

**NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Scrutiny Panel 1 – Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**

Your attendance is requested at a meeting to be held in The Jeffery Room,  
The Guildhall, St. Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE on  
Thursday, 5 January 2017 commencing at 6:00pm

**D Kennedy**  
**Chief Executive**

If you need any advice or information regarding this agenda please phone Tracy Tiff, Scrutiny Officer, direct dial 01604 837408 email [ttiff@northampton.gov.uk](mailto:ttiff@northampton.gov.uk) who will be able to assist with your enquiry. For further information regarding **Scrutiny Panel 1 - Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)** please visit the website [www.northampton.gov.uk/scrutiny](http://www.northampton.gov.uk/scrutiny)

**Members of the Panel**

Chair	Councillor Dennis Meredith
Deputy Chair	Councillor James Hill
Panel Members	Councillor Rufia Ashraf Councillor Muna Cali Councillor Janice Duffy Councillor Cathrine Russell Councillor Brian W Sargeant Councillor Zoe Smith Councillor Danielle Stone Councillor Graham Walker

**Calendar of meetings**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Room</b>
16 March 2017 6:00 pm	All meetings to be held in the Jeffery Room at the Guildhall unless otherwise stated

# Northampton Borough Scrutiny Panel 1 - Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

## Agenda

Item No and Time	Title	Pages	Action required
1. 6:00pm	Apologies		The Chair to note apologies for absence.
	Deputations and Public Addresses		<p>The Chair to note public address requests.</p> <p>The public can speak on any agenda item for a maximum of three minutes per speaker per item. You are not required to register your intention to speak in advance but should arrive at the meeting a few minutes early, complete a <a href="#">Public Address Protocol</a> and notify the Scrutiny Officer of your intention to speak.</p>
3.	Declarations of Interest (Including Whipping)		Members to state any interests.
4.	Minutes	1 - 4	Members to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2016.
5.	Witness Evidence		The Scrutiny Panel to receive a response to its core questions from key expert advisors.
5 (a) 6:00pm	Director, Children's Services, NCC		
5 (b) 6:20pm	E Safety Officer, Northamptonshire County Council	5 - 6	
5 (c) 6:40pm	Chair, Northants Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust		
5 (d) 7:10pm	Chief Officer, Northamptonshire VOICE		
5 (e) 7:30pm	Chief Officer, Lowdown Centre		
5 (f) 7:50pm	Manager, Free To Talk		
5 (g) 8:10pm	Manager, Service Six		
5 (h) 8:30pm	Chief Officer, Northants Rape and Crisis Centre		
6. 8:50pm	Site Visits		The Chair to report back the findings from the Scrutiny Panel's site visits.

## NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF SCRUTINY PANEL 1 - CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (CSE)

Thursday, 10 November 2016

**COUNCILLORS PRESENT:** Councillor Dennis Meredith (Chair); Councillor James Hill (Deputy Chair); Councillors Rufia Ashraf, Muna Cali, Janice Duffy, Cathrine Russell, Brian Sargeant, Zoe Smith, Danielle Stone and Graham Walker

**WITNESSES** Iain Low, Strategic Manager, Safeguarding and Children's Services Northamptonshire County Council (agenda item 5b)  
Debbie Ferguson, Community Safety Manager, and Ruth Austen, Environmental Health and Licensing Manager, NBC, (agenda item 5f)

**OFFICERS**  
Phil Harris, Head of Housing and Wellbeing  
Tracy Tiff, Scrutiny Officer

#### 1. APOLOGIES

There were none.

#### 2. DEPUTATIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESSES

There were none.

#### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING)

There were none.

#### 4. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2016 were signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

#### 5. WITNESS EVIDENCE

##### (A) CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES, NCC

The Scrutiny Panel received a written report and further details from the Director of Children's Services, Northamptonshire County Council.

The Scrutiny Panel watched the trailer to the short video that will be shown in schools.

AGREED: (1) That the Chair asks the Director of Children's Services, Northamptonshire County Council, to attend the next meeting of the Scrutiny Panel to provide details on the written response and presentation.

## **(B) CHAIR, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARD**

The Scrutiny Panel received two written reports from the Chair, Northamptonshire Safeguarding Board. Iain Low, Strategic Manager, Safeguarding and Children's Services, Northamptonshire County Council, highlighted the salient points contained within the reports.

The Scrutiny Panel made comment, asked questions and heard:

- Iain Low confirmed that he could provide details of the problem profile to a future meeting this document will not be for public view only for elected members.
- All young people, who are open to the multi-disciplinary specialist RISE service have an allocated social worker.
- In response to a query regarding where parents can obtain advice, Iain Low advised that although there is currently no plans for recruiting a 'Parents Worker'; to engage with parents. The RISE practitioners engage with a young person's families and parents can be signposted to a range of resources on the web.
- In answer to a comment about the night time economy, Iain Low informed that the CSE and Missing Sub Group are working with District and Borough Councils and focusing on the Night Time economy – night clubs, taxis, take ways for example.
- The Scrutiny Panel heard that the Police, on behalf of the NSCB, lead on communications and the recent *"Say Something if you See Something"* campaign has been successful - detailed feedback is being gathered.
- A huge amount of work takes place in schools including engagement from NCC's E Safety Officer. Television programmes often relay stories about issues such as CSE which is useful in getting messages out to children and young people.
- The Scrutiny Panel highlighted the need to promote on-line and telephone services available for young people. A potential recommendation of the final report was suggested "the services and information portals where young people can receive information and support is publicised. The production of an "App." was suggested.
- A lot of young people see Child line useful as a help line in respect of bullying issues. Regarding CSE, young people will often prefer to talk to their friends.
- Iain Low referred to Oxfordshire's initiative "hotel watch" whereby an adult and child try to book a room. If successful, officers will then approach the hotel and work with them to ensure they recognise and understand the risks of CSE. Phil Harris confirmed that Officers from NBC have held discussions with Northants Police regarding how such initiatives could be supported in Northampton.
- The Scrutiny Panel was referred to the RISE report and Iain Low confirmed that in September 2016 there was 198 episodes of children missing or absent.
- It was suggested that the Chair and Deputy Chair would meet with Officers to look over the RISE report in more detail.

The Chair thanked Iain Low for his informative address.

AGREED: That the information provided informs the evidence base of this Scrutiny Review.

**(C) CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SERVICES ,NCC**

Consideration of this agenda item was taken at 5(d).

**(D) DIRECTOR, EDUCATION SERVICES, NCC**

The Scrutiny Panel received a written report from the Director, Education Services, Northamptonshire County Council.

AGREED: That the information provided informs the evidence base of this Scrutiny Review.

**(E) CHILDREN'S RIGHTS OFFICER, CHILDREN'S RIGHTS GROUP**

A written response was not received, however, a comprehensive report was provided at agenda 5(b).

**(F) LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY, DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMERS AND COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND LICENSING MANAGER, NBC**

The Scrutiny Panel asked questions, made comment and heard:

- The Chair commented on the need to keep a “watching eye” on known hotspots in the town.
- The Scrutiny Panel heard that when the “Rotherham report” had been published, NBC was very proactive in picking up on its responsibilities and actions. A Multi Agency conference had been held. NBC works in partnership with all the relevant Agencies. Frontline Officers have received the relevant awareness training. Training has also being rolled out to Taxi and Private Hire drivers. Such training is now part of the induction process for all new Hackney and Private Hire taxi drivers.
- CSE is a key priority for the Community Safety Partnership under the vulnerability agenda.
- CSE information and flyers have been distributed to all Taxi Operators for distribution to divers and for placing in staff rooms.
- Training has been provided to CCTV operatives and this is assisting in identifying and reporting suspicious and inappropriate behaviour.
- NPH frontline staff have received CSE awareness training.
- Exploitation and vulnerability in take away outlets is investigated. Mechanisms are in place for referrals to the relevant Agencies.
- Test purchases for cigarettes and alcohol takes place. Intelligence from Officers is also received.
- On-line safety is the biggest concern. A lot of work is taking place in schools. It is important to get the messages across to parents and restrictions put on young people’s ICT devices. Grooming via social media is now more common place and is causing the most concern.
- The Chair commented that from the evidence received so far, it was evident of the huge amount of work already done by Officers.

It was suggested that the E-Safety Officer is asked to attend the next meeting and provide an update of the work he does.

A discussion was held regarding licensed premises. Sharing intelligence is key.

AGREED: That the information provided informs the evidence base of this Scrutiny Review.

## **6. BACKGROUND DATA**

The briefing papers were noted.

AGREED: That the information provided informs the evidence base of this Scrutiny Review.

The meeting concluded at 7:45 pm



## **NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **SCRUTINY PANEL 1 – CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

**5 JANUARY 2017**

#### **BRIEFING NOTE: E SAFETY OFFICER, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (NCC)**

#### **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 At its meeting held in November 2016, the Scrutiny Panel felt that it would be useful for the E-Safety Officer to attend this meeting to provide an update of his work.

#### **2 INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The E Safety Officer has been employed by the Council for the past 2 years and travels the county and country at times educating schools and organisations on ways to keep safe online. Roughly 80% of his work goes into schools educating young people, teachers and parents on ways to keep young people safe online.
- 2.2 One of the key areas of concern is engaging parents around online safety, often parents don't see the internet as a risk for grooming. The common naivety is sex offenders hang out at parks and are men in their 60's. Sadly research is telling us that it takes 20 minutes to groom a young person online and 1 in 2 children aged 5 – 11 in every classroom in Northamptonshire would go and meet someone they met on the internet. Another concern is a lack of awareness among people in general around online safety and emphasising to people to have a positive, healthy digital footprint. By working closely with Northamptonshire Police it not only enables the E Safety Officer to increase his knowledge around threats to young people and adults online but also the E Safety Officer can give practitioners localised fears around online safety. The main areas the E Safety Officer tends to focus on when delivering a session are online grooming (warning signs) platforms where this can happen, online gaming, keeping safe on social media, sexting but mainly educating young people and adults to use technology safely. The E Safety Officer always preaches "technology is not the problem. It's how we use it".
- 2.3 The PCC in March 2015 did a huge piece of consultation work involving nearly 14,000 young people in Northamptonshire really looking at their online behaviour some of the stats the E Safety Officer often quotes are frightening. Such as 88% of young people in Northamptonshire don't feel

at risk online and 77% of young people don't have any boundaries on the internet at home. We now have a generation of young people that know, no different than technology. The internet for young people and adults can create loneliness and isolation, is having a huge impact on mental health especially social media now having links to anxiety and depression. The average teenage girl in this country spends 1 hour 24 minutes perfecting the perfect selfie. Stats are great but they don't challenge the way young people and adults behave online. The E Safety Officer feels his job is to support and educate practitioners to keep young people and adults safe online, highlight the issue in this county and provide practical, accessible solutions.



## NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

### OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY



## SCRUTINY PANEL 1 – CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

### CORE QUESTIONS – EXPERT ADVISORS

The Scrutiny Panel is currently undertaking a review that is investigating Northampton Borough Council (NBC) plays an active role in tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

#### Key Lines of Enquiry

- To gain an understanding of the work currently being undertaken by partnerships, statutory and voluntary organisations, and the Police to address these issues
- To investigate how NBC contributes to the above work
- To raise awareness of CSE, human trafficking and domestic slavery of children in Northampton
- To explore best practice elsewhere in identifying and providing support to victims of CSE
- To understand what NBC is doing outside the Scrutiny process in relation to human trafficking and domestic slavery of children

The expected outcomes of this Scrutiny Review are:

- To make evidence based recommendations to improve the role that NBC has in tackling CSE
- To make recommendations, as appropriate, regarding partnership working in tackling CSE

## CORE QUESTIONS:

A series of key questions have been put together to inform the evidence base of the Scrutiny Panel:

1. Please provide details of the work currently being undertaken by your organisation to address child sexual exploitation (CSE)

Voice is the Victim and Witness Service for Northamptonshire. It aims to deliver the PCC's Police and Crime Plan objectives for victims and witnesses:-

- Supporting Victims and Witnesses
- Swift and Sure Justice

The Voice family of services works closely with statutory agencies to offer advocacy and guidance to victims of CSE as appropriate. Voice works closely with statutory services to ensure children and young people are safeguarded against CSE.

Voice Children and Young People's Service offers advocacy to all children and young people who are victims or witnesses seeking support for all crime by supporting access to commissioned and third sector support and by delivering emotional and practical support. Victims of CSE are not currently in scope of Voice CYP services as specialist support is managed by the RISE Team and through statutory safeguarding pathways in the county.

The OPCC also commissions the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) with NHS England which support children and young people and adults who have been raped, sexually assaulted or abused. Two Child's Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (CHISVA) and two adult Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA) offer support to victims who self-refer and report to the Police.

The OPCC will be recommissioning Victim and Witness Service in the county in 2017 and will include new services to help prevent CSE with partner's agencies within the county.

2. Is there a clear and robust multi-Agency strategy for information sharing, preventing and managing CSE?

Yes the Voice Services work closely within safeguarding policy and are colocated with other agencies to promote collaboration and information sharing.

3. What other multi-Agency forums exist to facilitate joint working?

N/A

4. What is the extent and profile of CSE in Northampton? How do we know this?  
As the OPCC representative I sit on the County Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy Group (VAWG) and the CSE sub group tasked with overseeing and understanding our responses to CSE in Northamptonshire.

As a Victim and Witness Service receiving referrals directly from the Police, other agencies and the public we currently collate information on those who present to the service and therefore gain an understanding of the level demand and need from this data. National data is also used to inform our delivery of services.

5. How effective has NBC, its partners and the Police, been in engaging with the local community and other organisations in raising awareness of CSE?

High profile campaign for CSE in the county in the last year lead by the Police on behalf of working group.

The OPCC have led two consultations on online safety and teen relationships which have drawn a number of recommendations to improve the way services are delivered in the county.

6. How can awareness be raised further of CSE, human trafficking and domestic slavery of children in Northampton?

Bottom up engagement with communities and with agency touch points is the most effective way of continuing to spread our messages regarding CSE. This can include initiatives such as those currently targeting taxis drivers and hotel staff.

7. How is CSE incorporated into local training programmes, and who is able to access this training?

All staff in commissioned service receive training on CSE and take part in delivering training out in the community on healthy relationships.

8. What support is available to current, potential and historic victims of CSE?

All victim and witnesses can contact Voice or the SARC for support regardless of status of the offence.

9. Do you have further information regarding the role of NBC in tackling CSE?

I was only made aware of this scrutiny panel on the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017. The information supplied is a snap shot of the service provided by the OPCC for Victims and Witnesses. As a member of the countywide strategic board for VAWG

and the CSE sub group more involvement from NBC on drawing attention to this scrutiny review would have been helpful.



A series of key questions have been put together to inform the evidence base of the Scrutiny Panel:

1. Please provide details of the work currently being undertaken by your organisation to address child sexual exploitation (CSE)

Child sexual exploitation is currently being addressed through needs analysis of our members' individual needs and informal education for wider groups. We have not received any formal referrals for support in this area however have provided group informal education.

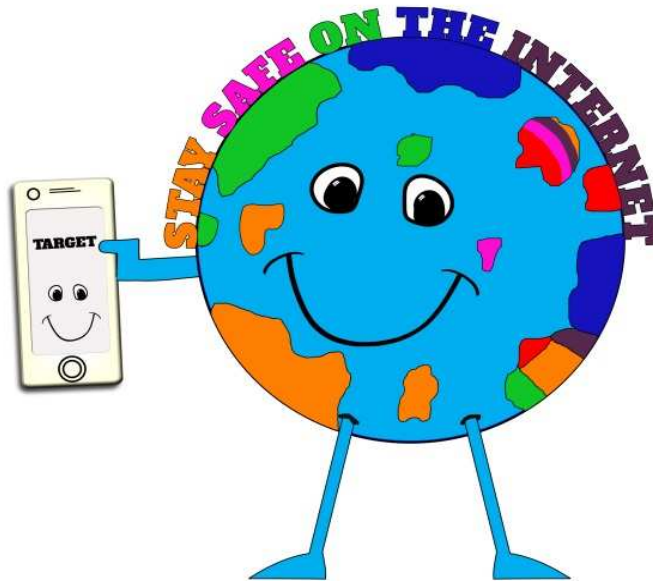
It falls under our safeguarding procedures:

- Individual concern by lead Youth Worker
  - Case / Circumstance discussion with designated officer
  - Action plan to address agree
  - Communication and support to parents where appropriate
  - Referrals to partner agencies where appropriate.
2. Is there a clear and robust multi-Agency strategy for information sharing, preventing and managing CSE?
    - We practice in accordance to the LSCBN strategy:  
<http://www.northamptonshirescb.org.uk/tackling-child-sexual-exploitation-cse-/>
    - Our designated safeguarding officer is CEOP trained.
  3. What other multi-Agency forums exist to facilitate joint working?
    - Early Intervention and SSNP Queensway & Hemmingwell, Wellingborough
    - Diversion Group – Blackthorn Northampton
  4. What is the extent and profile of CSE in Northampton? How do we know this?
    - Our professional view is that victims are vulnerable and it can be prevented through protective behaviours; education and resilience building. There is a community development angle in addressing poverty and symptoms of poverty which is not being provided in the county. Reducing services for young people may mean that we have no access to some vulnerable young people; particularly post 16.
    - Unable to comment on extent
  5. How effective has NBC, its partners and the Police, been in engaging with the local community and other organisations in raising awareness of CSE?
    - Unable to comment

6. How can awareness be raised further of CSE, human trafficking and domestic slavery of children in Northampton?
  - Increase in funding and resources for practitioners working with children and young people.
  - Increase support and intervention for young women.
7. How is CSE incorporated into local training programmes, and who is able to access this training?
  - We use the LSCBN training as it is free and accessible for our team. The only constraint is in our resource to pay people to attend training. Many of our team are part time and unable to attend Monday – Friday training; however online materials support their learning.
8. What support is available to current, potential and historic victims of CSE?
  - We provide individual support for young people 12-18 years if they self-refer to us or Social Care have previously spot purchased support.
9. Do you have further information regarding the role of NBC in tackling CSE?
  - NBC have provided small grant funding to our organisation for this work through Northamptonshire Community Foundation; this has been useful to provide responsive small scale projects in accordance with arising needs.

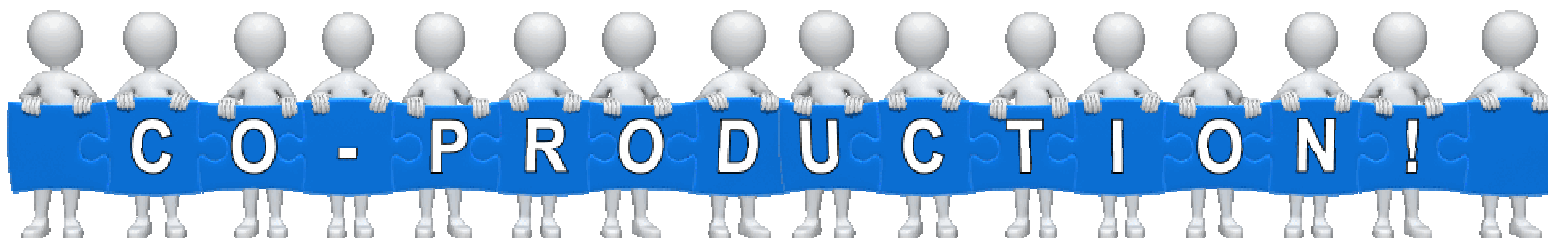
# TARGET

**Targeting and Reducing Grooming Exploitation & Trading  
Of Children and Young People Online**



# TARGET Motivations

- 26% increase in young people within Northamptonshire presenting with support needs regarding Online Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (OSEA)
- Local gap in bespoke interventions and services
- Wider gap in knowledge, understanding, data and responsive interventions to OSEA across the UK
- Complete gap in youth-led responses to OSEA
- Young people's identified needs, interests, energy and commitment to co-produce TARGET





# TARGET Activities

- Semi- structured questionnaires with 175 young people
- Semi- structured questionnaires with 618 disadvantaged young people
- Semi-structured interviews with 15 disadvantaged young people who are survivors of OSEA
- Support Work with Young People in Immediate Need
- 176 Logo Competition entries
- 32 Logo Competition Panel
- 48 TARGET Partners
- 1001 youth co-producers

TARGET Logo Winner,  
September 2016  
Tiarna Moran (10yrs)



# TARGET Outcomes

- Increase online protective behaviours
- Improve wellbeing
- Increase transferable life skills
- Increase Accredited Youth Volunteering

## *Concurrent Themes Identified*

*Loneliness*

*Addiction*

*Impaired Cognitive Development*

*Education Disruption*

*Apathy*

*Physical Impairment*

# TARGET Findings

**618 disadvantaged young people aged 5-18 years**

**51%** regularly contacted online by strangers

**36%** received indecent sexual media including child

**26%** sent indecent sexual media

**19%** asked to meet strangers

**8%** met strangers

**0.5%** reported to an adult

*Research between October 2015 to August 2016*



# TARGET Findings

**Comparatively disadvantaged young people are**

**8% more likely to receive indecent sexual media**

**6% more likely to send indecent sexual media**

**23% more likely to send indecent sexual media willingly**

**21% less likely to report to an adult**



# Voice of Local Children

## Services

- An online safety app with info and help
- A talk by someone my own age about being safer online
- A helpline to talk about online issues or problems

## Influence

- Better safety info on the sites / apps that I use
- An easier way to report if I don't feel safe on the sites / apps that I use
- A presentation by the Police on how to avoid getting into trouble online



# OSEA Challenge

**CSE is one of the 3 existing national priorities**

(NCA - National Strategic Tasking and Coordination Group)

**Main serious and organised threat to the UK &**

**Major intelligence gap**

(2015-16 National Crime Agency Control Strategy)

(2015-16 National Crime Agency Annual Report)

*'Developing understanding of CSE offending activity online'*

**Greatest risk to children of this  
and future generations**

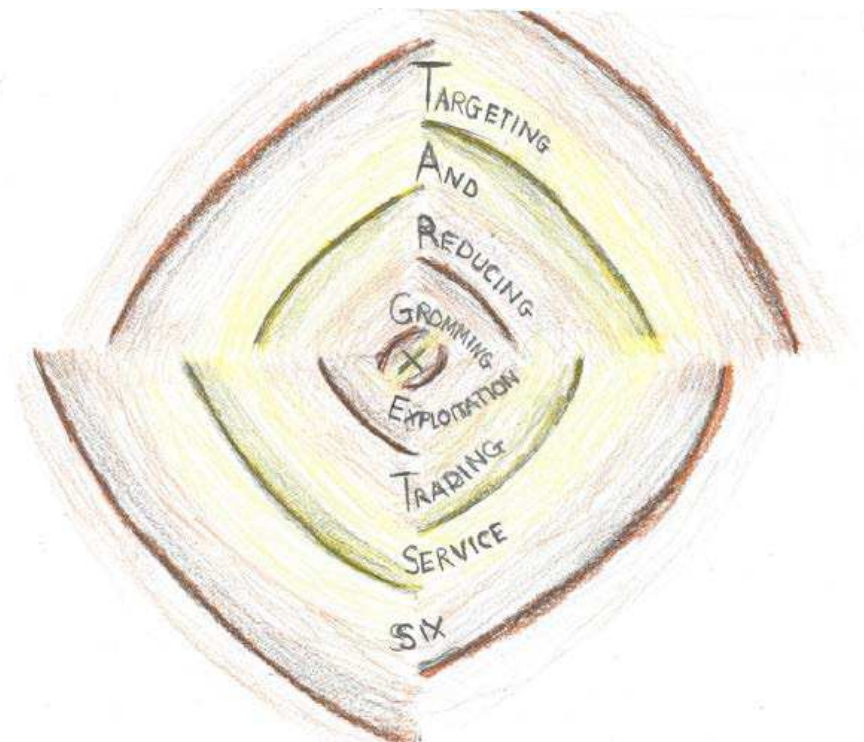
# TARGET Focus & Needs

## Focus

- Youth led
- Needs led
- Co-produced
- Disadvantaged young people
- Agile Methodology
- Theory of Change

## Needs

- Partnership
- Quick Wins
- Creative Solutions
- Funding

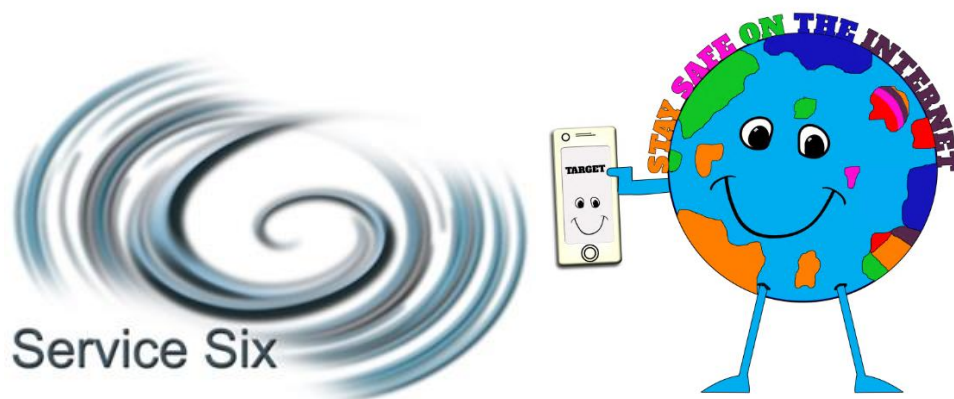




## How Can You Help?

**How can we best combine our energy and resources to reduce disadvantaged children's online trauma?**





## TARGET

Targeting and Reducing Grooming, Exploitation & Trading

*Of Children and Young People Online*

### Facts

2012-2016: 26% increase at S6 in cases involving Online Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (OSEA)

The extent, context and impact of OSEA are unknown representing a major intelligence gap

Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse is the first and highest threat listed on the National Crime Agency National Control Strategy for 2015-16

### Key Findings @ August 18<sup>th</sup> 2016

Since October 2015, Service Six's TARGET project has engaged 1001 young people, 826 of whom were disadvantaged. All resided in Northamptonshire or Leicestershire and were aged between 5 -25 years, with most between 9 -17 years. 793 young people responded to semi-structured questionnaires and they told us;

- **51%** are regularly contacted online by strangers:
- **36%** have received pornography including child:
- **26%** have sent pornography:
- **19%** have been asked to meet stranger/s:
- **8%** have met strangers:
- **0.5%** reported to an adult.

Furthermore disadvantaged young people are;

- **8%** more likely to receive sexually explicit images or video
- **6%** more likely to send out sexually explicit images or video
- **23%** more likely to send out sexually explicit material willingly
- **21%** less likely to report unwanted stranger contact and or receipt of sexually explicit material to an adult

The questionnaire findings were affirmed within 15 follow-up case study semi-structured interviews.

#### **TARGET: Aims**

It is increasingly apparent that disadvantaged young people's online activity represents;

- Significantly high risks:
- Substantial negative impacts:
- Absent or inadequate online protective behaviours:
- Absent or inadequate safeguarding.

We are working with disadvantaged young people within Northamptonshire and Leicestershire who have experienced online sexual abuse and exploitation (OSEA). They are helping us to;

- Understand their experiences and share this knowledge:
- Develop the project:
- Undertake further research:
- Implement responsive services and resources:
- Find meaningful and sustainable solutions:
- Improve online safety for children and young people.

The initial research has highlighted various con-current themes which need exploring further including;

- **Addiction** to mobile phone use in particular (1000+ average communications per day):
- **Physical Impairment** due to repetitive strain injury and potential reversal of cervical lordosis:
- **Apathy** to pornography and online criminal activity:
- **Mental Health** based on significant indicators of profound loneliness:
- **Disruption to Education** due to constant mobile phone use during lessons:
- **Disruption to Cognitive Development** and associated long-term negative impact:
- **Absence of Parental Monitoring** and associated risk:
- **Inadequate Internet Security** at schools and homes.

## **TARGET Partnerships & Collaboration**

48 partners have already signed up to support TARGET's ambitions to develop a youth-led model to challenge OSEA and implement meaningful and sustainable solutions.

Current partners include;

- De Montfort University (Dr Lee Hadlington PhD FHEA CPsychol AFBPsS)
- East Midlands Special Operations Unit – Regional Cyber Crime Unit (DS Carole Walton)
- RISE CSE team Protecting Vulnerable Persons Department. Northamptonshire Police (DCI Richard Thompkins)
- Serenity - Sexual Assault Referral Centre Northampton (Kate Woodfield)
- NHS Nene & Corby Clinical Commissioning Groups (David Lloyd Hearn)
- Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs (Richard Buckingham)
- Women's Aid Northampton (Ann Bodsworth)
- Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire (Matthew Toresen)
- The Falcon Centre (Marie Davis)
- Eclectic
- Positive Pathway Alliance:
  - The Faraway Children's Charity
  - East Northants Faith Group
  - Action for Aspergers
  - The Mallows Company
  - Scott Bader Ltd
  - Richmond Villages Ltd
  - Asda Community Life
  - Weatherby's
  - Places for People
- The Maud Elkington Charitable Trust
- Northamptonshire Health Foundation Trust (Sharon Robson)
- Ilife Children & Young People Services
- The Education Fellowship (Kate French):
  - Blackthorn Academy
  - Clarendon Academy
  - Desborough College
  - Olympic Academy
  - Pembroke Park Academy
  - Risdene Academy
  - Rushden Academy
  - Ruskin Academy
  - Thorpelands Academy
  - Warwick Academy
  - Windmill Academy
  - Wrenn Academy
- Northampton Academy

- Weston Favell Academy
- Sir Christopher Hatton Academy
- Gateway Academy
- Streetvibe – Braunstone Grove Youth Centre
- Birstall Fire Cadets
- Action for Children (Laurie Long)
- Bottesford Youth Group
- Army Cadets Force - Leicestershire
- Northamptonshire County Council (Rachel Sanson)
- Leicestershire County Council (Brian Bodsworth)
- Burton Latimer Mayor, Mr Nigel Padget

**Help us to help challenge online sexual exploitation and abuse and sign up to TARGET**

**Email us to confirm your support for TARGET @ [janedeamer@serviceisx.co.uk](mailto:janedeamer@serviceisx.co.uk)**

'The protection of children is a priority and as the EMSOU Cyber Protect Coordinator I am extremely pleased to be supporting and working on the TARGET project with Service Six. Understanding the true extent of the problem will then ensure effective prevention and protection of children and young people online (and off).'

*Detective Sergeant Carole Walton, Cyber Protect Coordinator, EMSOU Regional Cyber Crime Unit, April 2016.*



## **NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **SCRUTINY PANEL 1 - CSE**

**5 JANUARY 2017**

#### **BRIEFING NOTE: REPORT BACK FROM VARIOUS SITE VISITS**

##### **1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 At its inaugural meeting, Scrutiny Panel 3 (Homelessness) agreed that it would undertake a variety of a site visits to inform its evidence base.

1.2 Site visits were scheduled :

- Two representatives of the Panel to observe a meeting of MASH
- Two representatives of the Panel to visit the RISE Team
- Representatives of the Scrutiny Panel to visit a variety of temporary accommodation around the borough

##### **2 MEETING OF MASH**

2.1 Councillors Dennis Meredith and Rufia Ashraf visited the MASH Team on 14 September 2016. They were given a guided tour. There are over 100 employees, including Call Centre staff, Social Workers, Police Officers and Liaison Officers.

2.2 Some departments, such as the Police Officers, deal directly with cases coming in from:

- CAN
- Schools
- Social Services
- General public

2.3 Should an individual have concerns that they may commit a crime, such as child abuse, they can contact MASH for help. MASH monitors such situations.

2.4 There are rigorous systems in place to protect children.

2.5 The Chair has requested the following information

- Details of the number of calls received per year
- Details of funding for MASH

As soon as the details have been provided, the Chair will advise the Panel.

### **3.1 MEETING OF THE RISE TEAM**

3.1 Councillor Rufia Ashraf observed a meeting of RISE on 20 September 2016. Information providing the visits will be provided to the Panel at the meeting on 5 January.

## **5 CONCLUSIONS**

5.1 The main conclusions from the site visits:

5.1.1 There are rigorous systems in place to protect children.

5.1.2 The site visit to MASH was extremely useful in informing the evidence base of this Scrutiny Review; however, the Chair was concerned by the number of reports of abuse. The MASH also deals with reports of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM); which is illegal in the UK. MASH monitors the situation and Officers, such as trained Social Workers, investigate.

## **6 RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 That the findings from the various site visits informs the evidence base of the Scrutiny Review – Homelessness.

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3 - Homelessness