

Contextual Safeguarding Strategy Consultation Summary

The Council considered it was not under a legal duty to consult with children and young people and their families (including parents/carers) or stakeholders on this strategy. However as the strategy aims to re-affirm Sheffield's commitment to recognise and respond to child sexual exploitation, child criminal exploitation and the criminalisation of our young people, it was considered essential that multi-agency engagement informed the development of the strategy and targeted consultation should be undertaken to inform the equality impact assessment.

The consultation has been undertaken with stakeholders including elected members and targeted young people, parents and carers who have been impacted upon by contextual safeguarding issues.

The consultation asked for views on the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed strategy. Whether the strategy is helpful in improving understanding of what contextual safeguarding is. Whether the strategy is relevant to people who live and/ or work in Sheffield. Whether there is agreement with the young people's partnership pledge. Whether the vision, strategic objectives and outcomes are the right ones.

The key document that we consulted on is the draft strategy. The other documents (Pathway into child exploitation services, Multi-agency Service Offer and Delivery Plan) were included to provide additional information to support those responding to the consultation in understanding how the strategy will be delivered and what is hoped to be achieved.

The final strategy has been drafted following the consultation responses.

Engagement

Significant engagement with elected members with responsibility for this area, all key partners, young advisors and service users has been undertaken during the development of the strategy.

Engagement, led by the Lead member for Children and Young People, Cllr Jackie Drayton began on the 26.11.2019 and has involved; Deputy Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People, Labour Group, Vulnerable Young People's Executive Board, South Yorkshire Police, Youth Justice Service, Sheffield City Council Commissioning Inclusion and Learning, Sheffield Futures, Public Health, Sheffield City Council Neighbourhood Intervention and Tenant Support, Sheffield City Council Portfolio Leadership Team, Sheffield Safeguarding Children's Partnership, Learn Sheffield, Virtual Head Teacher and Chaucer School.

Engagement informed the development of the draft strategy and appendices for consultation.

Consultation

A 2 week consultation exercise was undertaken during the period of Friday 14th February to Friday 28th February 2020. The consultation targeted; All partners reflected on the Sheffield Safeguarding Children's Partnership, Cabinet Members, Sheffield Schools, Sheffield City Council Executive Management Team and targeted Young People, parents and carers who have experienced contextual safeguarding issues.

- All Schools were emailed with consultation documents (primary, secondary, academies and special schools)
- All key stakeholders were emailed
- Downloadable documents to return via email or post
- Individual meetings and focused group activity led by workers with existing relationships held with young people, parents and carers who have experienced contextual safeguarding issues.

- Representation was received from
 - SouthYorkshire Police
 - Chaucer School
 - Sheffield Health Social Care NHS Partnership Trust
 - Sheffield Teaching Hospital NHS Partnership Trust
 - South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
 - Coit and Ecclesfield Primary
 - Sheffield City Council
 - Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group
 - Cabinet Members
 - Young people, parents and carers who have experienced contextual safeguarding issues

Is the strategy helpful in improving understanding of what contextual safeguarding is?

When 1 is 'No not at all' and 10 is 'Yes definitely', respondents scaled this question between 8 and 10 with the majority of respondents scoring 10..

"Explains what contextual safeguarding is well"

Is the strategy is relevant to people who live and/ or work in Sheffield?

When 1 is 'No not at all' and 10 is 'Yes definitely', respondents scaled this question between 6 and 10 with the majority of respondents scoring 10.

"The focus on multi-agency working fits well with other workstreams"

"This surely has to be relevant to everyone in every community"

"No input from frontline health practitioners"

Is there agreement with the young people's partnership pledge?

When 1 is 'No not at all' and 10 is 'Yes definitely', respondents scaled this question between 5 and 10, with the majority of respondents scoring 10.

"Pledges need to be achievable not aspirational"

"It's good to be aspirational"

"It's the right holistic way of working but might require a cultural shift for some agencies depending on their core roles"

Are the vision, strategic objectives and outcomes the right ones?

When 1 is 'No not at all' and 10 is 'Yes definitely', respondents scaled this question between 7 and 10, with the majority of respondents scoring 10.

"The vision is clear and appropriate"

"Current thresholds do not target effectively early help, support and intervention"

"We have been working inside the strategy to uniform and shape it's development..."

This document has brought together the work of services already in place to protect young people in a central document"

Young People's Voice

Young people who have experienced contextual safeguarding risk told us they needed help because:

"I always used to argue with my mam, I used to get kicked out"

"Before... everyone was... like... hostile"

"Things... Things were not good"

"I used to commit crimes"

"Police used to be at my house every day"

They told us they understand why those already helping them are involved, but sometimes, when they are not in a good place, help needs to look different.

The young people told us what this help means the them:

"Coz.... I don't know.. it's more support and what you need init"

"Hope"

They told us the difference this help made:

"Now I'm more open"

It's all good init"

"I've changed my attitude towards people"

"I keep out of trouble"

Consultation feedback informed the equality impact assessment and as a result a number of actions underneath the delivery plan. Feedback also resulted in slight amendments to the final document.

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