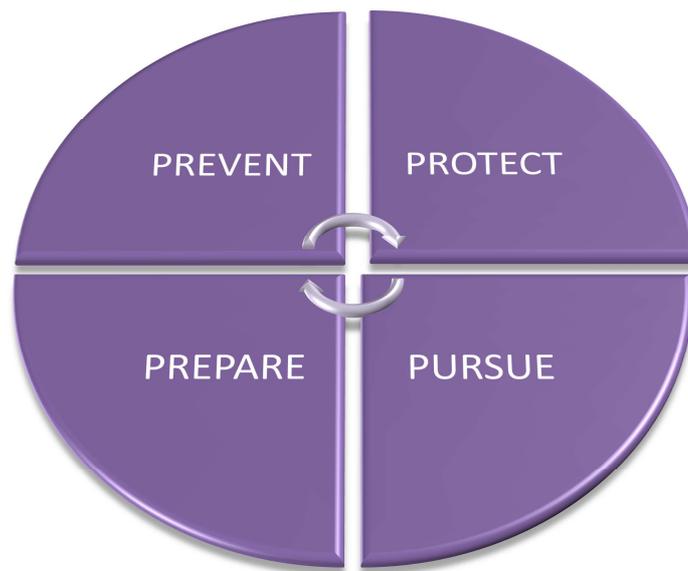


**CITY OF SUNDERLAND
CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION STRATEGY
2015-2017**



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PREFACE

The significant national focus on the devastating impact of Child Sexual Exploitation has brought with it a commensurate intensity of learning across Children's Safeguarding Boards and its member agencies charged with protecting children and young people.

Whilst there is a need to coordinate the response and give clear direction there is also a need to recognise the dynamic learning and progress being made both locally and nationally.

Such learning demonstrates that Sexual Exploitation does not discriminate against age or ethnicity but does discriminate against all facets of vulnerability within its victims.

Our partner agencies are currently working hard to improve their own response to these issues and we are aware that several strategies and action plans are currently being finalised that will further inform our delivery intentions.

In summary this strategy should be read in the understanding that:-

- Our knowledge of CSE is rapidly developing
- Single Agency plans may have influence on the strategy
- The risk to vulnerable adults may require an approach encompassing all vulnerable persons including adults

It is therefore the intention of this strategy to provide a statement of intent to strengthen the identification and early response to risk as well as the coordinated approach to remove children from their abuse and prosecute/disrupt offenders but also to recognise the need that this strategy is inherently subject to constant review and revision to reflect our learning and understanding of the breadth of the issues faced.

INTRODUCTION

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is an insidious form of child abuse that has a damaging and long lasting impact on those involved. In order to address this problem, effective multi-agency partnership working is essential, where partners work to the principle that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and are clear on their respective roles and responsibilities. Together, as partners, we will work towards eradicating CSE from Sunderland.

CSE is recognised nationally as one of the most important challenges facing agencies today. Professor Alexis Jay's report¹ into the sexual exploitation of children in Rotherham was a "wake up call for every professional working in the field of child protection"². Whilst CSE is not a new problem, the extent and scale of this form of abuse has been exposed and our knowledge of the widespread nature and impact on all our communities continues to grow. In Sunderland we will assume that CSE is within our area until there is clear evidence to the contrary³

CSE is a priority for Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) which recognises the serious long term and lasting impact on every aspect of a child and young person's life, an impact which will burden them into adulthood. The devastating impact of CSE goes beyond the individual and can impact on families, communities and indeed the professionals dealing with such abuse.

Our current local picture of CSE is predominantly against vulnerable female victims and linked to the illicit supply of alcohol and drugs (M-CAT & Legal Highs) as well as the use of social media to incite victims⁴.

This picture also includes victims taken to or attending parties where alcohol and drugs would be freely available. The victims would take substances in excess to cope with the knowledge that they would be expected to engage in sexual activity with a number of males. This became known as the 'commodity' (party) model of exploitation.

A recent Innovation Fund Bid has secured funding to provide two multi-agency co-located teams covering North (Newcastle, Northumberland, and North Tyneside) and South (Sunderland, Gateshead, South Tyneside) of the Northumbria Police area. It is intended that the South team will commence operation by April 2016.

Operation 'Magnet' is the on-going multi-agency response across the Northumbria area mapping Organised Crime Groups.

Operation 'Gryphon' is the similar response to issues of Anti-Social behaviour

Local Multi-Agency Problem Solving groups provide a multi-agency response across the neighbourhood policing areas of Sunderland to problem solve and deliver

¹ Independent Enquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham (1997-2013), Alexis JAY (2014)

http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/1407/independent_inquiry_cse_in_rotherham

² Ofsted (2014) Child Sexual Exploitation; It couldn't happen here, could it? Ref 140175, November 2014

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk>

³ Safeguarding Children and Young People from Exploitation: 2009: supplementary Guidance to Working Together to Safeguard Children

⁴ Northumbria Police 2014-2015

a coordinated approach to community safety issues including anti-social behaviour, offending and community harm..

Person at risk of exploitation are currently assessed under the multi-agency arrangements of Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board through the Missing & Sexually Exploited & Trafficked Operational Group

Whilst the experience of our agencies gives a picture of the abuse our children and young people are suffering, due to the hidden nature of this abuse and a limited capacity to profile concerns the picture of the true scale of abuse across Sunderland remains unclear

As a priority for the SSCB this strategy sets out a three year vision to:-

'Keep children safe from exploitation and the risk of exploitation'

The strategy will belong to the SSCB and supported by an annual delivery plan through the strategic partnership of the SSCB under dedicated Missing, Sexually Exploited & Trafficked (Strategic) Sub Committee.

DEFINITION OF CSE

The HM Government 'Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation' defines Child Sexual Exploitation as:-

Sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive 'something' (e.g. food, accommodation drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and/or another or others performing on them, sexual activities. Child sexual exploitation can occur through the use of technology without the child's immediate recognition; for example being persuaded to post sexual images on the internet/mobile phones without immediate payment or gain. In all cases, those exploiting the child/young person have power over them by virtue of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and/or economic or other resources. Violence, coercion and intimidation are common, involvement in exploitative relationships being characterized in the main by the child or young person's limited availability of choice resulting from their social/economic and/or emotional vulnerability.

The nationally agreed Association of Chief Police Officers definition of CSE is:

- *sexual exploitation of children and young people **under 18** involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where the young person (or third person/s) receive 'something' (eg, food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and/or others performing on them, sexual activities.*
- *child sexual exploitation can occur through the use of technology without the child's immediate recognition; for example being persuaded to post images on the internet/mobile phones without immediate payment or gain.*

Violence, coercion and intimidation are common. Involvement in exploitative relationships is characterised by the child's or young person's limited availability of choice, as a result of their social, economic or emotional vulnerability.

A common feature of CSE is that the child or young person does not recognise the coercive nature of the relationship and does not see themselves as a victim of exploitation.

The local experience is that in all cases of sexual exploitation on children/young persons or on adults the offender succeeded due to the existence of vulnerability on the part of the victim.

MODELS AND POSSIBLE INDICATORS OF CSE

Inappropriate Association

These usually involve one offender who has inappropriate power or control over a young person (physical, emotional or financial). One indicator may be a significant age gap. The young person may believe they are in a loving relationship

Boyfriend Model

Here the offender befriends and grooms a young person into a 'relationship' and then coerces or forces them to have sex with friends or associates. The boyfriend may be significantly older than the victim, but not always.

Peer on Peer Exploitation

This refers to situations where young people are forced or coerced into sexual activity by peers or associates. Sometimes this can be associated with gang activity but not always.

Gangs

A child or young person can be sexually exploited by a gang, but this is not necessarily the reason why gangs are formed. Types of exploitation may include using sex as a weapon between rival gangs, as a form of punishment to fellow gang members and/or a means of gaining status within the hierarchy of the gang.

Organised

Young people (often connected) are passed through networks, possibly over geographical distances, between towns and cities where they may be forced/coerced into sexual activity with multiple men. Often this occurs at 'parties' and young people who are involved may recruit others into the network. Some of this activity is described as serious organised crime and can involve the organised 'buying and selling' of young people by offenders. Organised exploitation varies from spontaneous networking between groups of offenders, to more serious organised crime where young people are effectively 'sold'.

Party ('Commodity' Model)

Our local picture features the existence of a separate model where children or young persons are taken to or attend parties where there is an abundant supply of alcohol and drugs and where they will be expected to engage in sexual activity with attendees. Victims may consume excessive quantities of substances as coping mechanisms to their immediate abuse.

Possible Indicators

Despite the increased profile of CSE and improvements in how agencies work together, CSE cases are still under-reported.

The Office of the Children's Commissioner conducted a two-year inquiry into child sexual exploitation in gangs and groups. Their 2013 report, If only someone had

listened,⁵ highlights that sexually exploited children are not always identified even when they show signs of being victims.

Numerous warning signs were identified in the Office of the Children's Commissioner 2012 interim report; I thought I was the only one. The only one in the world⁶, which can indicate that a young person is being forced or manipulated into sexual activity and is a victim of sexual exploitation.

Practitioners need to be aware of these warning signs and recognise that a victim does not have to exhibit all of the warning signs to be a victim of sexual exploitation. Concerns should be heightened if the number of warning signs increases.

Practitioners, and the public, need to understand the warning signs in order to identify the risk. This will help to profile local risk and identify children who are exhibiting the signs that they are already being sexually exploited. Appropriate assessment and action can then take place.

The key indicators that may suggest a child is being sexually exploited are included in the SSCB CSE screening tool and risk assessment tool and SSCB policies and procedures

<http://sunderlandscb.proceduresonline.com>

Whilst the assessment of risk is assisted by tools to present an analytical output such systems cannot rely on a numerical system without considering professional judgement⁷ and effective systems will combine both.

⁵ "If only someone had listened": Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups: Children's Commissioner 2013 - <http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/publications/if-only-someone-had-listened-inquiry-child-sexual-exploitation-gangs-and-groups>

⁶ "I Thought I was the one the only one in the world" Sue Berelowitz : Office of the Children's Commissioner 2012 - <http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/inquiry-child-sexual-exploitation-gangs-and-groups>

⁷ Independent enquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham 1997-2013: Alexis Jay (2014)

LEGISLATIVE & POLICY CONTEXT

In November 2011 the Government published its National Action Plan for tackling Child Sexual Exploitation in order to bring together the Government and a range of national partners to protect children. In particular it asked Local Safeguarding Children's boards to;

- Map the needs of their own area
- Monitor on-going prevalence and responses
- Develop an effective local strategy ensuring there is a coordinated multi-agency response.

The paper 'Out of Sight Out of Mind' by the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) in 2011, identified serious weaknesses in national and local arrangements and made recommendations to improve practice in safeguarding victims and improving criminal justice outcomes and in 'Threat Assessment of Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse', they have begun a three year strategy to assess where and how children are most at risk.

The Sexual Offences Act 2003 introduced a range of offences that recognised the grooming, coercion and control of children.

- arranging or facilitating a child sex offence (child under 16)
- meeting a child following sexual grooming (child under 16)
- paying for the sexual services of a child
- causing or inciting child prostitution or pornography
- controlling a child prostitute or a child involved in pornography
- arranging or facilitating child prostitution or pornography
- trafficking into, within or out of the UK for sexual exploitation

The Act included three broad categories of sexual offences against children

Children under the age of 13

Sexual activity with a child under the age of 13 is an offence regardless of consent or belief as to the child's age. Offences include: rape, assault by penetration, sexual assault, causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in Sexual activity

Children under the age of 16

Offences apply regardless of whether the child consented to the sexual activity but, unlike the offences relating to children under 13, an offence is not committed if the defendant reasonably believed that the victim was 16 years or over. Offences include; sexual activity with a child, causing or inciting a child to engage in sexual activity, engaging in sexual activity in the presence of a child, causing a child to

watch a sexual act, arranging or facilitating the commission of a child sex offence, meeting a child following sexual grooming.

Children under the age of 18

Some sexual offences in the Act apply to all children under the age of 18, including sexual offences where there is abuse of a position of trust and familial child sex offences.

This Act also provides for offences specifically to tackle the use of children in the sex industry, where a child is under 18. These offences are

- Paying for sexual services of a child
- Causing or inciting child prostitution or pornography
- Controlling a child prostitute or a child involved in pornography
- Arranging or facilitating child prostitution or pornography

Other Legislative Acts and Orders

The following Orders, Warnings and notices can be used to help disrupt the exploitation of children and young people.

- Risk of Sexual Harm Orders
- Sexual Offences Prevention Orders
- Foreign Travel Orders
- Police Information Orders
- Child Abduction Warning Notices
- Domestic Violence Prevention Orders

Other Civil Enforcement Acts

- Licensing regulation
- Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014
 - Civil Injunction
 - Criminal Behaviour Order
 - Community Protection Notice
 - Closure Powers

Information Sharing

'Fears about sharing information cannot be allowed to stand in the way of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children suspected of being at risk of abuse or neglect. No practitioner should assume that someone else will pass on information which may be critical to keeping a child safe'⁸

⁸ Information Sharing: Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers. HM Government, March 2015

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/419628/Information_sharing_advice_safeguarding_practitioners.pdf

Key organisations have a duty under section 11 of the Children Act 2004 to have arrangements in place to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and there are a number of similar duties which apply to other organisations such as section 175 of the Education Act 2002 and section 55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (section 115) gives a power to share information to prevent crime and disorder and can act as a significant gateway to support sharing of information to disrupt offenders.

Principles of information sharing should have regard that the most important consideration is whether sharing information is likely to safeguard and protect a child but have regard to what information is:-

- Necessary & Proportionate
- Relevant to the purpose
- Adequate quality
- Accurate and up to date
- Timely to reduce the risk of harm
- Securely shared
- Recorded decisions as to what and why shared

Policy Context

The broad indicators of CSE demonstrate the wider visible face of the impact and the overlap into other areas of risk. While the Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board is the lead partnership, the nature of CSE necessarily means that other partnerships will make a significant contribution to this strategy (Appendix A):-

- The Safer Sunderland Partnership will have a significant impact in prevention and disruption of offender behaviour. Indeed those regulatory and enforcement functions are vital in preventing and disrupting CSE and in building intelligence which can help with prosecutions⁹
- The Safeguarding Adults Board will support victims in their transition into adulthood
- The Health and Wellbeing Strategy will help to strengthen and rebuild family units

As mentioned CSE cannot be tackled in isolation but there is opportunity to strengthen the response not only in direct partnership but also in identifying the links to other strategic interventions particularly in response to Anti-Social Behaviour and the response to the abuse of alcohol and controlled substances.

⁹ Reflections on CSE: A report by Louise Casey (2015)

STRATEGIC INTENTION & PRINCIPLES

This plan aims to work with statutory agencies, non-statutory agencies and community groups across all the **partnerships** of Sunderland to **prevent** vulnerability leading to offender and victim profiles, **protect** vulnerable children and young persons from indicators of risk and actual harm, **pursue** those exploiting children and young persons to bring them to justice, disrupt their activity and **prepare** against the impact of CSE on victims, their families and communities.

This strategy is intended to support associated Cyber Crime and On-Line Exploitation Strategies which aims to protect and prevent victims of such Child Sexual Exploitation.

Our principles are that:-

- CSE is Child Abuse and will be assumed to be present across all the communities of Sunderland until it is proven to be otherwise
- No strategy can foresee the rapidly evolving understanding of CSE and our understanding is subject to continuous review and improvement
- Children cannot consent to their abuse nor mitigate the basis for any reduced response to such abuse
- CSE is the responsibility of us all and CSE cannot be tackled effectively by any single agency acting in isolation
- The response to CSE cannot rely on the voice of the victim
- The signs of CSE need to be understood and responded to in a structured and proportionate way
- Early intervention can only be achieved by responding to early signs of vulnerability even before any grooming or selection has occurred.
- Grooming is more than preparatory to the commission of abuse and itself has adverse impact on a victim
- All communities reject the sexual abuse of children
- CSE is not perpetrated on racial bias, however there is a disproportionate incident of offenders from some ethnic minority communities¹⁰
- CSE has a long lasting impact on victims and communities

Consent

The fact that a young person is 16 or 17 years old and has reached the legal age of consent should not be taken to mean that they are no longer at risk of sexual exploitation. These young people are defined as children under the Children Act 1989 and 2004, and can still suffer significant harm as a result of sexual exploitation. Their right to support and protection from harm should not, therefore, be ignored or downgraded by services because they are over the age of 16, or are no longer in mainstream education.

¹⁰ Report on the Inspection of Rotherham Borough Council: Louise Casey 2015. & Northumbria Police Operation 2014-2015

Male victims and the LGBTQ communities

Whilst our current picture is one of mainly female victims we do not underestimate the risk to others becoming victims of sexual exploitation by offenders and we recognize the existence of additional barriers to disclosing their experience because they may be coerced into engaging in sexual activity because of their lifestyle choices.

STRATEGIC AIMS

PARTNERSHIP

What we know

- CSE is a national priority subject
- Practitioners need a dedicated lead as a point of contact for CSE
- The indicators of CSE requires an informed workforce across the partnership
- Clear structures and pathways of reporting concerns and a confidence to share information
- The mobility of our children and young people requires partnership which transcends local boundaries
- The voice of the child and service users is paramount in delivering effective services
- Parent & Carers are pivotal to the early identification of risk
- The signs of CSE are subtle and inherently difficult to evidence due to the features of coercive control

What we will do:-

- Develop an informed and supported workforce and partnership
- Strengthen existing multi-agency structures and information sharing arrangements in order to better inform the picture of abuse and give opportunities for early intervention
- Support the development of a sub-regional response to CSE including the development of embedded partnerships
- Undertake continuous consultation and review of our approach and strategy with the children and young people we serve and learn from practitioner experience
- Raise awareness of CSE and offer support to parents carers and others having responsibility for the care of children
- Develop a coordinated picture of risk capable of identifying where services are required to identify and protect children and young people

PREVENT

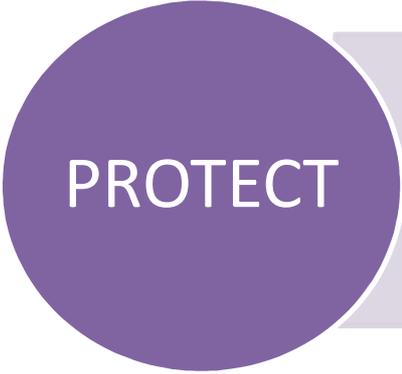
People from becoming Exploiters or vulnerable to influence to become an Exploiter

What we know

- Offenders are predominantly but not exclusively male
- There is a disproportionate number of offenders from sections of identified communities
- Children & Young People need information to inform correct decision making and maintain healthy relationships
- Persons convicted of sexual offences are recorded on the sex offenders register and monitored via existing Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)
- MAPPA also considers Potentially Dangerous Persons
- Victims of CSE can become perpetrators
- Boyfriend model has defined links to abusive relationships including domestic abuse within 16 and 17 year olds managed through the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)
- Offenders utilise the supply of illicit substances or the illicit supply of substances to groom victims
- Profiles of CSE have indicated hotels, licenced premises, food outlets and other geographic areas as vulnerable to CSE
- Organised Crime Groups may not be structured for the purpose of CSE but this may well be a secondary factor of their existence – Operation Magnet

What we will do

- Engage with our communities to raise the awareness of CSE, legislation and the issue of consent
- Review and develop the provision of resilience and healthy relationship training within education establishments to equip children and young persons with the ability to make informed decisions
- Develop the information and support given to parents and carers
- Strengthen our links to existing partnership arrangements to address risk and vulnerability eg MAPPA, MARAC & LMAPS & organised crime
- Develop strategies to identify address the factors contributing to the risk of CSE such as the illicit supply of alcohol, controlled substances and 'legal highs'
- Raise awareness and support campaigns to support the community to identify and strengthen vulnerable locations to reduce the potential for CSE occurring



PROTECT

vulnerable children from the risks of harm and exploitation harm and empower them to make informed & healthy lifestyle choices

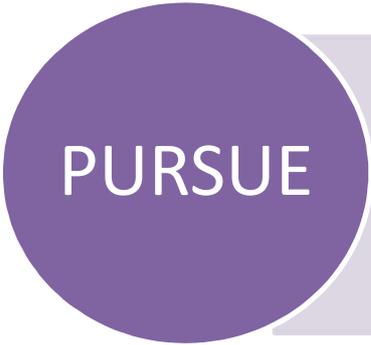
What we know

- Victims can be both female and male from any culture, family or age group
- A majority of victims are females between 13 and 17 years
- Certain behavioural traits indicate a vulnerability to be groomed/exploited
- Children who regularly go missing from home and or are in the child protection system are disproportionately at risk from exploitation
- The existence of internet grooming suggests that such victims may be difficult to identify
- The complexity of risk requires coordination and collation of information from the broadest range of agencies and other sources
- The impact of domestic abuse gives rise to broken families and increases the vulnerability faced by children and young persons
- Victims will not see themselves as being exploited moreover they may feel they are making their own lifestyle choices
- The associated factors may give rise to a lack of trust by victims to report abuse
- The risk factors of CSE can often be masked by incidents of Youth Anti-Social Behaviour, youth crime and youth drug and alcohol abuse
- Elevated risk requires a commensurate elevated response

What we will do:-

- Develop a risk identification, assessment and management process founded on professional judgement to identify and respond to risk at the earliest opportunity
- Develop a risk identification tool understood by the wider community to inform the identification and reporting of concern
- Strengthen the current multi-agency risk management framework to protect children and respond commensurate to the level of risk they face
- Capture and listen to the voice of those at risk particularly those who regularly go missing from home

- Strengthen and develop specialist roles and promote the support to frontline practice
- Review and develop resilience within schools for children living with the experience of domestic abuse under Operation Encompass
- Support parents and carers to build emotional resilience and decision making within the children and young people in their care
- Develop routes of anonymous and other safe reporting of concerns eg Crimestoppers
- Strengthen links to Local Multi-Agency Problem Solving groups



PURSUE

those exploiting or seeking to exploit vulnerable persons by disrupting their activity and prosecuting them through all judicial processes

What we know:-

- Victims are unlikely to disclose their abuse
- Offenders are normally associated with other criminality
- The threshold of criminal prosecution puts an onus on the prosecution to prove all matters beyond reasonable doubt and the timeline of cases going to court may delay the removal of an offenders liberty
- The network of abuse can often span a number of offenders linked to a number of offenders

What we will do:-

- Implement a victim focussed engagement strategy not reliant on the disclosure of the victim to commence prosecution
- Develop all tactical options to restrict and disrupt the liberty those seeking to harm or exploit children and young people
- Review responsibilities on the conduct of all licenced activity
- Review the current provision for the identification and response to complex abuse



PREPARE

To mitigate the impact of sexual exploitation on victims, families, carers and practitioners and communities

What we know:-

- CSE has a long lasting impact on victims transcending into adulthood
- The true picture of abuse remains unknown and cannot inform agencies or the public of the extent
- Public awareness campaigns need consistent messages and a structure of periodic re-enforcement
- Reassurance and the need for information is key in restoring community confidence

What we will do:-

- Strengthen transition arrangements for those victims attaining the age of 18 years
- Contribute to the development of a Problem Profile of CSE across Sunderland and the Northumbria Police area
- Review recent marketing and support the development effective campaigns
- Support the development of an effective communication strategy capable of reaching the communities we seek to serve

PERFORMANCE

What we know:-

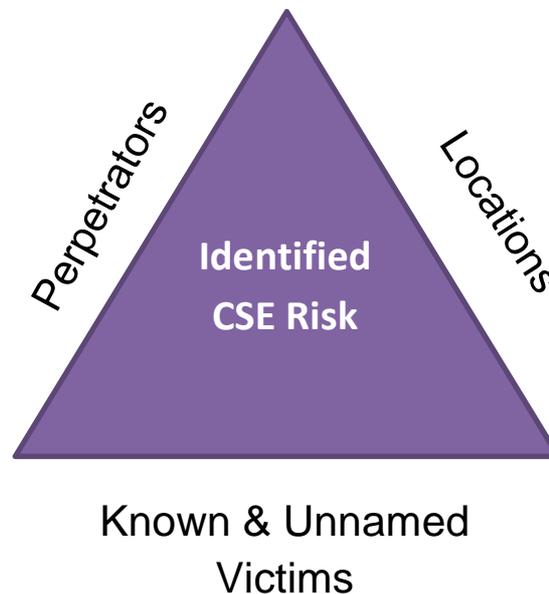
- The indicators of abuse cannot be considered in isolation and a range of indicators are required to inform the risk
- The implementation of the response to CSE needs to focus on clear priorities and accountability
- Performance against the strategic aims is key in assessing the effectiveness and outcomes of the model
- The response to CSE cannot succeed by any agency working in isolation

What we will do:-

- We will develop a dashboard of indicators such as numbers of children missing education, teenage pregnancy and sexual offences against children to inform trends and gaps in intelligence
- We will develop and monitor an annual delivery plan
- We will Develop a performance framework against the strategic aims of:-
 - Partnership
 - Prevent
 - Protect
 - Pursue
 - Prepare
- Challenge agency contribution through existing escalation routes

RESPONDING TO THE RISK

Tactical framework



It is clear that the complex issues faced by victims cannot be dealt with within a single dimension and robust holistic risk management plans need to reflect all avenues to Remove, Avoid or Reduce the prevailing factors.

All plans should reflect an assessment of and a plan to address the risks to and from:-

Known and unnamed victims to ensure:-

- Appropriate safeguarding arrangements are in place for known victims
- All opportunities are considered to support victims to disclose their abuse and their journey through the criminal justice process
- All appropriate actions are in place to identify unnamed victims

Perpetrators to ensure:-

- All offences of CSE and related criminality are fully investigated to bring offenders to justice
- All related relevant aspects of civil legislation is considered to restrict the liberty of offenders and their capacity to cause harm
- All actions are in place to identify unnamed offenders

Locations to ensure:-

- All practitioners are aware of the concerns within relevant areas
- Relevant legislation is considered to restrict the conduct on premises and the environment where harm is suspected

Child Protection Arrangements

Nothing in this document is intended to detract from current child protection arrangements, CSE interventions will support the Child Protection Process and will not substitute statutory child protection work.

Role of the CSE Coordinator (Children's Social Care)

The CSE Coordinator will:-

- Collate all risk indicator checklists completed in relation to the risks of CSE
- Assess consistency of application of the tool
- Compile cases for MSET Operational group
- Brief SMTs on progress of high risk cases
- Act as point of contact for advice and consultation
- Work in partnership with the MFH coordinator

Role of the Missing from Home Coordinator (Police)

The Missing from Home Coordinator will:-

- Collate and analyse all return home interviews
- Identify high risk cases of missing for consideration by the MSET operational group
- Undertake a problem solving approach to cases of highest risk
- Work in partnership with the CSE coordinator

Role of Missing Sexually Exploited & Trafficked Operational (MSET) Operational Group

The MSET Operational Group is a multi-agency group of managers and lead practitioners chaired by a Detective Inspector for Northumbria Police Protecting Vulnerable Persons Unit. It will:-

- Meet monthly to discuss children and young person at high risk of CSE
- Identify hotspot locations and persons presenting risk to CYP
- Develop actions and strategies and tactical plans to Remove, Avoid or Reduce the risk and safeguard children prosecute offenders or disrupt the risk
- Link to other models of risk management such as MAPPA & MARAC
- Report matters of strategic relevance to MSET Strategic group
- Briefing frontline services and senior management teams of matters of high risks

The role of the MSET Sub Committee

The MSET Sub Committee is a multi-agency Sub Committee of Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board consisting of managers and senior leads and is chaired by the Detective Chief Inspector of Northumbria Police Protecting Vulnerable Persons Unit. It will:-

- Receive reports from the MSET Operational Group
- Capture National and local learning eg legislation, SCRs
- Monitor performance

- Develop and monitor actions for improvement
- Report to The SSCB

APPENDIX A

POLICY CONTEXT

Safer Sunderland Partnership

The Safer Sunderland Strategy 2008-2023 list its vision for people:-

- Being and feeling safe & secure
- Being free from harm
- Creating a safe environment
- Being free from crime disorder and substance misuse
- Creating active citizens
- Creating a supportive family environment
- Creating cohesive communities
- Embedding a problem solving approach
 - Prevent crime, disorder and substance misuse from happening
 - Intervene early where people are at risk from these problems
 - Take swift enforcement action against those who break the law
 - Provide Support and rehabilitation to those who have been a victim and to those who need to break their cycle of offending and substance misuse
- Creating Effective Partnerships

Local Safeguarding Children Board

The Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2014-2017 (update 11/05/15) includes CSE within its Strategic Priority to address Risk Taking Behaviour and sets out methods to deliver the vision through enablers of:-

- Performance
 - Quality Assurance
 - Information Sharing
 - Learning & Development
- Prevention & Protection
 - Policies & Procedures
 - Workforce Development
- Participation
 - Communication Strategy
 - User Engagement
 - Voice of the Child
 - Partnerships

Safeguarding Adults Board

The Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board Delivery Plan 2015-2017 states:-

‘The members of the Board are committed to achieving ‘zero tolerance’ in terms of abuse of adults at risk, and to the operation of effective safeguarding processes that are underpinned by the following values:-

- Every individual has a right to be protected against harm and exploitation, and a right to dignity and respect
- It is everyone's responsibility to safeguard adults at risk within our society
- A 'whole family' approach to safeguarding that considers the needs, vulnerabilities and risks of each member of a family, and how these might affect the other members, and plans safeguarding actions accordingly which takes account of these inter-relationships. This will entail a close working relationship with the Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board, Health & Wellbeing Board and Safer Sunderland Partnership.

The Northumbria Crime and Policing Plan have relevant objectives of: Putting Victims First and Sexual and Domestic Abuse.

Health & Wellbeing Strategy

The current Sunderland strategy defines its Design Principles as:-

- Strengthening community assets
- Prevention
- Early intervention – actively seeking to identify and tackle issues before they get worse
- Equity – providing access to excellent services dependent on need and preferences, that are also based on evaluated models and quality standards
- Promoting independence and self-care – enabling individuals to make effective choices for themselves and their families
- Joint Working – shaping and managing cost effective interventions through integrated services
- Address the factors that have a wider impact on health – education, housing, employment, environment, and address these proportionately across the social gradient
- Lifecourse – ensuring appropriate action throughout an individual's life with a focus on early years and families

And works towards the strategic objectives:-

Promoting understanding between communities and organisations

- Increasing awareness of the services and support available to people in their community and assisting them to access these
- Services are responsive to community needs and assets, becoming co-produced where possible.

Ensuring that children and young people have the best start in life

- Encouraging parents and carers of children to access early years opportunities
- Supporting children and families throughout the whole of a child's journey, including the transition into adulthood.

Supporting and motivating everyone to take responsibility for their health and that of others

- Increasing emotional health and resilience of individuals, families and communities
- Frontline workers, volunteers and community leaders becoming aware of the main social determinants of health as well as the risks and opportunities and when and how services can be accessed
- Supporting people to make sustainable changes throughout their lives that will improve their health, utilising new technologies and methods of engagement with communities
- People (including young people) are aware of the importance of accessing long-acting health protecting interventions such as immunisation and screening and early presentation following the development of signs and symptoms of ill-health
- Making the healthy choice the easier choice.

Supporting everyone to contribute

- Understanding the health barriers to employment and training, and supporting people to overcome them
- Working together to get people fit for work
- Working with local businesses to ensure a healthy workforce
- Supporting those who don't work to contribute in other ways.

Supporting people with long-term conditions and their carers:

- Supporting self-management of long-term conditions
- Providing excellent integrated services to support those with long-term conditions and their carers
- Supporting a good death for everyone.

Supporting individuals and their families to recover from ill-health and crisis:

- Supporting individuals and families to have emotional resilience and control over their life
- Providing excellent integrated services to support people to recover from ill health and crisis
- Winning the trust of individuals and families who require support.