

---

**CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (CSE) – PROGRESS BRIEFING**

---

**Reason for the Report**

1. To provide the Committee with an updated progress report on the implementation by Cabinet of Committee's 2016 CSE inquiry report recommendations (**Appendix A**). The report sets out an operational update against each of the recommendations as at February 2017.

**Background**

2. The Committee agreed its report following its investigation into CSE in July 2016 and Cabinet approved a response to the Committee's inquiry report at its meeting on 13 October 2016. The response report noted that the inquiry took place and provided feedback on the drafting of the CSE Prevention Strategy, which was approved by Cabinet in May 2016. A copy of the Prevention Strategy was attached to the response.
3. The CSE Prevention Strategy and implementation plan not only addressed all 13 of the Committee's recommendations but also identified actions and timescales under five clear aims, namely:
  - a. Understand
  - b. Raise awareness
  - c. Identify
  - d. Support
  - e. Disrupt and prosecute.

4. The Committee noted that a Financial Pressures bid within the Council's 2017/18 Budget allocated additional funding of £151,000 for a Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Prevention Team – a temporary (three years) Multi Agency CSE Prevention Team to be established to continue to implement the CSE Strategy and address the need that has been evidenced.

### **Scope of Scrutiny**

5. The scope of this scrutiny is to consider the response to each of the inquiry's recommendations, and to pass on any observations, comments or recommendations to the Director of Social Services. Members may wish to consider:
  - a. the progress being made to undertake the actions identified to address each recommendation;
  - b. the impact of the actions to improve the effectiveness of the protection and support for those affected by CSE and tackle perpetrators.

### **Way Forward**

6. Councillor Sue Lent (Cabinet Member for Early Years, Children & Families) has been invited to attend, and may make a statement. Tony Young (Director of Social Services) has been invited to present the progress report and to answer any questions Members may have.
7. Members are invited to consider the information set out in the attached report and to identify any issues on which they would wish to receive further information.

## **Legal Implications**

8. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend, but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to the Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

## **Financial Implications**

9. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, review and recommend, but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Committee is recommended to consider the contents of the report attached at **Appendices A** and provide the Cabinet Member and Director with any comments, concerns or recommendations.

**Davina Fiore**

**Director of Governance and Legal Services**

**1 March 2017**