

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

ACTION PLAN: SCRUTINY PANEL - Child Sexual Exploitation

Recommendations from Scrutiny Panel (Child Sexual Exploitation) completed in April 2017

Proposed dates for monitoring implementation of accepted recommendations

Report received by Cabinet	Response received by Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Monitoring activity	Monitoring complete
June 2017	October 2018	July 2020	

RECOMMENDATION 1: Northampton Borough Council establishes its own CSE Officer Group (to direct and co-ordinate all of the action the Council takes to detect, prevent and reduce child sexual exploitation).

Action	Implementation/ responsibility by:	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a CSE Officer Group 	Head of Housing and Wellbeing	To be achieved within existing resources.	October 2018	<p>COMPLETED - CSE Officer Group (comprising representatives from Private Sector Housing, Homelessness, Community Safety, Taxi Licensing, Neighbourhood Wardens, Environmental Protection, CCTV and Northampton Partnership Homes) has been established.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement a comprehensive action plan for tackling CSE in the borough 	Head of Housing and Wellbeing and CSE Officer Group	To be achieved within existing resources	August 2020 until March 2021	<p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED – At its meeting in August 2020, the CSE Officer Group will approve an Action Plan which includes the tasks and issues that have not already been completed or addressed and need to be by ‘vesting day’ on 31 March 2021. The absence of this Action Plan has not prevented the various council services (housing, community safety, CCTV, taxi licensing, food safety, NPH, etc) from continuing to tackle CSE in the course of their day-to-day work and their partnership working with other services and organisations.</p>

RECOMMENDATION 2: Northampton Borough Council and Northampton Partnership Homes undertake a systematic review of all public spaces within their control to ensure that those spaces are made as safe as possible.

Action	Implementation/ responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NBC and NPH to review and risk assess all public spaces within their control 	Head of Housing and Wellbeing	To be achieved within existing resources	December 2019	COMPLETED – Working closely with Northampton’s Community Safety Partnership, the RISE Team, the Council and NPH, Northamptonshire Police have developed an intelligence-led, risk-based approach to the monitoring of public spaces. This ensures that resources are used flexibly and effectively to detect and prevent CSE in the borough.

RECOMMENDATION 3: Officers of Northampton Borough Council meet with the Service Manager of the RISE Team on a quarterly basis to plan a programme of joint operations in Northampton in order to detect, prevent and raise awareness of CSE.

Action	Implementation/ responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly meetings take place between NBC Officers and the Service Manager of the RISE Team 	Head of Housing and Wellbeing Community Safety & Engagement Manager Environmental Health & Licensing Manager	To be achieved within existing resources	Ongoing	COMPLETED – NBC Officers have continued to meet with members of the RISE Team (to plan joint operations and share information) as and when required. Although regular quarterly meetings have not been deemed necessary, a joint meeting is due to take place in September 2020 to discuss the frequency of meetings in the light of RISE’s management changes.

RECOMMENDATION 4: Officers of Northampton Borough Council work with Northamptonshire County Council's E-Safety Officer and the RISE Team to explore ways in which the Borough Council's website can be used to promote safe internet use by children and young people, and to publicise the services and information portals where young people can receive information and support.

Action	Implementation/ responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NBC Officers to meet with NCC's E-Safety Officer and the RISE Team • Explore ways in which NBC's website can promote safe internet use, etc 	<p>Head of Housing and Wellbeing NBC Web Developer</p> <p>Head of Housing and Wellbeing NBC Web Developer</p>	<p>To be achieved within existing resources</p> <p>To be achieved within existing resources</p>	<p>August 2020</p> <p>September 2020</p>	<p>This workstream was originally deferred until NBC completed the development and implementation of its website. A meeting (originally scheduled for April 2020 but delayed due to COVID-19) will now take place in August 2020.</p> <p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED – Although the intention is for NBC's website to replicate much of the e-safety advice and information that is currently available on NCC's website, discussions are taking place with Future Northants to ensure that it is also available on the West Northants Council's website from 'vesting day'.</p> <p>E-safety training will be included in the Members' 'Spotting the signs' training (on Safeguarding & CSE) that is being provided in September 2020.</p>

RECOMMENDATION 5: Northampton Borough Council recommends to Northamptonshire County Council's Director of Children's Services that healthy relationships and sex education are included within the school curriculum.

Action	Implementation/ responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendation that healthy relationships and sex education are included within school curriculum 	Head of Housing and Wellbeing	To be achieved within existing resources	September 2018	COMPLETED.

RECOMMENDATION 6: All Members of Northampton Borough Council are issued with a copy of the LGA toolkit, "Tackling CSE – A resource pack for Councillors" and the NSPCC's "Solution Focused Practice Toolkit – Helping Professionals use the approach when dealing with children and young people".

Action	Implementation/ responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copy of the LGA Toolkit and NSPCC Toolkit to be issues to all Members 	Head of Housing and Wellbeing CSE Officer Group	To be achieved within existing resources	August 2020	Copies of these documents will be sent to all Members in August 2020, along with details of September's ' Spotting the signs ' training (on Safeguarding and CSE) which is being provided for Members in September 2020.

RECOMMENDATION 7: All Members of Northampton Borough Council should take positive steps (as Ward Councillors and School Governors) to persuade the all the borough's secondary and academies to show the short video, "Kayleigh's Love Story" to their students.

Action	Implementation/ responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Members should be provided with details of the video and encouraged secondary schools and academies to show it to their students 	Head of Housing and Wellbeing CSE Officer Group	To be achieved within existing resources	August 2020	Details of the film will be sent to all Members in August 2020, along with the LGA and NSPCC toolkits (see Recommendation 6) and details of September's ' Spotting the signs ' training (on Safeguarding and CSE) which is being provided for Members in September 2020.

RECOMMENDATION 8: All Officers and Members of Northampton Borough Council receive training on how to recognise the signs of CSE and how they should report it.

Action	Implementation/ responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training and refresher training will be provided for all Officers and Members 	Head of Housing and Wellbeing	To be achieved within existing resources	Ongoing	Online and face-to-face training is being developed as part of a wider programme of safeguarding training that will support the implementation of the Council's Safeguarding Policy for Children and Vulnerable Adults.

				<p>In September 2020, a series of 'Spotting the signs' training sessions (on Safeguarding and CSE) will be provided for Members and Officers.</p> <p>Full details of the free online training that is available (on Safeguarding, CSE and E-Safety) will be available to Members and Officers.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION 9: The Chief Executive of Northampton Partnership Homes is asked to ensure that all of its Officers and relevant Board Members receive training on how to recognise the signs of CSE and how they should report it.</p>				
Action	Implementation/ responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPH to confirm that all of its Officers and relevant Board Members receive training on how to recognise the signs of CSE and how they should report it 	Head of Housing and Wellbeing	To be achieved within existing resources	October 2018	COMPLETED – NPH has confirmed that all of its Officers receive training on safeguarding, which includes recognising the signs of CSE and how they should report it. Board Members have not received any CSE training.

RECOMMENDATION 10: Relevant Officers and Members of Northampton Borough Council undertake online training for practitioners on national best practice.

Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine the most appropriate way for Officers and Members to access, and learn from, national best practice • Identify the relevant Officers and Members • Organise the online training 	CSE Officer Group	To be achieved within existing resources	October 2020	<p>A programme of online training for Members and Officers is being developed as part of a wider programme of safeguarding training that will support the implementation of the Council's Safeguarding Policy for Children and Vulnerable Adults.</p> <p>Details of the online training will be shared with the relevant Members and Officers after the 'Spotting the signs' training (on Safeguarding and CSE) has taken place in September 2020.</p>

RECOMMENDATION 11: Northampton Borough Council actively encourages and hosts a series of briefings and training sessions for community groups in the borough (including community centres and youth groups), in order to raise awareness of how to recognise the signs of CSE and how to report it.

Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with the local community centres and youth groups • Arrange briefings and training if there is a demand 	<p>Head of Housing and Wellbeing</p> <p>Community Safety and Engagement Manager</p>	To be achieved within existing resources	March 2020	COMPLETED – A significant amount of work has been undertaken by the Council's Community Safety Engagement Team and its partners to raise awareness (in schools and youth groups) on how to recognise the signs of CSE and how to report it.