

Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Boards' Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy 2014

1) Definition of Child Sexual Exploitation

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child abuse.

Current statutory guidance 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 characterised in the main by the child or young person's limited availability of choice resulting from their social/economic and/or emotional vulnerability.

2) National and local context

Sexual exploitation of children is an area of national concern following a number of high profile prosecutions and serious case reviews, and publication of extensive research into the subject.

This strategy reflects guidance and recommendations from:

- United Nations convention on the rights of the child
- Sexual Offences Act 2003 amended 2013
- DCSF statutory guidance 2009
- DfE Tackling CSE Action plan 2011 & progress report 2012
- Working Together 2013
- Safeguarding children and young people who may have been trafficked 2012
- ACPO action plan 2012
- OCC report CSE in gangs 2013
- Safeguarding children in schools 2014

Locally there have been two high profile investigations and prosecutions associated with CSE (Retriever 2009-11 and Kern 2010-14) and an associated serious case review in Derby.

3) Our Vision

Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children's Boards seek to create an environment where child sexual exploitation is prevented, identified and challenged across the whole county and city area.

Our vision is to ensure that children, young people and families whose lives are affected by CSE will receive a high level of support as well as protection, and that perpetrators are held accountable for their actions, and where possible brought to justice.

4) Aim of the strategy

The two LSCBs and partner agencies will work together to reduce the level of, and harm from CSE equally through:

Prevention

Enhancing young people's awareness of CSE including on-line abuse

Supporting young people who may be vulnerable to CSE

Improving staff awareness and support to professionals across all agencies

Promoting corporate and community understanding of, and responsibility for CSE

Preventing opportunities for perpetrators, using shared intelligence and focusing on identified hot spots.

Protection

Ensuring young people who are at risk of, or are being, exploited:

- are identified as quickly as possible e.g. those who self-harm or go missing
- have their needs assessed and the level of risk established
- are protected through a multi-agency plan at an appropriate level
- are supported to work with others to reduce or remove risks

Making provision available for personal and/or therapeutic support for young people affected by CSE.

Prosecution

Maximising the detection and prosecution of perpetrators through:

- Identification of perpetrator behaviours and areas of risk
- Effective evidence gathering
- Successful prosecutions of perpetrators
- Support to victims and witnesses throughout and after conclusion of the criminal justice process.

Disrupting perpetrator behaviour, including use of ancillary orders, with identified individuals.

5) Partnership approach

To achieve these aims, agencies will need to work in partnership with:

- Young people to promote full participation and engagement
- Parents and carers to enable their effective contribution to the protection of young people

- Communities and corporate organisations to engage in detection and prevention
- Other agencies and the LSCB, by working with a central CSE co-ordinator (in Derby City) or through alternative child protection CSE arrangements (in Derbyshire County), and through a multi-agency operational/steering group to oversee the delivery of each action plan (City or County).

Partner agencies will ensure or provide:

- Identified operational leaders with responsibility for the delivery of the strategy within their agency
- Appropriate representation on the operational/steering group
- CSE champions or leads as agreed within each agency
- Appropriately trained staff
- Procedures consistent with LSCB procedures.

In addition, some agencies have specific responsibilities as follows:

- Police and CPS – Detection and prosecution of offenders
- Social Care – safeguarding and care arrangements as necessary for high level risk
- Schools – awareness raising and identification of risk
- YOS – engagement with young people who abuse others
- Health - support and guidance for young people at risk particularly sexual health care and support
- Specialist services may also be commissioned.

It is also important for agencies and the LSCBs to work in partnership regionally and nationally to share learning, and to ensure practice is in line with current research, including making opportunities to share good practice.

6) Cross-cutting approach

This strategy reflects the need for agencies and staff to recognise that young people at risk of CSE will also be affected by other issues. Relevant strategies include:

- Missing
- Suicide & self-harm
- Trafficking
- Sexual Violence
- Violent extremism
- Offending
- Homelessness
- Substance misuse
- Gangs

Young people will also have needs which extend beyond their 18th birthday and the strategy will link in with adult safeguarding.

In Derby City this cross-cutting approach will be co-ordinated and overseen by the Vulnerable Young People's sub-group of DSCB, to which the CSE operational group reports. In Derbyshire County the CSE steering group will oversee this approach.

Agencies also need to work across Local Authority and national borders as young people can be very mobile, or can be subject to trafficking.

6) Responses in Derby and Derbyshire

The CSE operational or steering group will be responsible for developing and implementing an action plan to deliver the above aims. Separate action plans will be agreed and implemented for City and County areas. Each partner agency will include relevant aspects of the strategy and action plan in their own service or business plans.

The LSCBs will maintain and review CSE procedures to be followed by all staff and will make these available on the web sites and through multi-agency training.

Where any issue is likely to attract media or public interest, agencies and the LSCB will need to work together to prepare any response.

7) Monitoring and reporting

The two LSCBs have a responsibility to monitor the incidence of CSE locally, including on-line abuse, and oversee agency responses. Agencies will need to supply performance and monitoring information as required to the CSE groups, for analysis and onward submission to the Boards. Single and joint agency audits relating to CSE will be undertaken and findings reported to each Board.

An annual report relating to CSE will be compiled for both City and County Boards, and partner agencies, which will be published on each LSCB website.

Version Control

<i>This joint strategy document replaces the previously published Derby City CSE Strategy, April 2011</i>				
Version	Author/s	Signed off by	Date	Review Date
1.	Multi Agency Task & Finish Group	Derby Safeguarding Children Board	August 2014	September 2016
		Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board	September 2014	