

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of People and Places (Introduced by the Executive Member for People)	Executive Cabinet	23 February 2012

MULTI AGENCY CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION STRATEGY

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To bring to the attention of Members the multi agency Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Strategy and agree to signing up to its objectives and actions

RECOMMENDATION

2. It is recommended that Members sign up to the aims of the strategy and commit to delivering those elements of the action plan that are appropriate to the Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

3. Tackling the incidence of child sex exploitation (CSE) is regarded by the Government as a key priority and on a national scale Lancashire Constabulary is seen as leading the way. This places Lancashire in a strong position to tackle CSE particularly through the coordinated approach taken by community safety partnerships and Children's Trusts.
4. The multi agency Child Exploitation Strategy 2011 has been developed and drafted through Lancashire's Children's Safeguarding Board's (Blackpool; Blackburn with Darwen; and Lancashire).
5. The Lancashire Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) has a CSE sub-group reporting direct to them and will be coordinating the multi agency work outlined in the strategy.
6. The strategy and action plan is attached as Appendix 1 and details the objectives of the strategy and what the partner agencies are committed to doing in achieving those objectives during the life of the strategy from now to 2014.
7. Both the Chorley Children Trust and the Chorley and South Ribble Community Safety Partnership have agreed to the principles of the strategy and to contribute to the actions therein and it is appropriate for the Council to do the same.

Confidential report Please bold as appropriate	Yes	<u>No</u>
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Key Decision? Please bold as appropriate	Yes	<u>No</u>
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REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

(If the recommendations are accepted)

8. To demonstrate that the Council is fully engaged in tackling child sex exploitation and to ensure that actions that can be undertaken within the Council to support and work with other agencies are carried out.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

9. None

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

10. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Strong Family Support	X	Education and Jobs	
Being Healthy		Pride in Quality Homes and Clean Neighbourhoods	
Safe Respectful Communities	X	Quality Community Services and Spaces	
Vibrant Local Economy		Thriving Town Centre, Local Attractions and Villages	
A Council that is a consistently Top Performing Organisation and Delivers Excellent Value for Money			X

BACKGROUND

11. The key priorities of the multi agency CSE strategy are:
 - Prevention
 - Safeguarding
 - Bringing Offenders to Justice
 - Public Confidence
12. Within each of these priorities are a set of actions that organisations can either deliver individually or coordinate with partners through a multi agency approach.
13. There are several key actions that can be undertaken by the Council:
 - Ensure the issue of CSE is linked into the Councils existing Safeguarding policy and procedures.
 - Raise awareness of the issue amongst Council representatives and use the existing safeguarding structures to collate and refer concerns to appropriate agencies
 - Work with partners, primarily through community safety and Children's Trust, to deliver those actions that are appropriate to the respective partnerships/agencies.
 - Support other agencies with information and intelligence on CSE issues.
14. The multi agency strategy has been brought to the attention of both the Chorley and South Ribble Community Safety Partnership and the Chorley Childrens Trust. Both partnership groups have signed up to the strategy and the actions it contains.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

15. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

Finance	X	Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal	X	Integrated Impact Assessment required?	No
No significant implications in this area		Policy and Communications	X

COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

16. As the implementation of the Strategy will be contained within current resources there are at present no financial implications.

COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

17. This is an appropriate use of Council resources and the Council have the authority to support this strategy within our general well-being powers and the general power of competence.

COMMENTS OF THE HEAD OF POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS

18. The CSE strategy supports the council's strategic objectives of Strong Family Support, Safe Respectful Communities and A Council that is a consistently top performing organisation and delivers excellent value for money. It is therefore appropriate for the council to the relevant elements and actions.

JAMIE CARSON
DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE AND PLACES

There are no background papers to this report.

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Simon Clark	5732	19 January 2012	CSExec