

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Inquiry Report

Progress on Implementation of Recommendations 12 months on





Select Committee Inquiry Report Completion Date: 3rd November 2015

Date of this update: 6th December 2016

Lead Officer responsible for this response: Carol Douch

Cabinet Member that has signed-off this update: Lin Hazel and Zahir Mohammed

RAG Status Guidance (For the Select Committee's Assessment)

	<i>Recommendation implemented to the satisfaction of the committee.</i>		<i>Committee have concerns the recommendation may not be fully delivered to its satisfaction</i>
	<i>Recommendation on track to be completed to the satisfaction of the committee.</i>		<i>Committee consider the recommendation to have not been delivered/implemented</i>

Accepted Recommendations	Original Response and Actions	Progress Update	Committee Assessment of Progress (RAG Status)
<p>Recommendation 1: The Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) should increase the amount of the BSCB Chairman's time that is purchased from the partnership's budget.</p>	<p>Prior to the completion of this enquiry the Chief Executive of the County Council had agreed to increase this capacity from 30 to 40 days per annum.</p>	<p>This has been completed.</p>	

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<p>Recommendation 2: Buckinghamshire County Council should ensure that contract managers are monitoring the compliance of providers with safeguarding requirements, including ensuring that the Council's wider commissioned workforce undertakes child sexual exploitation training.</p>	<p>All commissioners are ensuring that contracts at the point of renewal include CSE. Training for the wider commissioned workforce is highly recommended at all contract monitoring meetings, commissioners will continue to highlight training opportunities, monitor and challenge take up.</p>	<p>We continue to support commissioners in challenging compliance with the safeguarding requirements including specific training around CSE. We are just in process in reviewing the safeguarding audit tool that is used across all contracts and monitored on a monthly basis with action plans as required where necessary. This will also include a clear monitoring process on serious incidents and highlight reports to Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) as required.</p> <p>Through the CSE subgroup of BSCB there has been a focus on raising awareness in secondary schools with children and young people and their parents/carers through a series of evening sessions.</p> <p>Work with the District councils has instigated CSE awareness regarding taxi services. In addition the awareness of the night time economy has been progressed through a series of discussions with hotels/other businesses. The effectiveness of this strategy has been tested by a "mystery shopper approach".</p>	
<p>Recommendation 3: Buckinghamshire County Council should commission the Buckinghamshire Learning Trust to develop a toolkit for use in primary schools to help schools foster resilience in their pupils.</p>	<p>We continue to work closely with BLT, especially on a range of suitable toolkits and opportunities for schools to feel confident about fostering resilience, this includes PSHE training. This work will be monitored and updates on the various types of support (including toolkits) will be reported on.</p>	<p>There is now a toolkit in place which has been widely used in primary schools- Pants Rule. The toolkit has been promoted through the DSOs through mandatory training with Education Safeguarding Advisory Service.</p> <p>The multi- agency partnership workshop scheduled for September took place and was very well attended by a wide variety of stakeholders.</p> <p>Carol Douch and Heads of Services have been to primary liaison groups, PEB and BASH to reinforce safeguarding responsibilities.</p>	

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<p>Recommendation 4: Thames Valley Police should roll out the Hotel Watch scheme across Buckinghamshire.</p>	<p>The remaining two Local Police Areas (LPA) in Buckinghamshire, Aylesbury and Chiltern & South Bucks, have agreed to roll out the model, which originated in the Wycombe LPA.</p>	<p>There is a full report regarding this which has been commissioned through Barnardo's. This is not yet a public document. The outcomes of this were discussed at BSCB.</p>	
<p>Recommendation 5: The Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board should actively monitor that the thresholds document is being applied consistently and accurately by all partners.</p>	<p>Publishing a thresholds document and actively monitoring knowledge and application of this is a core part of the BSCB's business. We have an extensive programme of work in place to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embed thresholds across partners through communication, awareness raising and training. This is a tailored approach that recognises that staff need different levels of knowledge and expertise dependent upon their professional role and the amount of contact they have with vulnerable children and 	<p>A recent survey has been undertaken through the BSCB development days which demonstrated a high knowledge and understanding and use of the Threshold document. A short version of the survey was run using voting buttons at the 3 half day safeguarding conferences in September. The results from 193 respondents were really positive and show a huge improvement on knowledge 18 months ago. The results were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4% were unaware of the Thresholds document (compared to 40% in spring 2015) • 95% knew where to access the Thresholds document • 90% said the Thresholds document was prominently displayed in their organisation • 80% said they regularly or sometimes used the Thresholds document as part of their day to day work, compared to 61% in spring 2015 • 83% said they found the Thresholds document helpful to inform decisions regarding children • 87% said they knew the level(s) at which their service / organisation was providing support 	

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	<p>young people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor understanding, confidence and application of thresholds using a variety of methods including questionnaires, audits and data analysis. This will continue to be a key part of the Board's work moving forward. 	<p>The recent external monitoring visit by OFSTED in August 2016 confirmed that the threshold criteria and its application were managed well at the front door of Children's social care. The OFSTED monitoring visit confirmed that Thresholds in First Response and Swan are effective and there is evidence of staff using the threshold document to inform decision making.</p>	
<p>Recommendation 6: Buckinghamshire County Council should ensure that all sexual health providers within Buckinghamshire attend the Sexual Exploitation Risk Assessment Conference and facilitate the sharing of information between sexual health providers.</p>	<p>Sexual Exploitation Risk Assessment Conference (SERAC) continues to be seen as a vital meeting for agencies to share information about potential or recognized risk to a child who has been or could become subject to sexual exploitation. We continue to have good representation and this will remain closely monitored.</p>	<p>Through the CSE sub group, the Terms of Reference and governance of SERAC has been recently reviewed. The meetings are well attended and co-chaired between Buckinghamshire County Council and Thames Valley Police and effective planning is undertaken .</p>	

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<p>Recommendation 7: Buckinghamshire County Council should ensure that the names of looked after children within Buckinghamshire at highest risk of child sexual exploitation are shared with sexual health providers on a quarterly basis.</p>	<p>It would not be appropriate to share the details of all LAC children as the majority that have come into care are not at risk due to CSE and this would be a breach of confidentiality. However it is essential that children those who are higher risk of CSE have appropriate information shared. The LAC nurse identifies the necessary information and resources.</p>	<p>There is now a permanent member of staff in the Swan Unit who is able to access the gateway to all health services and can ensure effective communication between health providers, BCC TVP and other providers.</p> <p>Following the pilot of reviewing all missing children, an innovation bid has been submitted to Spring Consortium which if successful will be used to form a specialist missing children's team.</p>	
<p>Recommendation 8: Buckinghamshire County Council should ensure that the effectiveness of First Response is kept under regular review, including the staffing arrangements following the introduction of the new Contact and Referral Officer post to ensure accurate</p>	<p>Performance of First Response and effective triage at the front door is monitored regularly and reported through the Improvement Board and Safeguarding Board. This continues to remain a focal point.</p>	<p>The monitoring visit from OFSTED in August reviewed effectiveness of First Response and MASH. The outcome was that the front door was effectively managing referrals into social care with the appropriate application of the threshold criteria and targeted strategy meetings for children at risk.</p> <p>Within Buckinghamshire County Council there are regular audits of the work being undertaken in First Response and MASH. For example on 7th November a multi- agency audit was completed by senior managers regarding referrals in MASH and the follow through of these referrals that were made on that day.</p>	

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and timely triage at the social care 'front door'.			
<p>Recommendation 10: Buckinghamshire County Council should ensure that all County Councillors undertake training on spotting child sexual exploitation.</p>	<p>Agreed. This was agreed by full Council in November 2015 and fully supported by Cabinet. Understanding not only CSE but all aspects of a child's journey through social care and important matters should be a priority for partners (both internal and external) as this enhances the challenge and improvement to the service. Children's Services will work with HQ Member services to ensure training sessions are held for Members in early 2016 and thereafter at least annually. This will be included as an action within the revised Children's Improvement Plan and the strand of work on supporting Members.</p>	<p>A presentation regarding Cyber bullying and E Safety which was first shared at the BSCB Multi Agency workshop in September 2016 was the main item at the October 2016 Member briefing. The work shadowing visits are continuing to be arranged for members. The lead cabinet member for Children's Social Care attended the NCAS conference in Manchester in November along with senior colleagues from Children's Services. This conference provides updates regarding social care and provides many opportunities for participants to network and share best practice.</p>	