

Wirral Safeguarding Children Board Action Plan-sexual exploitation of children July 2012 – April 2013

1. Develop an infrastructure to support an effective response to child sexual exploitation				
Action	Who	What success looks like	When	Progress &RAG rating
1.1 WSCB to produce a written strategy to enable effective identification and action for all agencies on: CSE	CMc	The board has clear multi-agency response to prevention, identification and management of CSE which makes a real difference to children's safety	Jan 2013	
1.2 Establish an implementation group of WSCB to scope the extent of sexual exploitation and produce a co-ordinated operation response across agencies.	CMc	The group brings together all key agencies and organisations and, through focus, commitment and holding each other to account, ensures that the Board's strategy is implemented.	Sept onwards	Sub-group established work begun – schools and probation rep to be agreed
1.3 WSCB will identify and publish contact details for strategic lead for child sexual exploitation.	All Board members	The strategic lead is an easily identifiable point of contact who will enable effective communication between key partner agencies locally and between WSCB and other LSCBs	Dec 2012	
1.4 Partner agencies and organisations will identify lead professionals for child sexual exploitation: this information will be held by the Board and updated as required	WSCB members	Key agencies are represented consistently in the implementation group and there is evidence that required actions have been completed. The point of contact in each agency is available to partners through the WSCB.	July 2012	

<p>1.5 Ensure that current protocols are developed further and revised against national learning and connects with other local partnership boards such as CSP etc.</p>	<p>CSE sub-group</p>	<p>The Board's strategic plan is known to other relevant partnerships; there is mutual understanding of, and agreement to, complementary roles; efficiency is promoted and duplication is reduced.</p>	<p>March 2013</p>	<p>Communicate and agree with relevant Board chairs</p>
<p>1.6 Require relevant agencies to provide 'statements of intent' in respect of commissioning arrangements for the specialist services for CSE with sustainability and contingency plans.</p>	<p>WSCB required agencies</p>	<p>Board members have a clear understanding of the extent to which it can rely on a specialist, co-ordinated team to implement key elements of its strategy in respect of child sexual exploitation. In the event that uncertainty remains, Board members understand the nature of the risks to the viability of the team and how these risks will be managed.</p>	<p>March 2013</p>	<p>Strategy to include statement of intent and signed off by March 2013</p>
<p>1.7 Develop and implement a media strategy</p>	<p>Executive</p>	<p>There is a coordinated response to public concerns about child sexual exploitation, providing clear information to Borough residents and others while, at the same time, reducing undue fears about the safety of local children.</p>	<p>Jan 2013</p>	<p>Facilitate meeting of agency media leads to develop joint strategy AB/PH to look at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working via Barnardos publicity officer (with Wirral & Merseyside Police publicity teams) re a campaign plan/proposal • AB to look at Barnardos MFH/CSE materials to assist with this

				<p>campaign via NW Publicity Officer, Caroline Foran</p> <p>PH to look at the SF team meeting with a group of C&YP re what they would prefer to see from such a campaign (through one of the services links in place to date; i.e. Wirral Met)</p>
--	--	--	--	--

2. Identify and engage with children and young people who are experiencing or at risk of sexual exploitation

<p>2.1 Review the current procedure for sexual exploitation and runaways specifically:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Looked after children placed by other authorities in Wirral Children who run away/missing from home Children missing from education Looked after children who go missing Looked after children known to be abusing alcohol or drugs Looked after children who are placed out of area. 	CSE sub-group	<p>There is a robust process in place which ensures that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> consideration is given to the circumstances of individual vulnerable children there are regular analyses of the outcomes of these considerations which contribute to a continuous review of incidence of child sexual exploitation in Wirral 	August 2012	<p>Risk Management and other processes already developed should co-ordinate with other processes. Elements of data are provided and used.</p>
<p>2.2 Ensure that children identified as vulnerable to child sexual exploitation are ‘screened’ for risk using consistent screening tool</p>	CSE sub-group	<p>There is evidence that the risk assessment screening tool is being applied consistently through audit.</p>	March 2013	<p>Risk assessment tool to be reviewed to compare Bedfordshire University model. Audit of effectiveness to be undertaken</p>

<p>2.3 Develop a robust process for identifying and coordinating information about developing networks and ‘hotspot’ locations.</p>	<p>Police missing from home/care officer with CSE sub-group</p>	<p>There is evidence that investigations of offences and the identification of potential victims are based on up-to-date information about links between victims, perpetrators and locations</p>	<p>January 2012</p>	<p>Information is being shared and hotspots identified.</p> <p>AB/PH to look at present Risk Tool being developed for the MFH notifications and consider this against the government recommended Bedfordshire University CSE Risk Assessment model (Mike Towell to take lead)</p> <p>PH to look at integrating the recommended Bedfordshire tool in Wirral SF assessment of CSE cases</p> <p>Wirral SF to obtain Bedfordshire Tool asap in order to become familiar with it</p>
<p>2.4 Work with neighbouring LSCBs to develop common processes for information transfer, risk assessment and data monitoring to assist both communication and working together across local authority areas.</p>	<p>Regional independent chairs group</p>	<p>Understanding of the incidence of child sexual exploitation extends beyond the local authority area; there is evidence of appropriate data exchange between WSCB partner agencies and those of neighbouring LSCBs; and, there is evidence of joint working across local authority and police areas.</p>	<p>March 2013</p>	<p style="background-color: red; color: black;">[Redacted]</p>

<p>2.5 Develop working practices which are child-centred from the point of identification.</p>	<p>LSCB member agencies</p>	<p>There is evidence that children and young people are provided with emotional support from the first point of contact; that they have had the time and space to express their feelings; and that they are able to work with professionals</p>	<p>March 2013</p>	<p>Multi-agency audit to be completed</p>
<p>3. Provide integrated services for children and young people experiencing or at risk of sexual exploitation</p>				
<p>3.1 WSCB will continue to revise policies and procedures in respect of child sexual exploitation</p>	<p>WSLB Manager</p>	<p>Practitioners and managers have access to specific information about referral pathways, strategy meetings, case planning, and risk management, in respect of child sexual exploitation.</p>	<p>ongoing</p>	<p>Referral pathways are clear and consistent with National guidance.</p>
<p>3.2 WSCB will publish a ‘good practice guide’ for practitioners and managers which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. increases understanding of the problem and recognition of risk factors; b. focuses on preventing problems developing; and, c. emphasises the importance of a child-centred approach and ‘what works’. 		<p>Practitioners and managers have access to evidence-based practice guidance to inform their work with children, young people and families affected by child sexual exploitation.</p>	<p>March 2013</p>	<p>Current research/ literature review/ national guidance to inform – especially what works PH to look at proving initially resources for the group on ‘risk guide/checklist’ professionals, parents/carers & C&YP’</p> <p>PH to look at a resource pack/booklet on risks of CSE (based on a brief intervention model) for C&YP- initial draft for next sub group on 10th Jan (PH to look at meeting with a group of C&YP re what they find</p>

				helpful; i.e. what works & does not work)
3.3 WSCB will measure the impact of its policies and procedures and good practice guidance.	Performance sub-committee reporting to the Board	There is evidence that practitioners and managers are following consistent referral processes; making arrangements for joint strategy meetings where appropriate; developing and implementing holistic plans to safeguard children and young people and to promote their welfare; and, have drawn up a risk management plan.	March 2013	
3.4 For those children requiring specialist services there is direct evidence from them that the service is responding to their individual needs	CSE Sub-group	There is evidence that the needs of children requiring a specialist service are being met and that the risk of harm is diminished.	April 2013	Information to be presented by report annually
4. Decrease the incidence of child sexual exploitation				
4.1 Identify key professionals in relevant agencies and organisations and ensure that they receive training in recognition of child sexual exploitation and how to respond to it.	Training LSCB officer and LSCB manager	There is wider understanding in the professional community of the nature of child sexual exploitation, how to recognise the signs that a child is being exploited and what to do next.	December 2012 onwards	In addition to our SLA commitments re training via the LSCB training team re multi agency training annually on CSE, MFH & HSB. The service has set up ½ day training on MFH/CSE for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private residential providers in Jan • Response/Youth Workers/Health Workers in schools in Feb

				In addition, AB is looking at further ½ training with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster Carers (AB awaiting response from Simon Garner) Front line police officers (AB meeting Helen Mc to plan)
4.2 Identify relevant community groups and business forums and provide ‘awareness-raising’ activities in respect of child sexual exploitation.	LSCB manager	There is an increased awareness among the community of issues relating to child sexual exploitation.	April 2013	
4.3 Provide ‘awareness-raising’ sessions for all high school children and develop electronic resource for future use.	Public Health through staying safe	All school pupils in Wirral have been provided with information about child sexual exploitation and what they should do if they are worried for themselves or others	Ongoing	Linked to actions in 1.7 (see above)
4.4 Develop and deliver a public awareness campaign	LSCB Manager	All citizens, including children, of Wirral are aware of how to get help and refer children at risk of CSE.	January 2013	Linked to actions in 1.7 (see above)
4.5 WSCB will continue to receive performance information on the numbers of CSE and will include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> school attendance in key year groups; the numbers and types of contacts and referrals to children’s social care for children and young people in the relevant age group; 	LSCB Manager and QA Officer	The Board and partner agencies are able to evaluate success of the child sexual exploitation strategy and to revise plans according to changing circumstances.	Partial information held the remainder May 2013	PH/AB to ensure Wirral SF quarterly reports reflect the data set outlined in 4.5 of the action plan (PH to ensure this included in next report in Jan 13)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. the numbers of children ‘missing’, from home, care and education; d. information provided by placing authorities about looked after children in Wirral; e. numbers of children considered to be at risk of, or victims of, sexual exploitation; and f. numbers of children known to have been diverted from/ protected from sexual exploitation g. the numbers of complaints made to the police by victims; h. the numbers of cases sent forward to the CPS; i. the number of prosecutions brought; j. the numbers of convictions achieved; k. the number and types of ‘non-criminal’ actions taken to disrupt sexual exploitation activity; 				
---	--	--	--	--

5. Support prosecution of offenders

5.1 Merseyside Police should ensure that all staff are	Merseyside Police lead	There is a significant correlation between the		Merseyside Police are seeking to ensure that the
--	------------------------	--	--	--

aware of the appropriate and legally compliant evidence gaining requirements and that, when arrests have been made, there are appropriate bail conditions in place to protect victim/s.		numbers of complaints made to Police and the number of cases sent forward to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS).		5 LSCB's Action Plans are synergised and contain a list of tactical options in place
5.2 Criminal justice organisations locally should work together to ensure that support is provided for sexually exploited young people throughout the whole process of reporting the crime, making statement, the pre-trial preparation, going to court and after the trial.	Merseyside Police and CPS	Young people are enabled to participate as fully as possible in achieving justice for crimes committed against them and, as a result, there is a significant correlation between the numbers of complaints made and the number of convictions achieved		Merseyside Police are seeking to ensure that the 5 LSCB's Action Plans are synergised and contain a list of tactical options in place
5.3 Provide CPS briefings to key professionals in respect of evidence gathering.		There is a significant correlation between the numbers of cases received by the CPS and the number of cases going forward to trial.		Merseyside Police are seeking to ensure that the 5 LSCB's Action Plans are synergised and contain a list of tactical options in place

6. Disrupt activity related to child sexual exploitation

6.1 Identify, develop and implement a range of disruption activities from early preventative measures to more intrusive interventions, targeting locations and offenders.	Merseyside Police lead	Strategy meetings and risk management plans provide evidence of multi-agency disruption activity to reduce risks to individual young people. There is evidence that prevalence of child sexual exploitation is reduced, including reports provided by young people themselves.		Merseyside Police are seeking to ensure that the 5 LSCB's Action Plans are synergised and contain a list of tactical options in place
--	-------------------------------	---	--	---