



SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL Cabinet

Report of: Children, Young People & Family Support Scrutiny
& Policy Development Committee

Date: 16th December 2014

Subject: Assessment of Child Sexual Exploitation Services
in Sheffield

Author of Report: Diane Owens, Policy & Improvement Officer
diane.owens@Sheffield.gov.uk
0114 27 35065

Summary

This paper reports the outcome of the special meeting of the Children, Young People & Family Support Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee held on the 15th December 2014 to consider the "Assessment of Child Sexual Exploitation Services in Sheffield".

Recommendations:

That Cabinet endorses the outcomes and recommendations from the meeting

Background Papers:

Children, Young People & Family Support Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee meeting papers for 15th December 2014

<http://sheffielddemocracy.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=122&MId=5870&Ver=4>

Category of Report: OPEN

Special meeting of the Children, Young People & Family Support Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee – Outcome

1. Full Council Motion

- 1.1 A motion was passed at Full Council on 3rd September 2014 requesting that an assessment of child sexual exploitation services in Sheffield be undertaken in response to the publication of Professor Alexis Jay's Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham.
- 1.2 The motion stated that the completed assessment would be reported to the Cabinet, the relevant Scrutiny Committee and the independently chaired Safeguarding Children Board.

2. Scrutiny

- 2.1 The Children, Young People & Family Support Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee met on 15th December 2014 to consider the assessment.
- 2.2 The Executive Director, Children, Young People & Families submitted a report including the completed assessment and executive summary to scrutiny for consideration. Papers are available via the link below:

<http://sheffielddemocracy.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=122&MId=5870&Ver=4>

- 2.3 In attendance for the meeting were Dr Kathryn Houghton, the independent overview author of the report from Safer Outlook Consulting, Sue Fiennes, the Independent Chair of Sheffield Safeguarding Children Board, the Leader, relevant Cabinet Member and Council Officers. Areas scrutinised included the methodology, findings and next steps.

- 2.4 The Scrutiny Committee:

Agreed to:

- a. Write to the Crown Prosecution Service (copying in Sheffield MP's) in support of the issue highlighted in the assessment that continuing work is required with the judiciary system to explain the complexities of CSE, to increase the level of knowledge and understanding about the complexities of this issue.
- b. Write to the Health & Wellbeing Board regarding the committee's concerns around a lack of resources and appropriateness of services for young people's health pathways
- c. Request specific training in terms of interpretation of figures and statistics to assist members in their scrutiny role. This is in line with one of the identified areas for development within the assessment.

- d. Request that officers from the Children & Families Service continue to engage with parents and carers as part of the process
- e. Request a copy of the case audit toolkit that was used in the assessment
- f. Write to staff in the Children, Young People & Families portfolio who were involved in the production of the assessment to thank them for their dedication and ongoing work
- g. Write to the young people involved in producing the assessment to thank them for their involvement

3. Recommendations:

That Cabinet endorses the outcomes and recommendations from the meeting

This page is intentionally left blank