

**TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL**

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**16 MAY 2016**

**SCRUTINY REPORT ON MULTI-AGENCY WORKING AGAINST CHILD  
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

**REPORT OF SCRUTINY SPECIALIST**

**1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To approve the scrutiny report on multi-agency working against child sexual exploitation (CSE).

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the Committee approves the scrutiny report attached on multi-agency working against CSE.

**3.0 PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- 3.1 CYP SC – 4 November 2014  
CYP SC – 3 March 2015  
CYP SC – 13 March 2015  
CYP SC – 16 March 2015  
CYP SC – 21 July 2015

**4.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 4.1 The Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee agreed to undertake a review on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) at the Committee meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2014. Following consultation on the terms of reference it was agreed that the review would focus on the question 'How well are organisations in Telford and Wrekin working together to prevent CSE, protect and support victims and their families and prosecute perpetrators?'

## **5.0 REPORT AND RECOMENDATIONS**

- 5.1 The report attached sets out the work carried out by the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee and the range of individuals, groups and organisations that were involved in the review. The recommendations are set out on pages 67 – 81 of the report attached.
- 5.2 The Local Safeguarding Children's Board will consider the recommendations and the full response will be considered by the Council's Cabinet.

## **6.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

- 6.1 The review has considered implications for different groups regarding CSE including the age of the children / young people involved, the needs of adult victims / survivors of CSE, some faith communities and children and young people with disabilities.

## **7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

- 7.1 There are no specific environmental impacts arising from this report.

## **8.0 LEGAL COMMENT**

- 8.1 The Council is under a legal requirement to provide an overview and scrutiny function in accordance with provisions at section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended) and associated legislation. Government guidance states that Overview and Scrutiny Committees should have flexibility to determine most of their work plan. Paragraph 4.1 demonstrates the actions taken by this Committee in accordance with those requirements and provisions.
- 8.2 The report makes reference to a number of provisions where there are legal implications for the Council such as the information sharing protocol with the police (page 41 of the attached report), the Council need to ensure that those procedures comply with appropriate legislation and guidance. It is also the case that statutory requirements must be adhered to when ensuring that the recommendations in the attached report are being implemented (again, the use of personal data is a key area here).
- 8.3 The recommendations in the attached report have an impact upon a wide range of agencies. Those that relate specifically to matters within the Council's control can be considered by Cabinet and, if accepted, can be put forward for implementation. This Committee can/may wish to arrange for a date to review the progress on any recommendations at a future date.

## **9.0. LINKS WITH CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

- 9.1 The Scrutiny review on multi-agency working against child sexual exploitation contributes to the corporate priorities to put our children and young people first, to protect and support our vulnerable children and adults and to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities.

## **10.0 OPPORTUNITIES AND RISKS**

- 10.1 The recommendations set out in the report provide an opportunity to further develop services and raise awareness to prevent CSE, support and protect victims and their families and prosecute perpetrators.

## **11.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 There will be financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report, some of which may be significant, both for the Council and its partner organisations.
- 11.2 The Local Safeguarding Children's Board and the Cabinet will need to examine in more detail the specific resource implications, taking into account the delivery options and proposed timescales for implementation, arising from each of the recommendations as they consider their responses to the Committee in relation to this report .

## **12.0 WARD IMPLICATIONS**

- 12.1 There are no specific ward implications resulting from the recommendations in the report.

## **13.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 13.1 Background documents are set out in pages 89-100 of the report attached.