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MEETING: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
(CHILDREN'S SERVICES)

DATE: Tuesday, 31 March 2015

TIME: 6.30 p.m.

VENUE: Town Hall, Bootle

Member

Councillor Brennan (Chair)
Councillor Bradshaw (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Ball
Councillor Hands
Councillor Keith
Councillor Murphy
Councillor McKinley
Councillor Preece
Councillor Thompson
Councillor Webster
Mrs Sandra Cain
Canon Roger Driver
Fr. D. Seddon
Mr David McCaughrean
Mrs Carol-Anna Ryan-Palmer
Ms Libby Kitt
Ms Jenny Southern

Substitute

Councillor Veidman
Councillor O'Brien
Councillor Hartill
Councillor Booth
Councillor M. Fearn
Councillor Page
Councillor Byrom
Councillor Jo Barton
-
Councillor Carr

COMMITTEE OFFICER: Mike Morris Senior Democratic Services Officer
Telephone: 0151 934 2045
Fax: 0151 934 2034
E-mail: mike.morris@sefton.gov.uk

If you have any special needs that may require arrangements to facilitate your attendance at this meeting, please contact the Committee Officer named above, who will endeavour to assist.

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A G E N D A

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest**

Members are requested to give notice of any disclosable pecuniary interest, which is not already included in their Register of Members' Interests and the nature of that interest, relating to any item on the agenda in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct, before leaving the meeting room during the discussion on that particular item.
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 5 - 10)

Minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2015.
4. **Education Strategy and Education Partnership Board**

Presentation by the Director of Young People and Families.
5. **Child Sexual Exploitation** (Pages 11 - 50)

Report of the Director of Young People and Families.
6. **Troubled Families Programme** (Pages 51 - 58)

Report of the Director of Young People and Families.
7. **Ofsted Inspection - Early Years Provision and Day Nursery Provision** (Pages 59 - 68)

Report of the Director of Young People and Families.
8. **Cabinet Member Report** (Pages 69 - 74)

Report of the Director of Corporate Services.
9. **Work Programme - Key Decision Forward Plan** (Pages 75 - 88)

Report of the Director of Corporate Services.

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THIS SET OF MINUTES IS NOT SUBJECT TO "CALL IN".

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (CHILDREN'S SERVICES)

Overview
& Scrutiny

MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, BOOTLE
ON TUESDAY 27TH JANUARY, 2015



PRESENT: Councillor Brennan (in the Chair)
Councillor Bradshaw (Vice-Chair)
Councillors Ball, Keith, Murphy, McKinley, Preece,
Thompson and Webster.
Canon Roger Driver
Mrs Carol-Anna Ryan-Palmer, Parent Governor
Representative.

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs. S. Cain, Advisory Member
Ms. Libby Kitt, Healthwatch Representative
Ms. Jenny Southern, Healthwatch Representative

19. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Hands, Mr. D. McCaughrean and Fr. D. Seddon.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Member	Minute No.	Reason	Action
Councillor Preece	22– Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2014/15	Other Interest - Involved with Southport F.C which provides a community programme in partnership with the Board	Stayed in the room and took part in the consideration of the item
Councillor Preece	25 – Cabinet Member Report	Other Interest - Former Student of King George Vth College and involved with Southport F.C., which is a community partner with the College	Stayed in the room and took part in the consideration of the item

21. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2014 be confirmed as a correct record.

22. CORPORATE PARENTING REPORT - ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15

Further to Minute No. 8 of 23 September 2014, the Committee considered the report of the Director of Corporate Services in relation to the Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2014/15.

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Members of the Committee commented on various aspects of the Annual Report, including the current status of the Knowsley Road Children's Home, Southport; the breadth of traineeships offered to young people; the scrutiny of care services for looked-after children; and changes to the requirement to conduct Regulation 33 visits. The Director of Young People and Families, Mr. Colin Pettigrew, responded to comments made.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

23. SCHOOL ORGANISATION AND SCHOOL PLACES

Further to Minute No. 17 of 24 September 2013, the Committee considered the report of the Director of Young People and Families setting out the latest information on school organisation and school places, following the publication of the school Organisation Data Book 2014/15 to 2018/19.

The report indicated that Sefton had some excellent schools and an above- average number of good and outstanding schools. The Council wished to have a proactive role in ensuring that this continued and that schools in Sefton were helping all children and young people in Sefton to fulfil their potential. However, managing pupil places was a complex matter and the report highlighted the range and variety of factors which needed to be considered. This was complicated further by the Government's education reforms, which were changing the way schools were funded and governed as well as encouraging a broader range of school provision. The demand for school places was reviewed annually and proposals were developed to meet local pressure points as they arose. The implications of any pressures in respect of Local Plan developments were not included, because they were not yet developed in terms of timescales and impact. The report also indicated that, within the parameters and constraints detailed in the report, officers were working with schools and other stakeholders to ensure that schools were viable, that there were sufficient places and that schools provided the standard of education which was expected.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

24. OFSTED ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE NORTH WEST 2013/14

The Committee considered a presentation by Mr. Mike McSorley, Head of Learning Support, on the recently-published Ofsted report on education in the North West region for 2013/14. The presentation highlighted a number of issues arising from the regional report which affected Sefton schools, including:-

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- Boys were not making similar progress to girls in the early education phases
- Key Stage 2 figures were generally very good
- The very best of our school leaders improved the performance of pupils irrespective of the levels previously achieved
- Sharing better primary/secondary transition policies is one of the adopted improvement strategies
- There were significant changes last year in the way vocational courses and course work were reported
- Ofsted had stated that national outcomes were currently “very volatile”
- Schools in which the Authority had made interventions actually improved their outcomes
- Efforts were being made to narrow the gap between the performance of pupils in receipt of free school meals and those who were not, but there was a particular weakness in the performance in mathematics
- Data which the DFE would be publishing on individual schools at the end of this month would be carefully analysed, particularly with a view to promoting collaboration between schools who perform best in specific subjects
- The NW Association of District Councils has a self-improvement group which was providing constructive support
- Ofsted had a range of support for weaker schools including helping similar schools with the same challenges and one to one sessions for schools which were due for inspection
- The percentage of pupils attending good or outstanding secondary schools was still not good enough.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted and Mike McSorley be thanked for making his presentation.

25. CABINET MEMBER REPORT

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Corporate Services submitting the most recent report of the Cabinet Member for Children, Schools, Families and Leisure for the January 2015 period.

The Cabinet Member Update Report outlined information on the following:-

- Hillside and Litherland High Schools – Conversion to Sponsored Academies.
- King George Vth College Performance.
- Education and Skills Strategy.
- North West Regional Ofsted Report.

RESOLVED:

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That the report be noted.

26. WORK PROGRAMME KEY DECISION FORWARD PLAN

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Corporate Services in relation to the Committee's programme of work and submitting the latest Key Decision Forward Plan. There was one Key Decision within the current Forward Plan which fell under the remit of the Committee on this occasion.

The report referred to a number of proposed Joint Working Protocols between the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care) and other local health bodies and a request from that Committee for this Committee to indicate whether it wished Alder Hey Children's Hospital NHS Trust to be included in the proposed protocol with NHS organisations in Sefton.

The report also referred to the membership of the School Performance Working Group.

The report also set out the current Work Programme for 2014/15.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Key Decision Forward Plan for the period 1 February to 31 May 2015 be noted;
- (2) the School Performance Working Group be disbanded with immediate effect and the Sefton Association of Secondary Heads be requested to respond to the list of key questions previously supplied to that Association and approved by this Committee at its meeting held on 18 November 2014, to enable the response to be considered by this Committee;
- (3) the submitted work programme for this Committee be agreed subject to the following items being included on the work programme for report to the meeting of the Committee on 24 March 2015:-
 - Universal Infant Free School Meals;
 - Ofsted Inspection – Early Years Provision and Day Nursery Provision;
 - An explanation of the process and level of Inspection of registered and unregistered homes and hostels;
 - The nomination and assessment process undertaken in the identification of a Troubled Family; and
- (4) in relation to the possible inclusion of Alder Hey Children's Hospital NHS Trust in the proposed joint working protocol, the Senior Democratic Services Officer be requested to arrange for a copy of the draft protocol to be supplied to this Committee, to enable it to

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express an opinion to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care).

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Report to: Cabinet
Overview and
Scrutiny Committee
(Children's Services) **Date of Meeting:** 26 March 2015
31 March 2015

Subject: Child Sexual **Wards Affected:** All Wards
Exploitation (CSE)

Report of: Director of Young
People and Families

Is this a Key Decision? No **Is it included in the Forward Plan?** No

Exempt/Confidential No

Purpose/Summary

A report was prepared in October 2014 as an immediate response to announcements in Rotherham and presented to Overview and Scrutiny Management Board in January 2015 on "CSE in Sefton: Evaluation of Current and Past Practice".

This current report provides an outline of the learning from Rotherham and other child sexual exploitation reviews which have taken place since the publication of the Professor Jay report. Information is provided as to the actions that have, and are, taking place in Sefton to address the national lessons learned and to safeguard children and young people in Sefton from child sexual exploitation (CSE).

The report is intended to inform Members of the work undertaken to safeguard children from CSE in respect of their duties under the Local Government Act 1999 regarding governance and scrutiny of children and young people's services.

Recommendations

Cabinet

To note the work taking place in Sefton regarding Child Sexual Exploitation.

To refer the report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services) for consideration.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services)

To note and consider the work taking place in Sefton regarding Child Sexual

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Exploitation.

How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Objectives?

	<u>Corporate Objective</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	√		
2	Jobs and Prosperity	√		
3	Environmental Sustainability		√	
4	Health and Well-Being	√		
5	Children and Young People	√		
6	Creating Safe Communities	√		
7	Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
8	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy		√	

Reasons for the Recommendations:

To ensure Cabinet Members are aware of the partnership activity undertaken to safeguard children from child sexual exploitation in Sefton.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

N/A

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs N/A

(B) Capital Costs N/A

Implications:

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

Financial
Legal
Human Resources

Equality		
1.	No Equality Implication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.	Equality Implications identified and mitigated	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Equality Implication identified and risk remains	<input type="checkbox"/>

Impact of the Proposals on Service Delivery:

N/A

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

The Head of Corporate Finance and ICT (FD 3502/15) and the Head of Corporate Legal Services (LD 2794/15) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

Contact Officer: Colin Pettigrew
Tel: 0151 934 3333
Email: colin.pettigrew@sefton.gov.uk

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

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1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1 A report was prepared in October 2014 as an immediate response to the publication of the report regarding Professor Alexis Jay's Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham (1997 – 2013)¹. The report entitled "CSE in Sefton: Evaluation of Current and Past Practice" was presented to Overview and Scrutiny Management Board in January 2015. This was also reported to the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) in December 2014.
- 1.2 The current report provides an outline of the learning from Rotherham and other child sexual exploitation reviews and government announcements which have taken place since the publication of the Jay report. Information is provided as to the actions that have, and are, taking place in Sefton, to address the national lessons learned and to safeguard children and young people in Sefton from child sexual exploitation.

2. National reviews and government announcements regarding child sexual exploitation

- 2.1 Since the publication of the Jay Report there has continued to be a focus on learning lessons from young people's experience of being sexually exploited and the practices of agencies in safeguarding them and bringing offenders to justice.
- 2.2 In response to Professor Jay's report, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government appointed Louise Casey CB to carry out an inspection of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council under section 10 of the Local Government Act 1999. The Secretary of State subsequently wrote to Leaders of Councils, copying the letter to Chairs of Health and Wellbeing Boards in England to confirm this announcement. The Secretary of State asked that all Leaders read Professor Jay's report and consider whether adequate measures were in place to ensure they could not be accused of similar findings. The Home Secretary wrote in similar terms to Chief Constables and Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs).
- 2.3 In September 2014 Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary published the report of its inspection (as part of a national program) of the child protection work of South Yorkshire Police².
- 2.4 In October 2014 a report 'Real Voices'³ was published. Ann Coffey, MP for Stockport (and Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Runaway and Missing Children and Adults) outlined in the report findings

¹Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham (1997 – 2013)' http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/1407/independent_inquiry_cse_in_rotherham

² 'National Child Protection Inspections South Yorkshire Police 12 – 22 May 2014' <http://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/hmic/wp-content/uploads/south-yorkshire-national-child-protection-inspection.pdf>

³ 'Real Voices'http://www.gmpcc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/81461-Coffey-Report_v5_WEB-single-pages.pdf

of an inquiry which had been commissioned by the PCC for Greater Manchester, Tony Lloyd. The terms of reference for the inquiry were to look at the changes made in safeguarding children from child sexual exploitation by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) and partner agencies since the 2012 Rochdale sexual grooming case and identify what more needed to be done in the future.

- 2.5 In November 2014 Ofsted published the findings of the CSE thematic inspection 'The Sexual Exploitation of Children: It couldn't happen here could it?'⁴.
- 2.6 In January 2015, findings were published of an inspection, led by Louise Casey, of Rotherham Council's compliance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation to its exercise of functions on governance, children and young people and taxi and private hire licensing⁵.
- 2.7 On 3 March 2015 Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board published the Serious Case Review (SCR) into child sexual exploitation in Oxfordshire, which had been initiated in September 2012⁶. The SCR Overview Report made 13 recommendations, which sit alongside the 14 individual agency action plans to address child sexual exploitation.
- 2.8 On 3 March 2015, the Government published a report 'Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation'⁷. The report set out the Government's commitment to ensuring accountability and leadership; changing the culture of denial; improving joint working and information sharing; protecting vulnerable children; stopping offenders; and supporting victims and survivors. The report includes reference to a consultation on extending the criminal offence of 'wilful neglect', which carries a maximum jail term of five years, to children's social care, education and elected members as part of its national response to reports by Alexis Jay, Ann Coffey, Louise Casey and others. The report makes a commitment to child sexual abuse being prioritised as a national threat, like serious and organised crime, which means police forces now have a duty to collaborate with each other across force boundaries to safeguard children including more efficient sharing of resources, intelligence and best practice, supported by specialist regional CSE police coordinators.
- 2.9 On 3 March 2015, the Chief Social Worker for Children and Families, Department for Education, wrote to Directors of Children's Services, copying in Chief Executives and Lead Members⁸. This letter asked that

⁴ The Sexual Exploitation of Children: It couldn't happen here could it?

<http://www.lgcplus.com/Journals/2014/11/18/x/v/z/Ofsted-CSE-report.pdf>

⁵ 'Report of Inspection of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council'

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/401125/46966_Report_of_Inspection_of_Rotherham_WEB.pdf

⁶ <http://www.oscb.org.uk/2015/03/serious-case-review-published/>

⁷ 'Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation'

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/408604/2903652_RotherhamResponse_acc2.pdf

⁸

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/408960/Letter_from_the_Chief_Social

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an immediate review is undertaken of the assessment and decision making tools used to support professionals making decisions about risk.

2.10 The National Working Group Network, a charitable membership organisation has published a summary of recommendations which draws many of the lessons learned together⁹.

2.11 Barnardo's and the Local Government Association (LGA) have also published guidance for local authorities on developing effective responses to child sexual exploitation entitled 'Tackling Sexual Exploitation'¹⁰.

3. National lessons learned and activity undertaken in Sefton

3.1 Sefton has been working closely with other Merseyside Local Authorities and Merseyside Police to develop a co-ordinated response to CSE. The Pan Cheshire/ Merseyside CSE Strategy (Appendix 1) has been developed with key priorities. The words highlighted in bold refer to Sefton Safeguarding Children's Board's associated CSE "Strategy on a Page" (Appendix 2) and CSE Implementation Plan:

- **Governance** – Make sure that CSE remains a high strategic priority.
- **Profile** – Identify those at risk of being sexually exploited to improve the lives of young people.
- **Prevent** – Apply pro-active problem solving to address risks associated with victims, perpetrators and locations and ensure the safeguarding and welfare of children and young people who are or may be at risk from sexual exploitation.
- **Protect** – Ensure timely and effective interventions with children and families to safeguard those vulnerable to sexual exploitation.
- **Prosecute** – Take action against those intent on abusing and exploiting children and young people in this way.

3.2 The lessons learned from reviews outlined in Section 2 of the report are presented in accordance with each of the Sefton Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) CSE Strategy priorities. The remainder of this report provides detail of the activity which has been and is being undertaken in Sefton to address the lessons learned by the reviews.

3.3 Governance

3.3.1 The Jay Report stated that Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board had good inter-agency CSE policies and procedures in place, but that members of the Board rarely checked whether they were being implemented or were working. The challenge and scrutiny function of the Safeguarding Board and the Council were found to be lacking. The subsequent Casey Report concluded that the Council were in denial about serious and on-going safeguarding failures. Subsequent to the

[Worker for Children and Families - Review of assessment tools.pdf](#)

⁹ Summary of Recommendations – All Agencies draws many of the lessons learned together [jj](#)

¹⁰ Tackling Sexual Exploitation http://www.barnardos.org.uk/tackling_child_sexual_exploitation.pdf

Casey Report, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government decided to put an intervention package in place, consisting of a team of Commissioners, providing them with functions and roles to oversee actions which the Authority is to perform.

- 3.3.2 In Sefton there is an established Children's Services Continuous Improvement Board, chaired by the Chief Executive, attended by a challenge partner, the Chief Executive for Halton, the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services, the Director of Young People and Families and the Independent Chair of the LSCB. The Continuous Improvement Board provides scrutiny of Children's Social Care and the LSCB activity and effectiveness and across a range of safeguarding concerns, child sexual exploitation is a focus of this scrutiny.
- 3.3.3 Merseyside Police's Assistant Chief Constable, who is responsible for vulnerable children, meets bi-monthly with Directors of Children's Services, Sefton LSCB Board Managers and Family Crime Unit senior police officers. The group have developed a Pan Cheshire / Merseyside Strategy (2014-2017), to which Sefton is a signatory (Appendix 1). The implementation of this Strategy is overseen by an independently chaired Pan Merseyside CSE Gold Group. Sefton's representatives on this group are the Director of Young People and Families, as the LSCB CSE Sub Group Chair, the LSCB Business Manager and the Safeguarding Children Unit Service Manager, who is Sefton's representative on the CSE National Working Group.
- 3.3.4 The Sefton LSCB and Sefton 0-19 Forum of the Health and Wellbeing Board both have safeguarding children and young people from child sexual exploitation as a Strategic Priority, as outlined in the respective current draft LSCB Business Plan and Children's Plan 2015-17.
- 3.3.5 LSCBs have a statutory responsibility, through their sub group structure, to scrutinise the effectiveness of individual agencies' safeguarding arrangements and the effectiveness of partnership working. In November 2014 the Director of Children's Services took up the role of Chair to the Sefton LSCB Child Sexual Exploitation Sub Group, to better hold to account key agencies implementation of the CSE Strategy. The CSE Sub Group Chair provides reports to the LSCB, the Children's Services Continuous Improvement Board and the Pan Merseyside CSE Gold Group regarding the implementation of the CSE Strategy.
- 3.3.6 The Sefton LSCB CSE Strategy (Appendix 2) and CSE Strategy Implementation Plan have been developed and set out a clear shared vision to safeguard young people and bring offenders to justice. The LSCB CSE Strategy Implementation Plan continues to be developed by the learning from data analysis, qualitative audit and themes arising from the operational CSE concerns. The Implementation Plan evidences actions being undertaken across the partnership to identify CSE concerns, prevent and protect young people from CSE and profile and prosecute offenders.

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- 3.3.7 The Child Sexual Exploitation Partnership Pathway has been revised and strengthened and became operational on 17 October 2014 (Appendix 3). This has been communicated to the workforce working with children and young people by members of the LSCB. Further detail as to the operational practice of the CSE Pathway is provided in subsequent sections of this report.
- 3.3.8 The Sefton LSCB Escalation Procedure can be initiated, should one agency believe their concerns are not being taken seriously or there are concerns as to the safeguarding practice of another agency.
- 3.3.9 The Pan Cheshire / Merseyside CSE Strategy sets out the commitment for all agencies to have a CSE Single Point of Contact (SPoC). The CSE SPoC has a role to ensure their agency identifies CSE using the CSE 2 screening tool and makes a CSE referral to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). The LSCB has a list of all agency CSE SPoCs.
- 3.3.10 The Ofsted CSE thematic inspection highlighted that Birmingham LSCB did not receive data on children missing from home, care or education and received insufficient data on child sexual exploitation. Birmingham local authority and partners did not collect, collate and analyse information in a systematic way. As a result partners could not be assured of the whereabouts or safety of the young people. The Sefton LSCB CSE Sub Group has extended its Terms of Reference to cover children missing from home, care and education.
- 3.3.11A Sefton LSCB CSE dataset has been developed to gather multi-agency data on a range of indicators that will enable the Board to understand the known prevalence of child sexual exploitation in Sefton. The dataset is reported on a monthly basis to the LSCB CSE and Missing Sub Group. Further detail as to this dataset is presented in paragraph 3.4.10.
- 3.3.12 A Strategic Missing Children Monitoring Group has been established and is chaired by the Service Manager for Safeguarding, who is also Co-Chair of the Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation (MACSE) Panel and a member of the LSCB CSE and Missing Children Sub Group. Members of the Strategic Monitoring Group are senior managers responsible for all elements of Children's Social Care, the Detective Inspector responsible for missing people and CSE, Missing from Home and Child Sexual Exploitation Police Officers, Sefton Council Child Sexual Exploitation Business Officer / Analyst, Early Intervention Service representatives (who undertake the Independent Return Interviews) and the Council Strategic Lead for Organised Crime Groups and Business Intelligence / Quality Assurance Officers.
- 3.3.13 The Strategic Missing Children Monitoring Group provides scrutiny as to whether agencies are complying with the revised LSCB Missing

Children Procedure. The Monitoring Group will also analyse data to identify patterns and trends arising from missing incident reports and information provided by children and young people during their independent return interviews. An integrated multi agency data set has been developed which analyses children missing from home, care and education.

- 3.3.14 The dataset also analyses children reported missing who have been placed in Children's Homes within the Sefton boundary by other Local Authorities and whether there are any concerns regarding the safeguarding practice of the placing Authority or the Care Home provider.
- 3.3.15 Assurance as to agencies' compliance with the LSCB Missing Protocol is reported to the LSCB CSE and Missing Sub Group. Identified patterns and trends associated with CSE are reported to the LSCB and MACSE Panel, a MACSE operational panel chaired by the Detective Chief Inspector with responsibility for Sefton's Vulnerable Person Unit and a Service Manager with responsibility for the Safeguarding Children Unit. Links identified to Organised Crime Groups are reported to the Multi-Agency Response to Guns and Gangs (MARGG) meeting. Concerns as to the practice of placing other Local Authorities and Children's Homes providers are reported to the LSCB Children in the Care of Other Local Authorities (CICOLA) Sub Group, which is chaired by the Director of Young People and Families (see Appendix 4 for the LSCB Governance Structure).
- 3.3.16 The LSCB CICOLA Sub Group has developed a Provider of Concern Protocol, which enables providers who are not safeguarding children in their care from CSE to be identified and reported to Ofsted as their Regulatory body. The CICOLA Sub Group Chair, the Director of Young People and Families, reports activity that has been undertaken to address providers of concern to the LSCB. In the last 12 months, 3 Children's Homes have closed due to inadequate practice.
- 3.3.17 The Oxfordshire Serious Case Review recommended that the LSCB to continue rigorous multi agency case audits where CSE is suspected. Sefton LSCB Quality Assurance Sub Group is currently undertaking a qualitative case file audit of children who have been referred to the MACSE Panel on more than one occasion. The CSE and Missing Children Sub Group have requested that analysis be undertaken of the CSE Strategy Meetings which have not progressed to a MACSE Panel discussion and this analysis is currently being undertaken. The findings of these audits and any required recommendations will be reported to the LSCB Quality Assurance and CSE and Missing Children Sub Groups. The findings will inform further development of the CSE Strategy Implementation Plan.
- 3.3.18 The Government has announced an expectation that all LSCBs will conduct regular local assessments on the effectiveness of local

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arrangements to combat child sexual exploitation and publish the outcome of those assessments through their annual reports. The expectation is that the analysis should set out how local partners have used their data to drive their response to vulnerable children and families. The LSCB reporting template, which each agency is required to complete at the end of the financial year, will require evidence to be provided of the work they have undertaken to safeguard children from CSE and bring offenders to justice. This evidence will inform a specific CSE chapter in Sefton LSCB Annual Report (2014-15). The CSE chapter will also be informed by the Board's CSE and Missing Children datasets, qualitative case file analysis findings and provide evidence of the work of the LSCB Sub Groups. The CSE chapter will provide an overview of activity undertaken with regard to the CSE Implementation Plan and how this has safeguarded children from CSE in Sefton.

3.3.19 The Oxfordshire Serious Case Review recommended that the LSCB review its inter-relationship with other partnerships. The work outlined in paragraphs 3.5.6 to 3.5.8, regarding Taxi Licensing and the CSE raising awareness campaign being undertaken via taxi drivers in Sefton, was reported to the Licensing and Regulatory Committee in January 2015 and the Community Safety Partnership in December 2014. Sefton Community Safety Partnership has sexual violence as a strategic priority. It is the LSCB's statutory responsibility to ensure children and young people under the age of 18 are safeguarded. A presentation regarding the work undertaken by the LSCB CSE and Missing Children Sub Group is planned to be delivered to the Community Safety Partnership in June 2015.

3.4 Profile

3.4.1 The Coffey Report referenced the move from a definition of 'child prostitution' to 'child sexual exploitation'. The following definition, as stated in the Statutory Guidance 'Safeguarding Children from Child Sexual Exploitation'¹¹ is referenced in the Sefton LSCB CSE Procedure and all CSE training and raising awareness sessions.

'Sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (a third person or persons) receive 'something' (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs or alcohol, cigarettes, affections, 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/gain. In all cases, those exploiting the child/young person have power over them by virtue of their age,

¹¹ Safeguarding Children from Sexual Exploitation (DFE 2009:p9)
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/278849/Safeguarding_Children_and_Young_People_from_Sexual_Exploitation.pdf

gender, intellect, physical strength and/or economic or other resources. Violence, coercion and intimidation are common, involvement in exploitative relationships are characterised in the main by the child or young person's limited availability of choice resulting from their social / economic and /or emotional vulnerability.'

3.4.2 The Coffey Report stated 'One of the key issues in the Rochdale case was the failure of police and partner agencies to listen properly to young victims and their families and to adequately respond to them...It is clear that victims in Rochdale and elsewhere were not identified or taken seriously because of the negative and discriminatory attitudes of the police and other partner agencies towards them. Their behaviour was seen as a lifestyle choice and because of that they were not seen as vulnerable children and were not given the protection they should have expected from organisations with a responsibility to safeguard them. '

3.4.3 Analysis has been and is being undertaken of past practice to identify what lessons need to be learned in Sefton. Children's Social Care and the Police are working together to review past practice as evidenced within Strategy Meetings that have taken place over a 10 year period. The results of this activity will be presented in a future report. Lessons learned from this analysis, together with the findings of national inquiries and inspections, have informed the activity being undertaken which is outlined in this report.

3.4.4 Coffey stated that Britain needs a big change in attitudes towards child sexual exploitation and she believes that such exploitation should be declared as a priority public health issue, like smoking, obesity, alcohol and drug use, so that a more strategic approach can be developed.

3.4.5 A CSE Needs Review has been commissioned by Sefton Public Health. The findings of this Needs Review will be reported to the LSCB CSE and Missing Children Sub Group and the 0-19 Forum of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The findings will inform future commissioning of services to work with young people at risk of becoming and those who are, victims of CSE.

3.4.6 The Coffey Report makes further specific reference to 'a child' for these purposes being a young person under the age of 18. The responsibility to safeguard all young people under the age of 18 in Sefton from child sexual exploitation is explicit in the LSCB CSE Procedure, CSE training and raising awareness materials. The LSCB CSE dataset, referred to in para 3.3.11, analyses the age of young people referred due to CSE concerns and monitors any lack of reporting by agencies for young people aged over the sexual consenting age of 16. Specific work has been undertaken with sexual health services, and is planned to be undertaken with pharmacists and general practitioners (GPs), to ensure they are aware of this responsibility.

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- 3.4.7 The Coffey Report made a clear recommendation for the inclusion of 'boys and young men' in literature. Sefton LSCB CSE raising awareness and training materials use photographic images of, and references to, boys and young men to ensure they too are safeguarded from CSE.
- 3.4.8 The Oxfordshire Serious Case Review recommended that minutes of multi-agency meetings be clear about ownership, have consistent titles, and can be seen by their content to be of high value. In Sefton a CSE Strategy Meeting recording template has been developed and the recording of Sefton MACSE meetings has been reviewed. A clear template for a MACSE Action Plan has been developed, using the priorities of the CSE Strategy: Profile, Prevent, Protect and Prosecute as headings within the Plan. The document records attendance at the MACSE meeting and discussions that take place and outlines the responsibility of individuals to undertake actions clearly set out in the MACSE Plan and associated timescales. The Prosecute element of the Plan is recorded on the child's records and Police records but is not disseminated further, to ensure security of Police investigative techniques.
- 3.4.9 The Children's Social Care electronic data system has been reviewed to embed the CSE screening tool, CSE Strategy Meeting and MACSE Plans within the electronic system. The records provide evidence of the work undertaken to safeguard a young person from CSE and informs the CSE dataset.
- 3.4.10 The LSCB CSE dataset is based on numbers of young people 'at risk' or 'victims' and numbers of perpetrators who are known and/or have been prosecuted. The dataset also gathers information about related risk factors (i.e. homelessness, self-harm, repeat attendance at sexual health services and missing / absent reports) in order to provide a richer profile of CSE risks locally. Where the dataset highlights potential issues, qualitative case file audits will be undertaken to investigate and understand the reasons behind the data.
- 3.4.11 In response to the letter sent by the Chief Social Worker to Directors of Children's Services, asking that an immediate review is undertaken of the assessment and decision making tools used to support professionals making decisions about risk, a review of the CSE 2 referral form and screening tool used in CSE and Strategy Meetings has commenced. An audit of all Strategy Meetings which have not progressed to MACSE is being undertaken to ascertain if this is related to the use of the screening tool. The findings of this Audit will be reported to the next LSCB CSE and Missing Children Sub Group and in turn the LSCB.
- 3.4.12 The Coffey Report suggested there is a significant underestimation of child sexual exploitation in Greater Manchester: GMP figures regarding recorded sexual offences among under 18's between 1 June 2013 and 31 May 2014 show that 111 cases out of 1,691 were flagged on the Police computer as child exploitation. The Report concluded that an

under identification of CSE was evidenced by the lack of 'flags' on Police computer systems which identified young people at risk of or experiencing CSE. A system for tracking each CSE referral was introduced in Sefton in October 2014. The CSE dataset monitors that CSE flags are recorded within the Police electronic record of all young people considered to be at risk or experiencing CSE concerns. Work is being undertaken with the Police to ensure 100% of recording of CSE flags regarding young people referred to the MACSE. The Police undertake analysis of current investigations, sanctions and Court outcomes and report this to the LSCB CSE and Missing Children Sub Group.

3.4.13 Resource has been invested in a CSE Business Officer / Analyst post working across the MASH and MACSE. This role is located with the CSE and Missing from Home Police Officers. The function of this role is to analyse referral sources and report lack of agency referrals to the LSCB CSE and Missing Children Sub Group in the CSE data analysis report. This role takes minutes of all CSE Strategy Meetings and MACSE Meetings and reports to the Service Manager for Safeguarding, in their capacity as the MACSE Panel Co-Chair.

3.4.14 The Ofsted Social Care Annual Report (2013-14)¹² made reference to a key concern of their findings being that Councils are still not acting swiftly enough when children in care go missing, despite this group being among the most vulnerable to CSE. The Oxfordshire Serious Case Review recommended that the Board seek assurance from the Council that there are good arrangements for the transfer of information between schools about child vulnerability and that decisions around exclusion from school and its management take into account that the behaviour is, or may be, related to child sexual exploitation.

3.4.15 Paragraphs 3.3.9, 3.3.11 – 3.4.14 and 3.3.17 within the Governance section of this report present the activity undertaken in Sefton to address this lesson learned. Sefton Young Advisors are currently undertaking a review of the Independent Return Interview template, to provide their view as to whether this encourages children and young people to talk about their involvement in CSE or organised crime groups. The Independent Return Interview template will be developed on receipt of their feedback.

3.4.16 Within the CSE inquiries referenced in section 2 of this report, lessons have been learned of the experiences of 'looked after' children, placed in Children's Homes outside of their home Authority, being victims of CSE. Sefton has a significant number of Independent Children's Homes located within its boundary, predominantly in the north. National Regulations were strengthened by Government in 2014 to ensure Local Authorities placing 'looked after' children outside of their boundary notify

¹² Ofsted Social Care Annual Report (2013-14)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/410528/ofsted_social_care_annual_report_201314.pdf

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the area within which they are placing the child. If a child is being placed in an area which is not a Local Authority geographically next to the responsible placing Authority, the placing Director of Children's Services must discuss this placement with the Director of Children's Services for the area in which the child is being placed.

- 3.4.17 Resource has been invested in an Other Local Authority (OLA) Placement Notification Officer. This role has responsibility for receiving all notifications of a looked after child being placed in Sefton by another Local Authority. The OLA Notification Form requires placing Local Authorities to inform Sefton of any CSE or missing from care risks and any involvement in offending, organised crime, substance misuse or mental health issues. All Notification Forms received are communicated to Health and Education Leads. Any young person who is known to be at risk of CSE is communicated to the CSE Police Officer, Missing from Home Police Officer and CSE Business Officer / Analyst. Any young person considered to be a perpetrator of CSE, offending or organised crime is communicated to the Youth Offending Team. Any young person with a history of being missing is reported to the Missing from Home Police Officer. This notification process ensures that 'looked after' young people moving into Sefton can be safeguarded by Sefton agencies and support the placing Authority in their statutory duty to safeguard the young person. Details of all notifications of 'looked after' young people placed in Sefton by another Local Authority are recorded on the Sefton Children's Social Care electronic data system. As of 11 March, Sefton had received notifications that 203 looked after young people are placed in Sefton by the following Local Authorities:-

Birmingham	Blackburn with Darwen
Blackpool	Bristol
Bury	Cheshire East
Cheshire West & Chester	Cumbria
Darlington	Durham
Haringey	Kirklees
Knowsley*	Lancashire *
London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham	
London Borough of Lewisham	
Liverpool*	Manchester
Rochdale	St Helens
Salford	Slough
Stockton	Thurrock
Warrington	Wigan
Wirral *	

The * indicates that the Local Authority has more than 5 children placed within the Sefton boundary.

- 3.4.18 In cases of a placing Local Authority not adhering to the Notification Procedure the Director of Young People and Families is informed and is

proactive in contacting the placing DCS to discuss this concern. If there are ongoing concerns that the Placing Authority is not acting in a way which safeguards a young person for which they are responsible, Sefton's Director of Young People and Families escalates this concern to Ofsted. Sefton's Director of Young People and Families has been proactive in initiating consultation with other Directors of Children's Services on a national basis as to this approach.

3.4.19 Detail as to the number of children 'looked after' by other Local Authorities placed within the Sefton boundary and action taken to address concerns regarding placing Local Authorities' safeguarding practice, are reported to the CICOLA LSCB Sub Group, chaired by the Director of Young People and Families and in turn to the LSCB.

3.4.20 The Coffey Report referenced the most well-known model of CSE, due to media coverage, being by organised gangs and groups. A previous report from the Office of the Children's Commissioner 'If only some has listened' (November 2013)¹³ presented the findings of the Commissioner's inquiry into CSE and gangs and groups.

3.4.21 The Council's Strategic Lead for Organised Crime Groups is a member of the LSCB CSE and Missing Children Sub Group and the Strategic Missing Children Monitoring Group. Organised Crime Group data is shared with the MASH Manager and CSE Business Officer / Analyst, enabling potential links between young people being sexually exploited and organised crime groups to be identified at the earliest opportunity. From current analysis, there is no evidence to suggest that organised crime groups, such as those observed in Rotherham, Rochdale and Oxfordshire, are undertaking sexual exploitation of children and young people in Sefton.

3.5 Prevent

3.5.1 A range of CSE raising awareness sessions have been held across the partnership, to ensure CSE concerns are identified and referred to the MASH:

- An LSCB event has been held with Managers of Children's Homes within Sefton (November 2014) to inform them of the CSE Pathway and how to refer concerns about children they are looking after to Sefton MASH.
- An LSCB event has been held with taxi companies (December 2014) to raise their awareness of lessons learned by the Jay Report, regarding taxi drivers' involvement in CSE in Rotherham and the signs of CSE which taxi drivers are likely to see within the local community.
- A presentation has been provided to Public Health Commissioners. As a result, CSE-related Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) have been developed for all agencies commissioned by Public Health and

¹³ 'If only some has listened' http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/content/publications/content_743

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the Council to work with young people e.g. Sexual Health Services and Children's Homes. These KPIs ensure that the agency practices in accordance with the Sefton LSCB CSE Pathway, ensure their workforce is trained and make referrals regarding CSE concerns to the MASH.

- A presentation has been provided to Sexual Health Service Strategic Leads, to ensure that the sexual health workforce identify CSE concerns when a young person requests sexual health advice and/or treatment.
- A presentation has been provided to Neighbourhood, Anti- Social Behaviour and Domestic Abuse Service staff within Sefton Council, to ensure that when they are working within local communities they raise community members' awareness of CSE. This will support community members to know what action they can take to protect young people from CSE in their local communities.
- A presentation has been provided to Adult Substance Misuse Services, so the workforce can raise awareness of CSE with the people they work with. As adults who use substances, they are in a valuable position to identify situations when drugs are provided to individuals who are using this as a way of sexually exploiting young people.

3.5.2 This activity has led to an increase of child sexual exploitation referrals being received by the MASH. Analysis of agencies which have made CSE referrals evidences that a wider range of agencies than previously are now identifying potential signs of CSE and are taking proactive action to ensure children are appropriately safeguarded. 100 CSE referrals have been received by the MASH between 20 October 2014 and 13 March 2015, compared to the 30 CSE referrals received between 1 January and 19 October 2014. As of 13 March 2015, Sefton has 12 children and young people who are the subject of a MACSE Plan.

3.5.3 The LSCB, through its Training Sub Group, has delivered a number of briefing sessions and full day CSE awareness raising sessions. The training has been delivered to a number of audiences including Police, Children's Social Care, Targeted Prevention staff, the Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA) and young people involved in the Making a Difference Group. Prior to October 2014, approximately 4,200 staff had received information designed to raise awareness and understanding of issues relating to CSE in a variety of ways.

3.5.4 The LSCB has introduced the use of Parents Against Child Exploitation (PACE) online course. Twilight sessions have been undertaken with schools by the LSCB Independent Chair and Board Business Manager, to raise awareness of this to parents via school staff. Development of a specific page of the LSCB website dedicated to CSE is under discussion, to ensure links to this online course are accessible.

- 3.5.5 The Professor Jay Report and subsequently the Casey Report, made reference to weak and ineffective arrangements for taxi licensing which have left the public at risk.
- 3.5.6 Specific work has been undertaken in Sefton with regard to taxi drivers. This work was reported to the Licensing and Regulatory Committee in January 2015.
- 3.5.7 The Sefton Taxi Licensing Handbook has been revised to include a Safeguarding Chapter which makes specific reference to CSE. Safeguarding children Leads now become involved in the Licence Mitigation Panel, to address concerns regarding individuals applying to become a taxi driver.
- 3.5.8 An LSCB event was held with taxi companies, led by the Director of Young People and Families, in December 2014. Lessons learned from the Professor Jay Report were presented. Taxi companies were asked to identify a CSE SPoC to receive LSCB CSE training which they can cascade to their drivers. Companies were asked to develop a Whistleblowing Policy, encouraging drivers to report any concerns regarding other drivers' involvement in CSE. A CSE raising awareness campaign involving taxi drivers commenced in December 2014:
- 100,000 credit sized cards highlighting the signs of CSE were provided to the taxi companies with a request that these be given to members of the local community accessing taxis over the Christmas and New Year period.
 - 3,600 CSE car stickers were provided to be displayed on taxi windows.
 - 3,600 credit card sized cards were provided for all taxi drivers. The cards state the signs of CSE taxi drivers are best placed to see in the local community and details of who to refer the concerns to, via telephoning 101 or 999.
- 3.5.9 The Coffey report refers to communities as being the best source of intelligence and information about children at risk of CSE, but that people need to understand better what to look for, what grooming is and how it operates. Coffey stated it is important to give communities information about CSE in their local areas; if offenders are portrayed in a particular way (e.g. Asian males) then the signs will be missed in people who don't fit that image and so will the opportunity to protect children.
- 3.5.10 18 March 2015 is National CSE Day. A variety of materials have been developed via the Pan-Merseyside CSE Campaign, led by the Pan-Merseyside CSE Gold Group. These materials, together with additional materials resourced by member agencies of the Sefton LSCB, have been cascaded across the partnership, ready to be provided to children and young people, members of the community and the workforce on CSE Day:
- Tri-fold CSE leaflet explaining the signs of CSE and how to make a CSE referral
 - Young people advice cards

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- Professionals advice cards
 - General awareness posters (suitable for clinics, GP Practices and Children's Centres, etc.)
 - Awareness Posters for Professionals
 - A CSE Pull up Stand
- 3.5.11 The Sefton LSCB issued a briefing paper to partner agencies on 10 March 2015 attaching resources; email signature banners; suggestions for agency websites; prompts for organisations' twitter feeds; and a screen saver for internal intranet use. A micro-site has been developed, to support the pan-Merseyside CSE campaign and this can be accessed at www.listentomystory.co.uk
- 3.5.12 Resources have been forwarded to all Sefton secondary schools via the School Envelope.
- 3.5.13 Two full pages have been secured in the Liverpool Echo for 11 and 18 March to highlight the issue of CSE. Bus adverts will be live on 66 buses throughout the whole Merseyside area for a period of 4 weeks from 9 March 2015. A radio debate on Radio Merseyside, involving Sefton's Director of Young People and Families, is planned for 18 March 2015 between 12 noon and 2 p.m. A pre-recorded Radio City show, including a young people's panel, will also be broadcast.
- 3.5.14 Sefton Communications Team will ensure resources are placed on the Sefton Council website and advertising screens within Council buildings for example, Bootle Town Hall, One Stop Shop, Libraries, and Leisure Centres etc.
- 3.5.15 The Oxfordshire Serious Case Review recommended that Headteachers on the LSCB consider how to ensure better understanding and compliance with the CSE Statutory Guidance. In Sefton, designated safeguarding leads in schools have been confirmed as the school CSE SPoC. Plans are in place for the school CSE SPoCs to receive CSE training from the LSCB between April and June 2015.
- 3.5.16 In Sefton, the RASA have received funding from Sefton MBC to deliver 'Healthy Relationships' workshops in 10 secondary schools in Sefton. The RASA also provide a workshop for parents and carers 'protecting our children' to raise awareness and help protect children from child abuse. The "Terriers Play" has been shown to school headteachers, designated safeguarding leads and school governors, to encourage the commissioning of the drama, which discusses the risks associated with gun and gang crime and makes reference to CSE.
- 3.5.17 The "CSE in Sefton: Evaluation of Current and Past Practice" October 2014 Report, presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board in January 2015, provides details of other CSE raising awareness activity which had taken place prior to October 2014.

- 3.5.18 The Oxfordshire Serious Case Review recommended that the LSCB seek assurance from health bodies, including GP practices, that staff consider child sexual exploitation when assessing a child's ability to consent to treatment and that referrals to statutory agencies will be made appropriately. A further recommendation was made that the LSCB should seek assurance from all member agencies that staff are aware of the guidance around consent to sexual activity and relationships.
- 3.5.19 Designated nurses within the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) have undertaken work with health providers, to ensure they have analysed lessons learned from the Professor Jay Report and taken action to address lessons learned. This assurance has been reported to the LSCB.
- 3.5.20 Para 3.5.1 outlines the work undertaken with Sexual Health Services to ensure they are aware of the need to analyse young people presenting for sexual health advice and treatment for signs of CSE. In addition to this, work is being undertaken with Pharmacist Leads at Southport and Ormskirk Hospital to embed CSE screening into the pharmacist electronic Webstar system. Upon CSE signs being identified, the electronic system will guide the pharmacist to complete an online CSE referral to the MASH. A CSE raising awareness presentation is planned to be delivered to pharmacists in April 2015.

3.6 Protect

- 3.6.1 A Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) has been in place in Sefton since February 2014. The LSCB CSE Partnership Pathway makes it clear that all professional concerns regarding CSE should be referred to the MASH using the CSE 2 and Professional Referral Form. This enables in depth screening to be undertaken, by a range of agencies based within the MASH, regarding referrals where CSE is known or suspected. Staff use an agreed CSE screening tool (CSE 2) to support identification of CSE. The screening tool was developed by Bedfordshire as an early forerunner of CSE development.
- 3.6.2 All LSCB CSE raising awareness materials advise members of the public to contact 101 or 999. The Police ensure that CSE concerns are reported to the MASH.
- 3.6.3 The MACSE Panel has been reviewed and strengthened. The Panel is now co-chaired by the Detective Chief Inspector responsible for the Vulnerable People Unit and the Service Manager responsible for the Sefton Council Safeguarding Children Unit. The co- chairs are members of the LSCB CSE Sub Group. The MACSE Panel ensures that all agencies working with young people are invited to attend a discussion regarding the young person they are working with. A multi-agency 'MACSE Plan' is developed, which ensures the young person is protected and offenders are disrupted and prosecuted. Regular review

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Panel meetings are held to ensure agencies are undertaking the safeguarding, disruption and investigation actions that were agreed.

3.6.4 Discussions have been held between co-chair for MACSE safeguarding lead and the domestic abuse Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) Co-ordinator. The MARAC Co-ordinator will ensure that young people aged 16-18 who have been referred to MARAC as a victim of an abusive 'relationship' will be reviewed to ascertain if they are at risk of, or experiencing CSE. Any CSE concerns will be referred to the MACSE Panel for a Multi-Agency CSE Plan to be put in place to safeguard the young person.

3.6.5 The CICOLA Sub Group have developed a data analysis report to inform the Children's Homes undertaking a Safe Area Assessment as per their regulatory requirement. This enables Children's Homes providers to understand the risks related to CSE in the area of the Children's Home and take appropriate action to safeguard the children they are looking after.

3.6.6 Following consultation with the Making a Difference Group (Children in Care Council), information regarding CSE is contained in packs given to children when they become looked after. The Care Leavers Centre provides 'Keeping Safe' workshops to raise awareness across a range of issues, including CSE.

3.6.7 The Professor Jay Report recommended commissioning of specialist CSE post-abuse support. The Multi Agency Child Sexual Exploitation CSE Sub Group has undertaken mapping of services available to support sexually exploited children and young people. The Public Health CSE Needs Review, commissioned by Public Health to provide commissioners with a greater understanding of the needs of local young people, will inform commissioning of specialist post abuse support.

3.6.8 The PCC has commissioned Catch 22 to work with children and young people involved in child sexual exploitation in the Sefton area until the end of March 2015. Future commissioning arrangements are currently being considered.

3.6.9 The Oxfordshire Serious Case Review recommended each agency to provide to the LSCB, evidence of its supervision policies and how the agencies ensure they are effective. Supervision of staff will form part of the CSE qualitative audit currently being undertaken regarding young people who have been subject of a repeat MACSE Plan.

3.7 Prosecute

3.7.1 All Police Operational Officers in Sefton have completed an interactive IT CSE awareness course.

- 3.7.2 All reports of violence and sexual crime are 'screened' by an experienced Detective Sergeant. Resource has recently been invested in a specialist CSE Detective Sergeant, who is taking responsibility for the CSE and Missing Police Officers and specialist CSE investigating Police Officers.
- 3.7.3 The Oxfordshire SCR made a recommendation for the LSCB to seek assurance from the Police about progress on recording crime related to sexual offences. The Police are required to provide regular reports to the LSCB CSE and Missing Children Sub Group as to disruption and investigative activity which has been undertaken to safeguard young people from CSE and bring offenders to justice.
- 3.7.4 Actions undertaken by Merseyside Police include:
- Intelligence and flagging – the MACSE Panel collates CSE intelligence and ensure analysis of this is undertaken to inform police disruption and investigations.
 - Police Briefing Sheets – All operational Police Patrol Officers in Sefton receive a briefing on CSE and missing children before they go out on patrol. This identifies key areas and individuals of concern.
 - CCTV – Regular briefings are provided to CCTV operators re. areas of concern, victims and suspected perpetrators.
 - DNA and other forms of forensic examination and investigation.
 - Financial investigation
 - Home visits
 - Patrol tasking, particularly around city centres, takeaways, taxi forms, Children's Homes and Schools.
 - Multi-Agency Protection Panel Arrangements (MAPPA) referrals are made regarding high risk perpetrators.
 - Search warrants and analysis of technological devices and social media.
 - Disruption interventions for example, Harbourers Warning Notices.
- 3.7.5 The Oxfordshire SCR recommended that the LSCB collaborate with the Crown Prosecution Service. This is an action in the Sefton LSCB CSE Strategy Implementation Plan that has a deadline of July 2015 for completion.
- 3.7.6 The Key Performance Indicators that have been agreed for commissioned providers ensure a clear expectation for agencies to provide intelligence of CSE concerns to inform Police investigations.
- 4. Conclusion**
- 4.1 Learning from the inquiries and inspections referenced continues to be added to the LSCB CSE Strategic Implementation Plan. The LSCB

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Strategic Implementation Plan is available and the LSCB CSE Strategy on a Page is attached (Appendix 2).

5. Appendices

Appendix 1 PAN Merseyside CSE Strategy 2014-2017

Appendix 2 LSCB CSE Strategy on a Page

Appendix 3 LSCB Governance Structure

Appendix 4 LSCB CSE Partnership Pathway



The Local Safeguarding Children Board

Working to Keep West Cheshire's Children and Young People Safe



Pan Cheshire/Merseyside Child Sexual Exploitation Multi-Agency Strategy 2014 -2017



Cheshire East Local Safeguarding Children Board



St. Helens Safeguarding Children Board

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Pan Cheshire-Merseyside Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy

The Safeguarding Children's Boards of Cheshire (Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester, Halton and Warrington) and Merseyside (Liverpool, Sefton, Knowsley, St Helens and Wirral) have identified tackling the sexual exploitation of children as a key strategic priority. Child sexual exploitation is child abuse and is completely unacceptable. The Safeguarding Children's Boards of Cheshire and Merseyside are committed to combating the sexual exploitation of children via effective multi agency and partnership working.

Children who are subjected to sexual exploitation can have serious long term issues effecting their physical and mental health and their overall well being. Although young people aged 16, 17 and 18 are able to consent to sexual activity, they can still be subjected to exploitation and the exploitation can continue through to adulthood. The Safeguarding Children's Boards of Cheshire and Merseyside will therefore work closely with the Safeguarding Adult's Boards of Cheshire and Merseyside to ensure children and young people continue to receive support through the transition phase from childhood to adulthood. Child sexual exploitation can also effect the lives of the child or young persons family and carers and can lead to relationship breakdown.

Sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 will normally, but not exclusively, involve an adult developing a relationship with the child or young person, groom or utilise violence, coercion and intimidation to sexually exploit the child or young person.

All agencies have a responsibility to help identify those children and young people at risk of sexual exploitation; agencies also have responsibility both individually and collectively for ensuring that the child or young person is protected from any further risk of harm.

All agencies have a responsibility to do what they can to prevent children and young people becoming victims of child sexual exploitation. There are a number of ways this can be achieved including ensuring that our communities, especially the children and young people of Cheshire and Merseyside are aware of and understand the issues and risks involved in child sexual exploitation.

The aim of this strategy is to prevent and safeguard **all** children from child sexual exploitation and to prevent and safeguard individual children who are identified as at risk, or victims of child sexual exploitation.

[Safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation is everyone's business.](#)

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Pan Cheshire-Merseyside Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy

The purpose of the strategy is;

- To focus and co-ordinate multi agency resources in tackling child sexual exploitation
- To ensure that children and young people and the wider community across Cheshire and Merseyside, in particular with parents and carers, are aware of child sexual exploitation and its effects
- To enhance training for professionals
- To ensure that young people and the community are made aware of the issues around exploitation
- To bring to justice the perpetrators of child sexual exploitation and to ensure that young people are properly safeguarded in the course of any criminal proceedings

Our shared key strategic priorities are:

- Self Assessment
- Prevention
- Safeguarding
- Bringing Offenders to Justice
- Governance

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Pan Cheshire-Merseyside Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy

Self Assessment

What are we going to do?

Each Local Safeguarding Children Board will undertake a self-assessment to review the local response to child sexual exploitation. This review will involve;

Profiling

Assess the awareness and levels of understanding of professionals in relation to child sexual exploitation.

Identify the prevalence and models of child sexual exploitation in the area.

Service Provision

Map the availability of services for supporting sexually exploited children and young people, ensuring agencies, when planning and commissioning services, focus on the needs of children and young people who may be sexually exploited.

Prevention

What are we going to do?

There are three key features in preventing children and young people becoming subjected to sexual exploitation, they are awareness, training and disruption.

Awareness

Awareness Raising with Children and Families

It is extremely important to ensure that we focus on raising children and young people's awareness of sexual exploitation. Schools and youth services are key agencies and have a very important role to play in awareness raising and safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation.

Any work on raising the awareness of children and young people must be supported by work with parents and carers to supplement and reinforce that awareness.

Agencies who work with children need to;

- Engage with children and young people to ensure they have an understanding of the issues surrounding child sexual exploitation

- Develop activities which will dissuade children and young people becoming involved in child sexual exploitation

Awareness Raising in Communities / Community Engagement

Development of community intelligence is very important in preventing child sexual exploitation.

Raising awareness of targeted groups / organisations, for example, taxi, hotel and leisure organisations, is another key feature of prevention.

We will engage with our local communities and raise awareness of CSE and how it affects individuals.

We will undertake proactive communication with the media.

Training

A review is to be undertaken of all single and multi-agency training for professionals in terms of content and targeted delivery.

The Local Safeguarding Children Board will ensure the provision of appropriate multi agency training.

Single agency training needs to;

- Ensure staff working with or in contact with children are able to identify those children and young people at risk of child sexual exploitation
- Ensure staff working with or in contact with children are able to identify activities employed by offenders / abusers
- Ensure staff know what interventions are appropriate and how to implement and or signpost to appropriate agencies / services

Agencies must consider the provision of training for their agency that should be delivered in line with the role of the professional and the level of detail they require.

Disruption

Disruption of perpetrator activity is an important tool in preventing child sexual exploitation. All agencies need to work together to develop appropriate disruption tactics. Individual agencies must consider how they can contribute to disrupting perpetrator behaviour.

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Pan Cheshire-Merseyside Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy

Safeguarding

What are we going to do?

Research and experience suggest that early intervention and a coordinated response by all agencies is a key factor in making a difference and safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation. The Cheshire and Merseyside Local Safeguarding Children Board;

- Will each developed a Child Sexual Exploitation multi-agency protocol which sets out the standards and provides guidance for multi-agency working in tackling child sexual exploitation
- Ensure that responses to concerns about child sexual exploitation are managed via a multi-agency process and in accordance with these protocols
- Ensure information is shared appropriately and especially with children's services and the Police
- Expect individual agencies to develop their own policies and practise guidance which sets standards relating to how that agency responds to / works towards tackling child sexual exploitation. This will be monitored by the Local Safeguarding Children Board
- Ensure agencies work together in recording and monitoring the prevalence of child sexual exploitation
- Evaluate the effectiveness of service provision and identify and fill any gaps in service provision in supporting children and their families
- Provide ongoing scrutiny and governance of policy, procedure and practice in service delivery

Bringing Offenders to Justice

What are we going to do?

Ensuring abusers are brought to justice is an effective and appropriate way to safeguard children and young people. Offenders must be held to account for their behaviour.

A clear understanding needs to be developed and agreed about the balance between the welfare of the child and the criminal justice considerations.

All agencies should;

Agenda Item 5

Pan Cheshire-Merseyside Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy

- Ensure workers co-operate with Police investigations in relation to the detection and prosecution of crime
- Ensure appropriate information is shared with the police, information and intelligence sharing is a crucial part of the investigation process

The police should;

- Ensure that victims of child sexual exploitation are appropriately supported through the investigation and court process
- Ensure offenders are identified / targeted
- Ensure children involved in sexual exploitation are treated as victims and the focus of the investigation is on the abusers

Governance

What are we going to do?

- The Local Safeguarding Children Board will nominate a member of the board who will act as the 'lead professional'. Each agency of the Local Safeguarding Children Board will also nominate a lead professional, who will act as the agencies single point of contact for all matters relating to child sexual exploitation and will also be responsible for providing advice and support to their agencies workers
- The Cheshire and Merseyside Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation Protocol will form part of the Pan Cheshire/Merseyside Safeguarding Children Procedures
-
- The Local Safeguarding Children's Boards are responsible for co-ordinating the activities of member agencies in relation to the effective implementation of these protocols
- The Local Safeguarding Children Board's lead professional for child sexual exploitation will, on behalf of the Local safeguarding Children's Boards organise a quarterly multi agency meeting. The purpose of this meeting will be;
 - To review performance in relation to the response of member agencies
 - To review the local implementation of the protocols
 - To identify areas of concern
 - To identify any patterns and trends in reports of child sexual exploitation
 - To develop local strategies / plans to address concerns / patterns / trends

Agenda Item 5

Pan Cheshire-Merseyside Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy

- A bi-annual strategic multi agency pan Cheshire/Merseyside meeting will take place with strategic representatives from the Local Safeguarding Children's Boards, the Local Authorities and the Police. Other professionals will be co-opted on to the group depending upon strategic needs. The purpose of this meeting will be;
 - To review the implementation of the Cheshire & Merseyside protocols
 - To consider the provision of services for children missing from both local authority care and home
 - To identify any patterns and trends in running / missing episodes and any cross border issues
 - To consider the provision of training for those responsible for management of, and services to, children missing from both local authority care and home
 - To monitor on a Pan Cheshire/ Merseyside basis the provision of single and multi-agency data collation and information sharing processes
- The meeting will be arranged and chaired by a nominated independent LSCB chair
- The representatives from the relevant Local Safeguarding Children's Boards will be responsible for updating their respective Board with any Pan Cheshire/Merseyside issues or areas for concern

Signatories to the Strategy

Liverpool Local Safeguarding Children's Board



Signed

Name Howard Cooper

Title: Chair Liverpool LSCB

Wirral Safeguarding Children Board



Signed

Name Bernard Walker

Title: Chair Wirral LSCB

St Helens Local Safeguarding Children's Board

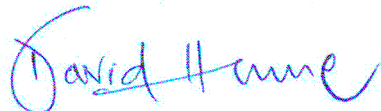


Signed

Name Howard Cooper

Title: Chair St Helens LSCB

Knowsley Local Safeguarding Children's Board



Signed

Name David Hume

Title: Chair Knowsley LSCB

Sefton Local Safeguarding Children's Board



Signed

Name David Sanders

Title: Chair Sefton LSCB

Warrington Local Safeguarding Children's Board

Signed

Name Audrey Williamson

Title Chair Warrington LSCB

Cheshire East Local Safeguarding Children's Board

Signed

Name Ian Rush

Title Chair Cheshire East LSCB

Cheshire West Local Safeguarding Children's Board

Signed

Name Gill Frame Chair Cheshire West LSCB

Agenda Item 5

Pan Cheshire-Merseyside Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy

Halton Local Safeguarding Children's Board

Signed

Name Richard Strachan Chair Halton LSCB

Sefton LSCB Child Sexual Exploitation 'Strategy on a Page'



GOVERNANCE

As a consequence, making sure that CSE remains high level, strategic priority throughout the sub-region to improve the lives of vulnerable young people.

- The Local Safeguarding Children Board will nominate a member of the board who will act as the 'lead professional'. Each agency of the Local Safeguarding Children Board will also nominate a lead professional, who will act as the agencies single point of contact for all matters relating to child sexual exploitation and will also be responsible for providing advice and support to their agencies workers. The Cheshire and Merseyside Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation Protocol will form part of the Pan Cheshire / Merseyside Safeguarding Children Procedures.
- The Local Safeguarding Children's Boards are responsible for
 - The Local Safeguarding Children Board's lead professional for child sexual exploitation will, on behalf of the Local Safeguarding Children's Boards organise a quarterly multi agency meeting. The purpose of this meeting will be:
 - To review performance in relation to the response of member agencies.
 - To review the local implementation of the protocols
 - To identify areas of concerns.
 - To identify any patterns and trends in reports of child sexual exploitation.
 - To develop local strategies/ plans to address concerns/ patterns/ trends.

PROSECUTE

STRATEGIC ACTION 6: DISRUPTION

- Use disruption of perpetrator activity as an important tool in preventing child sexual exploitation.
- Work together across all agencies to develop appropriate disruption tactics Individual.
- Actively plan how each agency can contribute to disrupting perpetrator behaviour.

STRATEGIC ACTION 7 : BRINGING OFFENDERS TO JUSTICE

- Ensuring abusers are brought to justice in an effective and appropriate way to safeguard children and young people. Offenders must be held to account for their behaviour.
- A clear understanding needs to be developed and agreed about the balance between the welfare of the child and the criminal justice considerations.

All agencies will:

- Ensure that workers co-operate with Police investigators in relation to the detection and prosecution of crime.
- Ensure appropriate information is shared with the police, information and intelligence sharing is crucial part of the investigation process victim of child sexual abuse.

The police will:

- Ensure that victims of child sexual exploitation are appropriately supported through the investigation and court process.
- Ensure offenders are identified / targeted.
- Ensure children involved in sexual exploitation are treated as victims.

PROTECT

STRATEGIC ACTION 5: SAFEGUARDING

The Cheshire and Merseyside Local Safeguarding Children Boards will each:

- Develop a Child Sexual Exploitation multi-agency protocol which sets out the standards and provides guidance for multi- agency working in tackling child sexual exploitation.

- Ensure that responses to concerns about child sexual exploitation are managed via a multi-agency process and in accordance with these protocols.

- Ensure information is shared appropriately and especially with children's services and the Police.

- Ensure that individual agencies to develop their own policies and practice guidance which sets standards relating to how that agency responds to / works towards tackling child sexual exploitation. This will be monitored by the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

- Ensure agencies work together in recording and monitoring the prevalence of child sexual exploitation.

- Evaluate the effectiveness of service provision and identify and fill any gaps in service provision in supporting children and their families.

- Provide ongoing scrutiny and governance of policy, procedure and practice in service delivery.

PROFILE

STRATEGIC ACTION 1: PROFILING

- Assess the awareness and levels of understanding of professionals in relation to child sexual exploitation.
- Identify the prevalence and levels of child sexual exploitation in the area.

STRATEGIC ACTION 2: SERVICE PROVISION

- Map the availability of services for supporting sexually exploited children and young people.
- Focus on the needs of children and young people who may be sexually exploited when planning and commissioning services.

PREVENT

STRATEGIC ACTION 3: PREVENTION

Awareness Raising with Children and Families:

Work with parents and carers to supplement and reinforce that awareness.

- Engage with children and young people to ensure they have an understanding of the issues surrounding child sexual exploitation.

- Develop activities which will dissuade children and young people becoming involved in child sexual exploitation.
- Awareness Raising in communities and Community Engagement.
- Develop community intelligence to understand child sexual exploitation.
- Raise awareness of targeted groups / organisations, for example, taxi, hotel and leisure organisations.
- Engage with our local communities and raise awareness of CSE and how it affects individuals.
- Undertake proactive communication with the media.

STRATEGIC ACTION 4: TRAINING

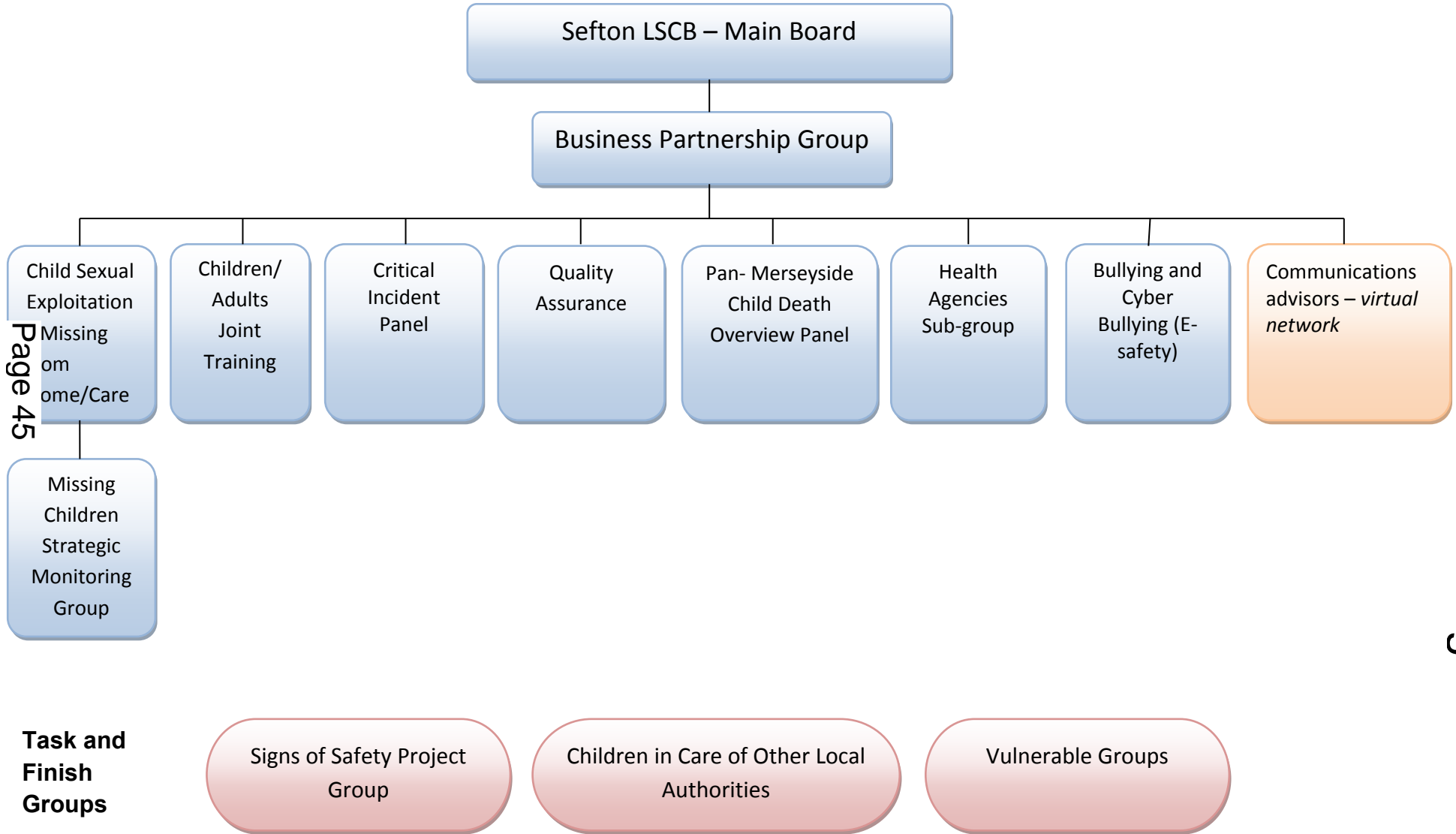
- Undertake a review of all single and multi-agency training for professionals in terms of content and targeted delivery.
- As Local Safeguarding Children Boards, ensure the provision of appropriate multi agency training.

As single agencies, devise training to:

- Ensure staff working with or in contact with children are able to identify those children and young people at risk of child sexual exploitation.
- Ensure staff working with or in contact with children are able to identify activities employed by offenders / abusers.
- Ensure staff know what interventions are appropriate and how to implement and/or signpost to appropriate agencies / services.
- Ensure that the provision of training for their agency is delivered in line with the role of the professional and the level of detail they require.

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Sefton LSCB Structure 2015



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**Sefton LSCB Partnership System
to address Child Sexual Exploitation concerns**

October 2014

Glossary:

CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
SPOC	Single Point of Contact. Each agency has a named individual who has responsibilities as a Single Point of Contact for supporting and challenging their organisation to identify CSE and make a referral to the MASH. A list of agency SPOCs is maintained by the LSCB.
OLA	Other Local Authority Placement – This is when a child is ‘looked after’ by another Local Authority and is placed in a care placement within the Sefton Boundary. A notification is sent by the Placing Authority to Sefton Safeguarding Children Unit. All Notifications are analysed for risk of CSE. Those with CSE identified are forwarded to the MASH CSE Police Officer.
MASH	Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub – MASH review all CSE professional referral forms and make a decision if this is a Child protection Matter which involves concern regarding parenting the young person receives, or, if there are no concerns regarding parenting refer the young person to the MACSE
MACSE	Multi Agency Child Sexual Exploitation Panel – This is a Panel which meets fortnightly to discuss all children and young people considered to be at risk of or experiencing child sexual abuse. This Panel is co-chaired by Merseyside Police Sefton DCI and Service Manager for Sefton Safeguarding Children Unit. The Panel invites SPOCS and individuals who are working with the child / young person and relevant Police Officers involved in the CSE investigation
IRO	Independent Reviewing Officers chair the Child Protection Case Conference as a Child Protection Chair.
CIN	Child in Need of additional support services at level 3a and 3b of the LSCB Thresholds.
CP	Child Protection. A child is placed in a Child Protection Plan (CP Plan) when they are considered to be at levels 3b or 4 of the LSCB thresholds in that they are at risk of or experiencing significant harm due to the parenting they receive.
LAC	Looked After Child –a child who is being cared for by the Local Authority
DCI	Detective Chief Inspector of Merseyside Police
BIP	Business Intelligence and Performance Service. Service within the Local Authority with responsibility for performance analysis to inform service delivery, planning and commissioning.
DCS	Director of Children’s Services
LSCB QA	Local Safeguarding Children Board Quality Assurance Sub Group. A multi-agency Sub Group of the LSCB which analyses performance data, to identify patterns and trends to inform the focus of qualitative audit of single and multi-agency safeguarding practice.

**Taxi's contact Police via '101'.
Police send vulnerable person
notification to FCIU / MASH**

**Other Local Authority Placement
Notification identifies a looked
after child is at CSE risk – Sefton
Safeguarding Unit to send
Notification Form to MASH CSE
Police Officer**

SPOCS for each agency

- List of SPOCs to be maintained by Safeguarding Unit
- SPOCS to monitor use of Safeguarding 1 form completion and challenge where lack of use across service
- SPOC provided with copy of all CSE 1 & 2 forms so has overview of CSE concerns within agency involvement
- CSE 1 & 2 forms completed by agency working with child and e mailed to MASH with professional referral form

MASH

MASH to receive all completed CSE Safeguarding 1 forms (regardless of outcome) to review extra information accessed by MASH agencies and use Signs of Safety model.

If concerns regarding parenting Child Protection procedures to be implemented and Case Conference to be held if S47 investigation outcome concludes CP Plan required.

If CIN - use same planning template within C&F Assessment as revised MACSE CSE planning template and send referral to MACSE for overview.

If a child is already known to Social care – CIN, CP or LAC, and concerns re: **CSE arise**, contact to be sent to MASH for multi-agency MASH checks and commence decision re: above as to how CSE concerns should be addressed – CP (re: CIN), or via MASCE for ongoing CIN or LAC

If CSE concerns not identified – referral returned to SPOC with reasons why and proposed interventions, with request for ongoing monitoring and use of CSE

Child Protection Procedures

- Named IRO for CSE to attend MACSE to provide analysis of perpetrators identified via CP Meetings to MACSE & raise any concerns re: agency involvement in CP Plans to address CSE risk.
- CP Plan re: CSE to take same form of planning template as revised MACSE CSE Planning tool.

**MACSE
(Joint Chair – DCI Police & Safeguarding Children Unit
Service Manager**

- All young people referred to MACSE.
- MACSE has allocated time slots to discuss each young person.
- Parent / carer and young person invited.
- SPOCS attend MACSE with operational staff from each agency to develop a CSE Safeguarding Plan.
- Business Officer / Analyst to organise allocation of slots for each young person & to minute NEW PLANNING TEMPLATE and send to all agencies involved to record on their records via secure email.
- Police analyst and BIP Rep to attend as standing members to analyse perpetrator data for patterns and trends analyst

LSCB QA Sub Group

QA Sub Group members to QA:

- CSE referrals to MASH, CP, CIN and MACSE CSE Plans every 6 months in 1 day multi agency case file audit.
- Analyse data from MACSE re: referral rates from agencies, trends and geographical patterns and sanction and detection rates.

**MACSE CSE data& QA findings to be reported to LSCB & CSIB 1/4ly
report by BIP and Police Analyst resources, data signed off by DCI &
Safeguarding LA Lead as Joint MACSE Chairs**

CSE PROSECUTE OPERATION

- Led by Merseyside Police - Joint Agency Operation with multi agency resources
- Decision to commence Operation led by MACSE Meeting
- All Operation updates and outcomes reported to DCS and Merseyside Police Assistant Chief Commander

CSE PREVENT OPERATION

- Led by Merseyside Police - Joint Agency Operation with multi agency resources
- Decision to commence Operation led by MACSE Meeting based upon trend – seasonal and place data analysis
- All Operation updates and outcomes reported to DCS and Merseyside Police Assistant Chief Commander

**DCS, LSCB Independent Chair, Chief
Executive & Elected Member Scrutiny**

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Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children’s Services)

Date of Meeting: 31 March 2015

Subject: Troubled Families Programme

Report of: Director of Young People and Families **Wards Affected:** All

Is this a Key Decision? No **Is it included in the Forward Plan?** No

Exempt / Confidential No

Purpose/Summary

To provide information to Members regarding the Troubled Families Programme nomination and assessment process undertaken in the identification of a Troubled Family.

Recommendation

That Members note the content of the report.

How does the decision contribute to the Council’s Corporate Objectives?

	<u>Corporate Objective</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	√		
2	Jobs and Prosperity	√		
3	Environmental Sustainability		√	
4	Health and Well-Being	√		
5	Children and Young People	√		
6	Creating Safe Communities	√		
7	Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
8	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy	√		

Agenda Item 6

Reasons for the Recommendation:

Members requested a report describing the process by which Troubled Families in Sefton are identified.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

The first phase of the Troubled Families programme is a three-year Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) directly-funded programme of work. Funding is by way of a payment by results (PbR) framework. Income is determined by the number of families identified in Sefton that meet Government and local criteria each year. A payment of an “attachment fee” is made for each family incorporated into the programme. A second, “results fee” is payable when pre-determined outcomes are achieved for that family. The PbR is on a sliding scale, with reductions in up front attachment fees, but increases in reward fees in years 2 and 3.

In June 2013, HM Government announced that the Troubled Families programme is to be extended for a further five years from 2015. Funding has been agreed for the programme until 2016. The financial elements of the expanded programme remain stable over the lifetime of the programme – a £1000 attachment fee for identification and incorporation of a family into the programme; a £800 reward payment for outcomes associated with significant and sustained progress. A target of 2070 Sefton families will be identified and “turned around” over the five year span of the programme.

(B) Capital Costs

No capital costs are currently associated with this programme.

Implications:

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

Legal	
Human Resources	
Equality	
1. No Equality Implication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Equality Implications identified and mitigated	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Equality Implication identified and risk remains	<input type="checkbox"/>

Impact on Service Delivery:

The Troubled Families programme is designed to improve the lives of families with multiple and complex needs. A significant element of this work is to enhance service delivery to better meet the needs of families and reduce the costs associated with dealing with issues raised by families.

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

The Head of Corporate Finance and ICT (FD 3481) comments as follows:

Any unspent funding for this successful programme has been carried forward for use in the following year.

The Head of Corporate Legal Services (LD 2773) has been consulted and comments have been noted.

Are there any other options available for consideration?

No. Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

Contact Officer: Michael Hanrahan
Tel: 0151 934 3972
Email: michael.hanrahan@sefton.gov.uk
Troubled Families Coordinator

Background Papers:

Financial framework for the Troubled Families programme's payment-by-results scheme for local authorities (DCLG, 2012)
Financial Framework for the Expanded Troubled Families Programme (DCLG, November 2014)
Presentation to Overview and Scrutiny November 2014

Agenda Item 6

1.0 Introduction / Background

- 1.1 In December 2011, HM Government announced a three-year programme to radically transform the lives of the country's most troubled families. Almost £450 million has been made available in a cross-Government drive to turn around the lives of 120,000 of some of the country's most troubled families by the end of this Parliament. In 2014, following the success of the initial programme, HM Government announced an additional 5 year expanded programme to work with an additional 400,000 families across England.
- 1.2 To date, the Troubled Families programme has resulted in income to Sefton Council of over £2.5M since July 2012. The breakdown is as follows:

Phase 1

Attachment fees and reward monies	£2,132,900
Coordination grant	£300,000

Expanded programme

Attachment fees	£104,000
Interim coordination grant	£25,000

Total **£2,561,900**

2.0 Identifying Families – Phase 1 (Original Programme)

2.1 Troubled families are defined as households that:

- Are involved in crime and disorder
- Have children not in school
- Have an adult in receipt of out-of-work benefits
- Result in high costs to public finances

2.2 Many, if not all, of these families will be already known to Sefton Council and its partners. These families will have been receiving services, benefits and interventions for long periods, and in some cases, over generations. This programme represents an opportunity to take a systemic and strategic approach to the most challenging families that have concerned public agencies for years.

3.0 Identification Criteria

The nationally determined criteria were altered slightly in March 2013 in recognition of learning gained from the first nine months of the programme, in particular the role that schools can play in identifying the early onset of dysfunction and family issues.

1. Crime / Antisocial Behaviour

Identify young people involved in **crime** and families involved in **antisocial behaviour**, defined as:

Households with 1 or more under 18-year-old with a proven offence in the last 12 months

AND / OR

Households where 1 or more member has an antisocial behaviour order, antisocial behaviour injunction, antisocial behaviour contract, or where the family has been subject to a housing-related antisocial behaviour intervention in the last 12 months (such as a notice of seeking possession on antisocial behaviour grounds, a housing-related injunction, a demotion order, eviction from social housing on antisocial behaviour grounds).

2. Education

Identify households affected by **truancy** or **exclusion from school**, where a child:

Has been subject to permanent exclusion; three or more fixed school exclusions across the last 3 consecutive terms;

OR

Is in a Pupil Referral Unit or alternative provision because they have previously been excluded; *OR* is not on a school roll or has been placed in specialist provision within a mainstream school for the purposes of improving behaviour which is comparable to the use of alternative provision;

AND / OR

Has had 15%+ unauthorised absences from school across the last 3 consecutive terms or evidence of a pattern of poor attendance that gives the Head Teacher an equivalent level of concern. Authorised absence may be taken into account where there is a comparable attendance problem masked by recording practices.

3. Work

Once families have been identified using one or both of the criteria above, a third filter can be used to identify families which also have an adult on Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) out-of-work benefits (Employment and Support Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, Carer's Allowance, Income Support and/or Jobseekers Allowance, Severe Disablement Allowance).

4. Local Discretion

Families that meet the threshold level 2 or above of the Local Safeguarding Children Board Threshold Model.

4.0 Identification Process

Step 1a - All young people that had been convicted in the previous 12 months were identified using Youth Offending Team records.

Agenda Item 6

Step 1b - Households and the names of residents that have been subject to an antisocial behaviour intervention were identified from records held by Sefton's Antisocial Behaviour Unit, Riverside Housing and One Vision Housing.

Step 2 - Children who had met one or more of the education criteria above were identified through records produced by schools and held centrally by the Attendance and Welfare Service.

Step 3 - Following these "local" searches, the names and addresses of families identified in the steps above were forwarded to the Department for Work and Pensions and households with adults in receipt of out-of-work benefits identified.

- 4.1 Households that met a minimum of two out of the three criteria were included in the programme.
- 4.2 In Year 1 of the programme, 220 families were identified; in Year 2, 330 families were identified; and in Year 3, 100 families were identified. This was in line with the guidance provided by the DCLG.

5.0 Identifying Families – Phase 2 (Expanded Programme)

5.1 The Expanded Programme is a five-year programme due to run until 2020. As a result of the learning gained by LA areas across England, the Expanded Troubled Families programme includes a much broader set of criteria that can be used to identify Troubled Families. To be eligible for the expanded programme, each family must have at least **two** of the following **six** problems:

- Parents and children involved in crime or antisocial behaviour
- Children who have not been attending school regularly
- Children who need help; children of all ages who need help are identified as in need or who are subject to a Child Protection Plan
- Adults out of work or at risk of financial exclusion or young people at risk of worklessness
- Families affected by domestic violence and abuse
- Parents and children with a range of health problems.

5.2 This range of problem areas allows for a level of discretion in selecting families for the programme. Sefton Council is currently consulting with partner agencies to consider the key issues that affect families locally in order to generate a balanced cohort of families that represent the different intensity and type of need, especially where this would allow alignment with Sefton Council's strategic priorities of supporting the most vulnerable families, ensuring the health and wellbeing of residents and building resilient communities.

5.3 With this in mind, partners are refining the use of a "Vulnerability Ladder" to develop a formula to prioritise families that meet the criteria set out above. The ladder is strongly linked to Sefton's Local Safeguarding Children Board Threshold model, linking levels of family need to the tier of support required. This further embeds the use of this approach across Early Intervention and Prevention and Social Care.

- 5.4 The DCLG has also indicated that families should be prioritised for inclusion on the following basis:
- Families with multiple problems who are most likely to benefit from an integrated, whole family approach; and
 - Families who are the highest cost to the public purse.
- 5.5 In addition to these key drivers, a pragmatic approach will also have to be adopted that allows Sefton Council to draw down the income available for the programme. In common with the original programme, the expanded programme is based on payment by results - £1000 per family identified, with an additional payment of £800 when a range of family outcomes are achieved.
- 5.6 Those selected will represent a balance of families that are difficult to engage and have deep-seated, difficult to resolve problems; families that will engage willingly and actively work with family workers to resolve their problems; and families that will require a relatively “light-touch” to achieve the required outcomes. This blend is necessary to maintain the flow of reward monies into the programme for continued investment into services and resources designed to support families with complex and multiple problems.
- 5.7 In total, over the predicted five-year period of the expanded programme, Sefton and its partners will work with a minimum of 2070 families. Initially, 104 families meeting the new criteria will be identified and be worked with by June 2015. The use of the developing selection tools will provide useful learning in identifying and incorporating families into Sefton’s Troubled Families programme.

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Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services) **Date of Meeting:** 31 March 2015

Subject: Ofsted Inspection - Early Years Provision and Day Nursery Provision **Wards Affected:** All

Report of: Director of Young People and Families

Is this a Key Decision? No **Is it included in the Forward Plan?** No
Exempt/Confidential No

Purpose/Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of Early Years Inspection outcomes within Sefton and to make National and North West comparisons.

Recommendation

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to receive the report and note the content.

How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Objectives?

	<u>Corporate Objective</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	✓		
2	Jobs and Prosperity	✓		
3	Environmental Sustainability		✓	
4	Health and Well-Being	✓		
5	Children and Young People	✓		
6	Creating Safe Communities		✓	
7	Creating Inclusive Communities	✓		
8	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy		✓	

Agenda Item 7

Reasons for the Recommendation:

Members requested the report as an update on Inspection outcomes.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

There are no financial consequences as a direct result of this report. However, Early Years settings are supported by the Council through the payment of Early Years Dedicated Schools Grant, to provide for up to 15 hours per week free entitlement to nursery provision for eligible 2 year olds and all 3-4 year olds. Any providers receiving a final judgement of 'inadequate' from Ofsted, are not technically obliged to receive this funding from the Local Authority subject to them making any necessary improvements.

(B) Capital Costs

No capital costs are currently associated with this programme.

Implications:

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

Financial		
Legal		
Human Resources		
Equality		
1.	No Equality Implication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.	Equality Implications identified and mitigated	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Equality Implication identified and risk remains	<input type="checkbox"/>

Impact of the Proposals on Service Delivery:

An element of the School Readiness Service is to improve delivery and standards of childcare provision across Sefton. There is significant research which shows a direct correlation between young children accessing quality early years provision and improved outcomes in future life.

“If the race is already halfway run even before children begin school, then we clearly need to examine what happens in the earliest years.” (Esping-Andersen, 2005)

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

The Head of Corporate Finance and ICT has been consulted (FD3490/15) and comments have been incorporated into the report.

The Head of Corporate Legal Services has been consulted and comments have been incorporated into the report (LD 2782/15)

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

Contact Officer: Jacque Finlay
Tel: 0151 934 3696
Email: Jacqueline.finlay@sefton.gov.uk
(Locality Lead for School Readiness)

Background Papers:

- Conducting Early Years Inspections from September 2014, Ofsted 2014
- The framework for the regulation and inspection of provision on the Early Years register from September 2014, Ofsted 2014
- Evaluation schedule for inspections of registered Early Years provision from September 2014, Ofsted 2014
- Statutory framework for EYFS, setting the standard for learning, develop and care for early education and childcare, DfE March 2014
- Early Education and childcare, statutory guidance for local authorities, DfE September 2014
- Sefton Council Childcare Sufficiency Audit 2014

1. Introduction/Background

1.1 The Childcare Act 2006 places a duty on the Local Authority to secure sufficient childcare places (so far as is reasonably practical) to enable parents to take up or remain in work, or to undertake education and training leading to work. All registered childcare providers are subject to an Ofsted inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006.

1.2 Provision which has been registered on the Early Years Register is subject to inspection. This includes: childminders and group provision; nurseries; pre-schools; private nursery schools; before and after school care and holiday playschemes for children in the early years age group; and school provision where children under three attend and/or where no child attending is a pupil of the school and/or it is not part of the school's activities.

1.3 The size and complexity of provision determines the amount of time spent on inspection and the number of inspectors that are deployed. When inspecting a childminder, the inspector will normally be on the premises for about three hours. For group provision which operates restricted hours, it is likely the inspector will be present for around four hours. Where provision is open for longer than this, the inspection usually takes at least six hours and sometimes longer if the provision is very large.

Agenda Item 7

1.4 Group providers normally receive no notice of the inspection. Childminders or group providers that do not operate regularly, such as summer play schemes, will usually receive a call no more than five days before the inspection to check which days they are operating and whether there are children on roll.

1.5 In addition to meeting the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements, Early Years Childcare providers must also comply with other relevant legislation. This includes safeguarding legislation and legislation relating to employment, anti-discrimination, health and safety and data collection.

1.6 Within the current Ofsted framework, all providers will be inspected at least once every three years and will be awarded one of four judgements: Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement and Inadequate.

1.7 The current Ofsted framework came into operation in September 2012. Prior to this the "Requires Improvement" was "Satisfactory". For the purposes of this report, the two judgements of "satisfactory" and "requires improvement" will be captured under "requires improvement".

1.8 Provision judged as requires improvement is likely to have actions because it does not meet in full, one or more of the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

1.9 Nurseries and pre-schools judged as requires improvement will normally be re-inspected within 12 months. They will have two years to get to "good". A nursery or pre-school that has been judged as requires improvement at two consecutive inspections and is still not good at its third inspection is likely to be judged inadequate. This does not apply to childminders, before and after school care, holiday schemes or crèches.

1.10 If there is an unacceptable standard of care and learning, its overall effectiveness will be judged inadequate. At this point, the inspector must decide whether the provider has the capacity to put things right through non-statutory actions, or whether the failures are serious enough to warrant other enforcement action. Once judged inadequate, the Local Authority has no obligation to continue funding the provider for the 15 hours of free entitlement to nursery provision for eligible two year olds and 3-4 year olds in their care, unless and until improvements have been made. The Local Authority would, however, be mindful of the children in the setting, before making any decision to withdraw funding completely and the level of improvements required.

1.11 All provision judged inadequate will be re-inspected after six months.

2. An overview of Early Years Childcare provision within Sefton

2.1 One element under the remit of the School Readiness Service, is to provide support and challenge to all Registered Early Years providers, to ensure they meet the statutory duties laid down in the Early Years Foundation Stage, to focus on raising outcomes for young children and to narrow the achievement gap.

2.2 This is achieved through a menu of support which includes a robust training plan, observation visits to provision, joint observations of practice, safeguarding audits, support for leadership and management and targeted interventions and projects.

2.3 As of December 2014, Registered Early Years Provision across Sefton equates to the following:

Childminders	Group providers	Out of school	Holiday care	2 year old provision in schools
125	89	38	28	5

2.4 Further information and detail, as to where these providers are located and whether there is sufficient childcare in particular wards, along with average costs and an overview of quality, can be found in the annual childcare sufficiency report. A relatively new addition to the childcare market has been the addition of two year old provision in schools. Currently, any school wishing to provide early learning for two year olds is required to register separately with Ofsted as a childcare provider and as such undergo an additional inspection. It is expected that later this year, an amendment will be made to existing legislation which will, in the future, allow schools to just take two year olds without any additional registration process.

3. Outcomes of Early Years Inspections – the Sefton picture (as of December 2014)

	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate
PVI (private, voluntary & independent nurseries)	33%	50%	17%	
Childminders	12%	38%	25%	25%
Two year old provision in school	60%	40%		
ALL PROVISION	35%	43%	14%	8%

3.1 The most recent Early Years inspection outcome data, available for Sefton, reveals a very positive picture, with the exception of childminders.

3.2 The vast majority of children accessing childcare are within a private, voluntary or independent nursery setting and as such 83% of these are in good or outstanding provision.

3.3 Overall, taking all types of provision into account (including childminders), 78% of children across Sefton attend a childcare setting that is good or outstanding.

Agenda Item 7

3.4 The declining standards in childminder outcomes can be associated with lack of engagement from the sector. As a direct result, we have altered the delivery model, so that we now deliver support through Children Centre hubs, where more childminders access support. A proportion of childminders who “Require Improvement” or are “Inadequate” are still failing to engage with their local Children Centre to access support .

3.5 A clear process and protocol is in place for any provider failing to achieve good or outstanding at inspection and providers we may have concerns about. This follows the schools causing concern model and ensures intense targeted intervention for leadership and management, all staff within the setting and enhanced training opportunities. (See Appendix 1 for more information on the process.)

4. Outcomes for Early Years Inspections – Comparisons with National and North West

When considering National and North West comparisons, data Ofsted’s analytical reporting function - Data View - only captures more historical data, in broader categories. Therefore, analysis against regional and National data follows a slightly different footprint.

4.1 Overall Effectiveness for all Providers

	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate	
	Aug 2013	Aug 2012	Aug 2013	Aug 2012	Aug 2013	Aug 2012	Aug 2013	Aug 2012
National	12	12	65	62	21	25	1	1
North West	10	10	63	60	25	29	2	1
Sefton	17	17	64	63	19	20	0	0

Trend data across National, North West and Sefton show very little year on year movement.

When considering all providers, data for 2013 reveals that Sefton is performing above National and North West averages. The proportion of children accessing good or outstanding childcare is 8ppt above the North West average and 3ppt above National.

Also in Sefton, during this time frame, we had no providers judged to be inadequate.

4.2 Overall Effectiveness for all Private, Voluntary and Independent providers

	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate	
	Aug 2013	Aug 2012	Aug 2013	Aug 2012	Aug 2013	Aug 2012	Aug 2013	Aug 2012
National	15	14	67	64	16	21	2	1
North West	13	12	66	64	20	24	2	1
Sefton	14	15	70	68	14	16	1	0

When considering data for private, voluntary and independent nursery providers, the trend data shows slight differences. In all cases the number of good and outstanding providers has improved.

Once again, data from 2013 reveals that Sefton continues to be the best performing compared to National and North West Averages, with 84% of children accessing good or outstanding provision.

4.3 Overall Effectiveness for Childminders

	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate	
	Aug 2013	Aug 2012	Aug 2013	Aug 2012	Aug 2013	Aug 2012	Aug 2013	Aug 2012
National	10	10	65	61	24	28	1	1
North West	9	9	62	59	28	32	1	1
Sefton	18	18	58	58	23	23	1	1

Trend data for childminders remains fairly consistent. However, there are significant variations between the National, Local and North West picture.

For both 2012 and 2013 data, the proportion of outstanding childminders in Sefton far exceeds other averages. When considering the proportion of childminders that are good or outstanding, then the averages are more in line with National and North West data, though remain slightly ahead.

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5. Conclusions

“There is overwhelming evidence that tells us that the first few years in children’s lives shape their future development, and influence how well children do at school, their ongoing health and wellbeing and their achievements later in life. In addition, it is widely acknowledged that a strong focus on the first few years of children’s lives leads to huge economic, social and emotional benefits later on, both for individuals and for society as a whole.” Supporting Families in the Foundation Years, Department for Education & Department of Health, 2011.

As can be seen from the evidence presented, Early Years Outcomes are at a very high standard, in most cases out-performing National and Local averages. These consistently impressive results do not just occur. The School Readiness team who support and train childcare providers have themselves undertaken significant continued professional development. As a team, we are proactive in seeking and following new opportunities which we can share with providers to enhance provision further.

There is a very real expectation that with continued intervention, support and training, the trajectory of young children attending good or outstanding provision will continue to improve. A number of new initiatives including a closer alignment with Children’s Centres, the adoption of a research- based model ‘Five to Thrive’ and an emphasis on speech and language development will enhance provision further and ultimately raise outcomes for young children across Sefton.

Appendix 1 – Protocol Processes

Levels of concern within Protocol

Watching Brief

This category of settings may include settings who have a current Good or Outstanding judgement from OFSTED. However, due to quality issues (with Leadership and Management or Safeguarding for example) the School Readiness team have reason to believe that they may not achieve the good judgement if inspected by OFSTED.

Minor Concerns

Settings receiving the Minor Concerns categorisation may have a Requires Improvement judgement from OFSTED but have made significant progress in terms of their action plan and they have capacity to improve further without significant support. Additionally, this categorisation could apply to settings judged by OFSTED to be Good or Outstanding if there was a significant concern regarding Leadership and Management or Safeguarding held by the School Readiness team. Settings in this category will be able to access funding for vulnerable two year olds.

Level 1

Settings receiving the Level 1 categorisation may have either a Requires Improvement or Inadequate judgement from OFSTED. Some positive steps have been taken by the setting to achieve some of the objectives on the action plan and the setting has the capacity to continue to improve – with regular and sustained support from the School Readiness Team. Settings in this category will not be able to access funding for two year olds.

Level 2

Settings receiving the Level 2 categorisation may have either a Requires Improvement or Inadequate judgement from OFSTED. There has been limited (if any) progress made on the action plan and it is unlikely that the setting will make improvements without significant support from the School Readiness Team. Settings in this category will not be able to access funding for two year olds.

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Protocol for provision recently judged to be Requiring Improvement or Inadequate over a 3 month period

Provision judged to be Requiring Improvement

- Full review
- Detailed action plan drawn up
- Minimum of 6 visits from Quality Improvement Officer (combination of unannounced and announced visits)
- 2 In-house training sessions
- Unlimited training credits

Provision judged to be Inadequate

- Full review
- Detailed action plan drawn up
- Weekly visits unless outlined in plan (combination of unannounced and announced visits)
- 3 In-house training sessions
- Unlimited training credits
- 6 week monitoring visit by School Ready Officer

Agenda Item 8

Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee **Date of Meeting:** 31 March 2015
(Children's Services)

Subject: Cabinet Member Report

Report of: Director of Corporate Services

Wards Affected: All

Is this a Key Decision? No

Is it included in the Forward Plan? No

Exempt/Confidential No

Purpose/Summary

To submit to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee a recent Cabinet Member report.

Recommendation

That the report be noted.

How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Objectives?

	<u>Corporate Objective</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	√		
2	Jobs and Prosperity		√	
3	Environmental Sustainability		√	
4	Health and Well-Being		√	
5	Children and Young People	√		
6	Creating Safe Communities		√	
7	Creating Inclusive Communities		√	
8	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy	√		

Reasons for the Recommendation:

In order to keep Overview and Scrutiny Members informed, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has agreed that relevant Cabinet Member reports should be submitted to appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committees, with the agreement of Chairs.

What will it cost and how will it be financed? N/A

Implications:

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

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Legal	
Human Resources	
Equality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1. No Equality Implication	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Equality Implications identified and mitigated	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Equality Implication identified and risk remains	<input type="checkbox"/>

Impact on Service Delivery: N/A

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

The Head of Corporate Finance and ICT has no comments on this report because the contents of the report have no direct financial implications.
(FD 3497/15)

The Head of Corporate Legal Services has no comments on this report.
(LD 2789/15)

Are there any other options available for consideration?

No.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

Contact Officer: Mike Morris
Tel: 0151 934 2045
Email: mike.morris@sefton.gov.uk

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1 In order to keep Overview and Scrutiny Members informed, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has agreed that relevant Cabinet Member reports should be submitted to appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committees.
- 1.2 Attached to this report, for information, is the most recent Cabinet Member report for March 2015 for the Children, Schools, Families and Leisure portfolio that falls within the remit of this Committee.

2. Recent Developments

- 2.1 At its meeting on 30 August 2011, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board proposed that, in future, Cabinet Member reports will be published on the Modern Gov. library and an e-mail alert will be sent to Scrutiny Chairs. In the event that Chairs identify any issues they would like to raise for discussion at their next Overview and Scrutiny Committee, they should alert the appropriate officer and this will enable appropriate officer attendance at that meeting.
- 2.2 The Cabinet Member update report attached was provided to the Chair of the Committee on its availability. The Chair has indicated that he would wish the update report to be included on the agenda, for general information purposes for Committee Members.

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CABINET MEMBER UPDATE REPORT Overview & Scrutiny (Children's Services) Tuesday 31 March 2015		
Councillor	Portfolio	Period of Report
Ian Moncur	Children, Schools & Families	March 2015

LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICE Head of Service, Mike McSorley

- Hillside and Litherland High Schools conversion to sponsored Academies

Hillside and Litherland High Schools became sponsored academies on 1 March 2015 following the schools being placed in an Ofsted category at their last inspection. The Secretary of State made the academy orders to convert the schools into sponsored academies and the process was completed on 1 March.

- Children's Transport Consultation

Following a report to Cabinet in January the Council are consulting on Post 16 SEN Transport and Faith Transport to determine whether they should change the policy on these elements of home to school transport which are both non-statutory.

- Education and Skills Strategy

Consultation has commenced with stakeholders on the Draft Education and Skills Strategy. The strategy will set out the vision for how all stakeholders will work together to ensure all children and young people in Sefton are equipped with the knowledge, skills and desire to fulfil their potential. The consultation seeks views on setting up an Education Partnership Board made up of all key stakeholders to oversee implementation of the strategy.

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Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee **Date of Meeting:** 31 March 2015
(Children’s Services)

Subject: Work Programme-Key Decision Forward Plan (1April to 31 July 2015)

Report of: Director of Corporate Services

Wards Affected: All

Is this a Key Decision? No **Is it included in the Forward Plan?** No

Exempt/Confidential No

Purpose/Summary

To submit to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee the latest Key Decision Forward Plan and Work Programme.

Recommendations

1. The Committee is invited to consider the items for pre-scrutiny from the attached Key Decision Forward Plan.
2. The Committee is requested to note the work programme document for 2014/15 and the fact that a work programme document for 2015/16 will be submitted to the next meeting for approval.
3. The views of the Committee are requested on the possible inclusion of Alder Hey Children’s Hospital NHS Trust in the relevant draft joint working protocol.

How does the decision contribute to the Council’s Corporate Objectives?

	<u>Corporate Objective</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2	Jobs and Prosperity		√	
3	Environmental Sustainability		√	
4	Health and Well-Being		√	
5	Children and Young People	√		
6	Creating Safe Communities		√	
7	Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
8	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy	√		

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Reasons for the Recommendations:

The pre-scrutiny process assists the Cabinet and Cabinet Members to make effective decisions by examining issues beforehand and making recommendations prior to a determination being made.

Any work programme topics should be chosen to demonstrate that the work which scrutiny undertakes will add value to the Council.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

N/A

Implications:

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

Legal: There are no legal implications arising from the contents of this report.	
Human Resources	
Equality	
1. No Equality Implication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Equality Implications identified and mitigated	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Equality Implication identified and risk remains	<input type="checkbox"/>

Impact on Service Delivery:

N/A

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

The Head of Corporate Finance and ICT has no comments on this report because the contents of the report have no financial implications (FD3494/15).

The Head of Corporate Legal Services has no comments on this report because the contents of the report have no legal implications (LD2786/15).

Are there any other options available for consideration?

No

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

Contact Officer: Mike Morris
Tel: 0151 934 2045
Email: mike.morris@sefton.gov.uk

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. KEY DECISION FORWARD PLAN

- 1.1 Members may request to pre-scrutinise items from the Key Decision Forward Plan. Such items must fall under the remit (Terms of Reference) of this Committee.
- 1.2 The pre-scrutiny process assists the Cabinet and Cabinet Members to make effective decisions by examining issues beforehand and making recommendations prior to a determination being made.
- 1.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has requested that only those Key Decisions which fall under the remit of each Overview and Scrutiny Committee should be included on the agenda for consideration.
- 1.4 The latest Forward Plan is attached at **Appendix A**.
- 1.5 There are three items within the current Plan which fall within the remit of this Committee, namely Community Adolescent Service – Residential Accommodation, Children’s Transport Review and Children with Disability – Eligibility Criteria.
- 1.6 If Members require further information in relation to these items, they are advised to contact the officers named in the Plan, prior to the meeting.
- 1.7 *The Committee is invited to consider the items for pre-scrutiny from the attached Key Decision Forward Plan.***

2. WORK PROGRAMME TOPICS 2014/15

2.1 *The attached work programme document for 2014/15 (Appendix B) has been prepared and Members are invited to comment note this. A revised draft work programme document for 2015/16 will be submitted to the meeting of the Committee to be held on 23 June 2015.*

3. JOINT WORKING PROTOCOLS

3.1 At its meeting on 6 January 2015, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care) considered draft joint working protocols between that Committee and other local health bodies, in response to the document produced by the Department of Health entitled “Local Authority Health Scrutiny: Guidance to Support Local Authorities and their Partners to deliver Effective Health Scrutiny” and in order to demonstrate that clear understanding on respective roles between the health scrutiny function and other health bodies existed in Sefton.

3.2 In considering the draft protocol between the Committee and NHS organisations in Sefton and surrounding areas that provide services to residents of Sefton, a Member of the Committee suggested that Alder Hey Children's Hospital NHS Trust might be included within the protocol. Members of the Committee discussed the possibility of holding an informal meeting of the Committee to discuss future agenda items and the focus of this Committee.

Agenda Item 9

3.3 The Committee resolved that “the Senior Democratic Services Officer be authorised to seek guidance from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services) on the possible inclusion of Alder Hey Children's Hospital NHS Trust in the draft relevant protocol”. The draft protocol has been separately supplied to members of this Committee.

3.4 The views of the Committee are requested.



SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

FOR THE FOUR MONTH PERIOD 1 APRIL 2015 - 31 JULY 2015

This Forward Plan sets out the details of the key decisions which the Cabinet, individual Cabinet Members or Officers expect to take during the next four month period. The Plan is rolled forward every month and is available to the public at least 28 days before the beginning of each month.

A Key Decision is defined in the Council's Constitution as:

1. any Executive decision that is not in the Annual Revenue Budget and Capital Programme approved by the Council and which requires a gross budget expenditure, saving or virement of more than £100,000 or more than 2% of a Departmental budget, whichever is the greater;
2. any Executive decision where the outcome will have a significant impact on a significant number of people living or working in two or more Wards

As a matter of local choice, the Forward Plan also includes the details of any significant issues to be initially considered by the Executive Cabinet and submitted to the Full Council for approval.

Anyone wishing to make representations about any of the matters listed below may do so by contacting the relevant officer listed against each Key Decision, within the time period indicated.

Under the Access to Information Procedure Rules set out in the Council's Constitution, a Key Decision may not be taken, unless:

- it is published in the Forward Plan;
- 5 clear days have lapsed since the publication of the Forward Plan; and
- if the decision is to be taken at a meeting of the Cabinet, 5 clear days notice of the meeting has been given.

The law and the Council's Constitution provide for urgent key decisions to be made, even though they have not been included in the Forward Plan in accordance with Rule 26 (General Exception) and Rule 28 (Special Urgency) of the Access to Information Procedure Rules.

Copies of the following documents may be inspected at the Town Hall, Oriel Road, Bootle L20 7AE or accessed from the Council's website: www.sefton.gov.uk

- Council Constitution
- Forward Plan
- Reports on the Key Decisions to be taken
- Other documents relating to the proposed decision may be submitted to the decision making meeting and these too will be made available by the contact officer named in the Plan
- The minutes for each Key Decision, which will normally be published within 5 working days after having been made

Agenda Item 9

APPENDIX A

Some reports to be considered by the Cabinet/Council may contain exempt information and will not be made available to the public. The specific reasons (Paragraph No(s)) why such reports are exempt are detailed in the Plan and the Paragraph No(s) and descriptions are set out below:-

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the Authority
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or b) to make an order or direction under any enactment
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime
8. Information falling within paragraph 3 above is not exempt information by virtue of that paragraph if it is required to be registered under—
 - (a) the Companies Act 1985;
 - (b) the Friendly Societies Act 1974;
 - (c) the Friendly Societies Act 1992;
 - (d) the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts 1965 to 1978;
 - (e) the Building Societies Act 1986; or
 - (f) the Charities Act 1993.
9. Information is not exempt information if it relates to proposed development for which the local planning authority may grant itself planning permission pursuant to regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992
10. Information which—
 - (a) falls within any of paragraphs 1 to 7 above; and
 - (b) is not prevented from being exempt by virtue of paragraph 8 or 9 above, is exempt information if and so long, as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the Cabinet and Council which are held at the Town Hall, Oriel Road, Bootle or the Town Hall, Lord Street, Southport. The dates and times of the meetings are published on www.sefton.gov.uk or you may contact the Democratic Services Section on telephone number 0151 934 2068.

NOTE:

For ease of identification, items listed within the document for the first time will appear shaded.

Margaret Carney
Chief Executive

FORWARD PLAN INDEX OF ITEMS

Item Heading	Officer Contact	Page No
Community Adolescent Service - Residential Accommodation	Marlyn Banham marlyn.banham@sefton.gov.uk 0151 934 3128	4
School Performance Review - Recommendations	Mike Morris mike.morris@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 2045	6
Children's Transport Review	Paul Rogers paul.rogers@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 3317	7
Children with Disability-Eligibility Criteria	Colette Jones colette.jones@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 3741	8
Adult Social Care Change Programme	Lauren Sadler lauren.sadler@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 4438	10
Public Health Annual Report	Matthew Saunders matthew.saunders@sefton.gov.uk 0151 934 3243	11
Contract Review	Jill Coule jill.coule@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 2031	12
Senate Business Park Bridle Road Bootle	David Street david.street1@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 2751	13
Disposal of Surplus Council-Owned Land	Ingrid Berry ingrid.berry@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 3556	14
Former Beach Road School and Training Centre Beach Road Litherland	David Street david.street1@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 2751	16
Former Maghull Library Liverpool Road South Maghull	David Street david.street1@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 2751	17
Former Birkdale Library Liverpool Road Southport	David Street david.street1@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 2751	18
Procurement of Southport Theatre and Convention Centre	Mark Catherall mark.catherall@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 2315	19
Property Search Litigation	Peter Cowley Litigation.senior@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 2250	20
Crosby Town Centre Investment Strategy	Andrew Hall andrew.hall@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 3604	22

SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

Agenda Item 9

APPENDIX A

<p>Details of Decision to be taken</p>	<p>Community Adolescent Service - Residential Accommodation Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council is currently developing a comprehensive Community Adolescence Service with support from the DfE. This new service will have at its core a commitment to evidence based progressive theory and practice. As part of this development the Council is seeking a partner from the Independent Sector to provide a dedicated residential care home. For the chosen provider of the residential care home, this represents an exciting opportunity to contribute to a new way of working with a high DfE profile. A key element of this scheme will be that the provider's staff team, involved in this project, will receive full training in social Pedagogy and Restorative practice funded by the purchaser. The scheme will also be externally evaluated for evidence of impact and the results will be of national standing. The procurement of this residential home will be based on a block contract and represents a guaranteed source of annual income for the successful provider.</p>			
<p>Decision Maker</p>	<p>Cabinet</p>			
<p>Decision Expected</p>	<p>16 Apr 2015</p>			
<p>Key Decision Criteria</p>	<p>Financial</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Community Impact</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Exempt Report</p>	<p>Open</p>			
<p>Wards Affected</p>	<p>All Wards</p>			
<p>Scrutiny Committee Area</p>	<p>Children's Services</p>			
<p>Persons/Organisations to be Consulted</p>	<p>Senior leadership team, Corporate Parenting Board, Local Safeguarding Children's Board and Sefton Community Safety Partnership, Staff groups across social care and early help</p>			
<p>Method(s) of Consultation</p>	<p>Briefings, meetings, presentations, discussions</p>			
<p>List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker</p>	<p>community Adolescent Service - Residential Accommodation</p>			
<p>Contact Officer(s) details</p>	<p>Marlyn Banham marlyn.banham@sefton.gov.uk 0151 934</p>			

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**SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
FORWARD PLAN**

Details of Decision to be taken	School Performance Review - Recommendations To present to the Cabinet the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services) to investigate an identified disparity in performance between schools in the secondary and primary sectors, particularly in the south of the Borough.			
Decision Maker	Cabinet			
Decision Expected	16 Apr 2015			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	No	Community Impact	Yes
Exempt Report	Open			
Wards Affected	All Wards			
Scrutiny Committee Area	Children's Services			
Persons/Organisations to be Consulted	All secondary and primary schools; professional teaching associations; and diocesan authorities.			
Method(s) of Consultation	Via email.			
List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker	School Performance Review - Recommendations			
Contact Officer(s) details	Mike Morris mike.morris@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 2045			

**SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
FORWARD PLAN**

Details of Decision to be taken	Children's Transport Review The purpose of the report is to report back on the outcome of the consultation on changes to Faith Transport and Post 16 SEN Transport. The Council is seeking to review the current Faith Transport and Post-16 SEN Transport Policy. Following the outcomes of a programme of extensive
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	consultation and engagement with pupils, parents, carers and other key stakeholders, the Council will amend the existing policy and procedures. The Council wants to support young people to become as independent as possible so that they can achieve their aspirations for their future. Part of this will include how they can travel safely to School 6th form or FE College			
Decision Maker	Cabinet			
Decision Expected	16 Apr 2015			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Yes	Community Impact	Yes
Exempt Report	Open			
Wards Affected	All Wards			
Scrutiny Committee Area	Children's Services			
Persons/Organisations to be Consulted	Pupils, parents, carers, teachers, FE colleges, and other key stakeholders.			
Method(s) of Consultation	Events in all special schools, relevant FE colleges, capturing the views of pupils, parents and carers; online questionnaire, easy read version for relevant pupils			
List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker	post 16 SEN transport policy review			
Contact Officer(s) details	Paul Rogers paul.rogers@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 3317			

SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

Details of Decision to be taken	<p>Children with Disability-Eligibility Criteria The Children and Families Act (2014) introduces a new approach to the way children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) are supported and these eligibility criteria take account of these reforms. The key aims of the new legislation are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure children, young people and families know what help they can get when a child or young person
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Agenda Item 9

APPENDIX A

	<p>has special educational needs and or disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To get education, health and social care services to work together to create co-ordinated assessments and to jointly commission services • To involve children, young people and their parents in the process and to give them more say about the help they get • For there to be one overall assessment process to look at what special help a child or young person will need with their education, health and social care needs all at the same time and work towards clearly defined outcomes • For a child or young person to have one plan for meeting their education, health and social care needs which can run from birth until the age of 25 if necessary • Where possible to give families the right to a personal budget extending choice and control over their support 			
Decision Maker	Cabinet			
Decision Expected	4 Jun 2015			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Yes	Community Impact	Yes
Exempt Report	Open			
Wards Affected	All Wards			
Scrutiny Committee Area	Children's Services			
Persons/Organisations to be Consulted	Parents/Carers/Staff/Stakeholder Groups			
Method(s) of Consultation	Meetings, correspondence, emails			
List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker	Children with Disability-Eligibility Criteria			
Contact Officer(s) details	Colette Jones colette.jones@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 3741			

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (CHILDREN'S SERVICES)

WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15

	23 SEPTEMBER	18 NOVEMBER	27 JANUARY	24 MARCH
Cabinet Member Update Report	X	X	X	X
Work Programme Update	X	X	X	X
Service Operational Reports:				
Troubled Families Programme		X		
School Organisation and School Places			X	
Ofsted Annual Report			X	
Ofsted Inspection – Early Years Provision and Day Nursery Provision				X
Nomination and Assessment Process for Identification of Troubled Families				X
Child Sexual Exploitation				X
Overview and Scrutiny Progress Reports:				
NEET Update	X			
Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report	X		X	
Presentations:				
Director of Young People and Families – SEN Reforms		X		
Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust – Mental Health Provision	X			
Director of Young People and Families – Education Strategy and Education Partnership Board				X

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