

## Additional Paper – Item 5

# Agenda

## Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel

**Friday, 22 May 2015, 1.00 pm**  
**County Hall, Worcester**

All County Councillors are invited to attend and participate

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اردو۔ اگر آپ اس دستاویز کی مشمولات کو سمجھنے سے قاصر ہیں اور کسی ایسے شخص تک آپ کی رسائی نہیں ہے جو آپ کے لئے اس کا ترجمہ کرسکے تو، براہ کرم مدد کے لئے 01905 765765 پر رابطہ کریں۔ (Urdu)

(Kurdish) کوردی سۆزانی. ننگۆر ناتۆانی تێبێگهی له ناوچۆرۆکی نۆم بۆلۆگهی و دۆستت به هێچ کۆس ناگات که و ههیهگۆر تێنۆه بۆت، تکلێه تهلۆفۆن بکه بۆ ژمارهی 01905 765765 و داوای رێنۆینی بکه (Kurdish)

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ। ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਸ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਦਾ ਸਮਝਣ ਸਮਝ ਨਹੀਂ ਸਕਦੇ ਅਤੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਅਜਿਹੇ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੈ, ਜੋ ਇਸਦਾ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਲਈ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰ ਸਕੇ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਮਦਦ ਲਈ 01905 765765 'ਤੇ ਫ਼ੋਨ ਕਰੋ। (Punjabi)

# DISCLOSING INTERESTS

There are now 2 types of interests:  
**'Disclosable pecuniary interests'** and **'other disclosable interests'**

## WHAT IS A 'DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST' (DPI)?

- Any **employment**, office, trade or vocation carried on for profit or gain
- **Sponsorship** by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party of your member or election expenses
- Any **contract** for goods, services or works between the Council and you, a firm where you are a partner/director, or company in which you hold shares
- Interests in **land** in Worcestershire (including licence to occupy for a month or longer)
- **Shares** etc (with either a total nominal value above £25,000 or 1% of the total issued share capital) in companies with a place of business or land in Worcestershire.

**NB Your DPIs include the interests of your spouse/partner as well as you**

## WHAT MUST I DO WITH A DPI?

- **Register** it within 28 days and
- **Declare** it where you have a DPI in a matter at a particular meeting
  - you must **not participate** and you **must withdraw**.

**NB It is a criminal offence to participate in matters in which you have a DPI**

## WHAT ABOUT 'OTHER DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS'?

- No need to register them but
- You must **declare** them at a particular meeting where:  
You/your family/person or body with whom you are associated have a **pecuniary interest** in or **close connection** with the matter under discussion.

## WHAT ABOUT MEMBERSHIP OF ANOTHER AUTHORITY OR PUBLIC BODY?

You will not normally even need to declare this as an interest. The only exception is where the conflict of interest is so significant it is seen as likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

## DO I HAVE TO WITHDRAW IF I HAVE A DISCLOSABLE INTEREST WHICH ISN'T A DPI?

Not normally. You must withdraw only if it:

- affects your **pecuniary interests OR** relates to a **planning or regulatory** matter
- **AND** it is seen as likely to **prejudice your judgement** of the public interest.

## DON'T FORGET

- If you have a disclosable interest at a meeting you must **disclose both its existence and nature** – 'as noted/recorded' is insufficient
- **Declarations must relate to specific business** on the agenda
  - General scattergun declarations are not needed and achieve little
- Breaches of most of the **DPI provisions** are now **criminal offences** which may be referred to the police which can on conviction by a court lead to fines up to £5,000 and disqualification up to 5 years
- Formal **dispensation** in respect of interests can be sought in appropriate cases.

## **Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel Friday, 22 May 2015, 1.00 pm, County Hall, Worcester**

### **Membership**

#### **Councillors:**

Ms L R Duffy (Chairman), Mrs F M Oborski (Vice Chairman), Mr P Denham,  
Mrs J L M A Griffiths, Mr I Hopwood, Ms R E Jenkins and Vacancy

#### **Co-opted Church Representatives (for education matters)**

Bryan Allbut (Church of England) and Francis Mohan (Roman Catholic)

#### **Parent Governor Representatives (for education matters)**

Ms C Richardson (Parent Governor) and Vacancy

### **Agenda**

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All the above reports and supporting information can be accessed via the Council's website at  
<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/democratic-services/minutes-and-agenda.aspx>

Date of Issue: Thursday, 14 May 2015

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## **CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION : UPDATE**

### **Summary**

1. The Independent Chair of the Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB), Superintendent Steve Eccleston, Head of Protecting Vulnerable People, West Mercia Police and the Director of Children's Services have been invited to the Meeting to give the Panel an overview of Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Board's strategic approach to tackle child sexual exploitation.

### **Purpose of this Meeting**

2. The purpose of this report is:

- To provide the Overview & Scrutiny Panel with information about child sexual exploitation in Worcestershire
- To inform the Overview & Scrutiny Panel of the strategic commitment to tackle child sexual exploitation and the development of the Child Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking Strategy 2015 – 2017
- To ensure that the Overview & Scrutiny Panel has opportunity to consider the WSCB response to tackling child sexual exploitation in advance of Cabinet endorsing the final strategy and action plan in July 2015

### **Executive Summary**

3. In Worcestershire the main response to CSE has been led through the Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) although individual agencies have also acted according to their own drivers.

4. CSE can be defined as 'The sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive 'something' (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of performing, and/or others performing on them, sexual activities'.

5. The WSCB has adopted the key principles from Louise Casey's recent report on Rotherham that **CSE: is child abuse and is a crime; the victims are children; it is squarely a community safety issue and the failure is not in the existence of CSE but in not recognising it and taking appropriate action.**

6. To date, the evidence suggests that CSE exists in Worcestershire on a relatively small and generally individualised scale, with no evidence of a link to gangs, organised crime or any specific minority ethnic group. There is also no indication that

## Child Sexual Exploitation Definition

disclosures or reporting have been ignored as was the case in Rotherham.

7. The Child Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking Strategy has been developed by a strategic group on behalf of the WSCB with four overarching priorities and a discrete number of target areas for action.

8. Worcestershire Safeguarding Children's Board have adopted the definition of CSE that is commonly used nationally:

9. 'The sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive 'something' (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of performing, and/or others performing on them, sexual activities.

10. Child sexual exploitation can occur through use of technology without the child's immediate recognition, for example the persuasion to post sexual images on the internet/mobile phones with no immediate payment or gain. In all cases those exploiting the child/young person have power over them by virtue of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and/or economic or other resources.

## Strategic Principles

11. The WSCB fully supports and accepts as its own principles the four points set out in Louise Casey's report 'Reflections on Child Sexual Exploitation' (March 2015), these being:

- That **CSE is child abuse and is a crime**, and our efforts need to be directed towards perpetrators in order to detect, prevent and disrupt that abuse at the earliest stages as well as the prosecution of individual perpetrators.
- That **the victims are children**, however they present themselves. They cannot consent to their abuse. There should be no scenarios in which victims are viewed as young women or as making choices.
- That **CSE is squarely a community safety issue** and local government working with police and others need to make use of community safety tactics and action to keep children safe. The regulatory and enforcement functions of the local authority are vital in preventing and disrupting CSE and in building intelligence which can help with prosecutions. Those in upper tier authorities and district authorities where responsibilities for children's social care and community safety lie in different tiers, have additional partnership challenges, but these cannot be insurmountable.
- That local government and the police should not fear

seeking out and shining a light on sexual exploitation for fear they may be held to account for what they find. **The failure is not in the existence of CSE but in not recognising it and taking appropriate action.**

## Local Context

12. In Worcestershire the main response to CSE has been led through the Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) although individual agencies have also acted according to their own drivers.

13. WSCB launched the Child Sexual Exploitation Pathway in August 2013. This sets out a clear pathway for referrals and response to child specific concerns with operational oversight delivered through a monthly multi-agency panel.

14. Targeted training of staff to raise awareness and to ensure understanding of the pathway and procedures has also taken place. WSCB also makes available an e-learning module for all agencies.

15. WSCB is required to both be assured and to provide assurance that large scale and organised CSE is not present in Worcestershire and that the mechanisms are in place to identify, support and protect potential victims from further harm.

16. Taking a broader view, it is clear that the focus of co-ordinated multi-agency activity has been predominantly on protection and that prevention and the pursuit of perpetrator activities are both also in need of development. The development of the strategy therefore focused on how WSCB progresses this work with partner agencies.

## CSE in Worcestershire

17. A great deal of work has been undertaken to develop the pathway for CSE referrals and whilst the numbers of identified victims is relatively low (as opposed to the numbers of children and young people about whom there have been concerns), we do not, however, know what we do not know as the identification of actual victims is not easy.

18. The WSCB Missing Children, CSE and Trafficking Group is working to incorporate a national and regionally accepted dataset within performance management data to capture and collate the existing CSE picture in Worcestershire.

19. Police routinely undertake a 'CSE Problem Profile' to interrogate police information where children have been flagged as potentially vulnerable to CSE. Work is then undertaken between social care and the police to ensure the data is fully reconciled with CSE referrals. The recent analysis of police data for the period September 2013 to September 2014 is attached as appendix 1.

20. The data about children who go missing in Worcestershire is also cross-referenced with data about children who may be at risk of child sexual exploitation. This is in its early stages and will form

## CSE Strategy

part of the CSE Strategy to ensure any patterns are responded to for individual children or particular locations/communities.

21. To date, the evidence suggests that CSE exists in Worcestershire on a relatively small and generally individualised scale, with no evidence of a link to gangs, organised crime or any specific minority ethnic group. There is also no indication that disclosures or reporting have been ignored as was the case in Rotherham.

22. The data reviewed also confirmed that children previously identified during that period had been appropriately safeguarded

23. The Child Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking Strategy has been developed by a strategic group of the WSCB, with links to the community safety partnership. There are four overarching priorities and a discrete number of target areas for action:

### a) Prevention and Education

**Overarching priority:** Increasing knowledge and understanding of CSE, including the development of protective factors, across children and young people (to include victim focus), the children and young people's workforce and local communities

#### **Key target areas:**

- Undertake a public awareness campaign
- All schools to deliver a CSE awareness programme to children and young people, tailored to their age
- All staff to receive awareness training
- Develop a means of evaluating the effectiveness of the staff training programme

### b) Recognition and Identification

**Overarching priority:** Providing information and tools to support the identification of potential indicators of CSE; providing and publishing agreed models of assessment; and agreed protocols for the effective sharing of information across the multi-agency partnership

#### **Key target areas:**

- Identify vulnerable children for potential sexual exploitation and develop a risk assessment framework and pathway to protect them
- Develop professional curiosity amongst front line staff to ensure they look for and act on signs of potential CSE (particularly social workers, Health workers and school staff)
- Identification of vulnerable children who have the potential to become perpetrators
- Promote the crucial importance of effective information



sharing

**c) Intervention and Support**

**Overarching priority:** Drawing on models of recognised good practice to develop local responses ; tailoring intervention and support to individuals; and mapping and publicising a range of available intervention/support services

**Key target areas:**

- Develop different methods/casework suited to CSE
- Develop victim and family specialised support
- Develop community safety, regulatory and taxi licensing functions

**d) Pursue and Disrupt**

**Overarching priority:** Being pro-active across multi agency partnerships to identify, disrupt and prosecute perpetrators of child sexual exploitation through criminal or civil means

- Align cross-border arrangements with neighbouring areas/regions
- Develop an ongoing problem profile, mapping hot spots and keep relevant agencies informed
- Use criminal and civil powers wherever possible

24. The action plan underpinning these priorities is currently being finalised and will be included in the report to Cabinet in July then on to full Council.

**Contact Points**

**County Council Contact Points:**

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Worcestershire Hub: 01905 765765  
Email: [worcestershirehub@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:worcestershirehub@worcestershire.gov.uk)

**Specific Contact Points for this Report:**

Gail Quinton, Director of Children's Services, Tel 01905 766303  
Email: [gquinton@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:gquinton@worcestershire.gov.uk)

**Background Papers**

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Director of Children's Services) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report.

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# Worcestershire Children's Services Directorate

## **Child Sexual Exploitation: Analysis of Police Data**

### **Review Update**

#### **Document Details:**

Status: Version 5

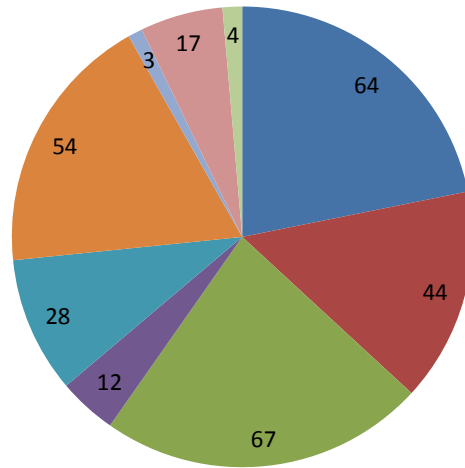
Date: 08/05/2015

Contact: Jen Grainger

Email: [jgrainger2@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jgrainger2@worcestershire.gov.uk)

**Child Sexual Exploitation:  
Basic Analysis of Police Data in Comparison to Children's Social Care (FWi) Records  
September 13 – September 14**

**Breakdown of Police 'CSE' Cases**



- Child has been referred as CSE and/or has had a CSE Strategy Discussion
- Some reference to CSE but has not been considered to meet threshold for a CSE strategy Discussion yet
- Some reference to Sexual abuse or some form of Sexual activity but not considered to be CSE
- Possible risk of CSE or Sexual Abuse (Unclear)
- No Immediate Reference of CSE or any other form of Sexual Activity
- Child not on FWi
- Other LA
- Over 18
- Unknown (restricted record)

When comparing Children's Social Care (FWi) records to the 293 CSE cases referred to in the Police data;

- 23% (68 children) matched police's data and have been referred to ChS as possible CSE and/or have had a CSE Strategy Discussion.
- 15% (44 children) have reference to CSE of some kind on their record and have been assessed by Children's Social Care. The concerns did not meet the threshold for a CSE Strategy Discussion, and could be addressed through alternative interventions or advice.
- 27% (79 children) had reference on their Children's Social Care record to sexual abuse and/or some form of sexual activity/behaviour, which was being addressed through other interventions, and/or they had been involved in a sexual incident which was not considered to be CSE or it was unclear if this was a *specific* risk to CSE, and required further ongoing assessment.
- 28% (82 children) were either not found on FWi or were found but there was no evidence of CSE, Sexual Abuse, Sexualised Behaviours or Incidents referred to on their case files.
- 7% (20 children) were either over 18 years old or were the responsibility of another LA. The other LA was notified for follow-up with their child. Worcestershire CSE Panel continues to monitor any concerns relating to these children

## Summary Update

54 children and young people were recorded on the Police database but not in Children's Social Care (FWi) records. The children and young people have now been reviewed by the police and Children's Social Care. Specific numbers and details cannot be given in this report as the low number may lead to identification of individual children. However, an overview is provided below:

- A number of children on the police data refer to a cohort of children from the same school where one offender sent an online friend request to these young people. Action was taken to ensure those young people were not at risk from the offender and so no further action was required from Children's Social Care.
- Some were children or young people who had come to police attention due to a concern that their behaviour may have placed them at risk of sexual harm, or they had been sexually assaulted but appropriate action was taken by their parent, and so no further action was required.
- Some children had a different surname on the police data but are recorded on the Children's Social Care recording system under another name (double-counted).
- A number of the young people recorded had incidents that relate to use of online or social networking/apps. and the risk was addressed through an alert to them and their parent.
- Some children on the police data relate to an enquiry into one perpetrator following the person's computer being seized after a complaint was made. This was able to be dealt with by an alert to the young person and their parent.
- Some incidents were a sexual offence but not CSE- one of which was over 18yrs.
- Some incidents relate to sexual activity that local police add as CSE markers but are not CSE, and are of a low level incident not requiring referral to children's social care. The police continue to monitor.

The data reviewed evidenced that these children did not require a referral to Children's Social Care and had been appropriately safeguarded.

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