

Joint Committee Meeting
8th October 2015

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Strategy Action Plan

Recommendation

That the Joint committee endorse WRS participation in Worcestershire's Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy Action Plan.

Report

This Action Plan was drawn up by the CSE Strategic Group comprising Board Members; the Chair of the Safer Communities Board; and Chair of the Missing Children, CSE and Trafficking Group. It identifies the actions to be undertaken to achieve the key priorities and target areas laid out in the Strategy. Some of the time frames have yet to be agreed with the action owners/accountable bodies and there may need to be some slight adjustment to the measures following discussion at the relevant Board Meetings. However, all Local Authorities, and other relevant bodies have been asked to endorse the plan through their Committee process and WRS is keen to show support and play its role of raising awareness with licensed premises and Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers.

The Plan is detailed but also highlights the complexity of Child Sexual Exploitation. Broadly the actions are linked to:

- Producing a communication strategy including a public CSE awareness campaign.
- Producing a training strategy including raising awareness in schools
- Reviewing the CSE pathway aimed at referral, assessment and decision making,
- Developing a sharing of information protocol related to CSE and that results in effective practice and in the production of a good multi agency data set that clearly shows patterns and trends,
- Identifying gaps in the provision of specialist support for victims and families including transition to Adult Services, for commissioning purposes.
- Establishing wider links with key partnerships and other Authorities to co-ordinate approaches to CSE including licensing authorities.
- Identifying current and potential perpetrators,

strengthening controls to prevent CSE, and working effectively with offenders.

The Plan will be actively monitored and revised over time to reflect any new issues or particular actions that emerge as needing to be addressed.

Key items

The key responsibilities for WRS within this Strategic Plan can be found at 3.3.4 to 3.3.6 namely:

- Undertake a CSE awareness raising campaign with Hackney Carriage and Private Hire licensed drivers and Operators.
- Undertake a CSE awareness raising campaign with licenced premises in partnership with the CSP District Tasking Groups e.g. Nightsafe in Worcester, Pub Watch in Redditch and Bromsgrove Town Centres.
- District Council Licensing Committee Members to be made aware of CSE responsibilities.

In line with its responsibilities under this Action Plan, WRS has incorporated information leaflets within its application processes with an aim to raising awareness of CSE amongst the licensed trade, both for Premises Licence holders and the taxi trade. These leaflets are routinely added to outgoing granted licence packs. A copy of the information leaflets are attached for your information. Raising CSE awareness has also been an agenda item at Taxi Forum meetings so that trade representatives can pass the relevant information to their members.(the majority of districts have active forums)

Risks

The Hackney Carriage and Private Hire trade and Licensed Premises are an integral part of the local working economy; often they are the eyes and ears of the Community, raising awareness within these groups of what to look for and how and who to report to is a vital link within this Strategic Plan. Not doing so would mean this vital link in the information chain would be missed and perhaps opportunities to help vulnerable groups, children and adults may also be missed.

Appendices'

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Strategy Action Plan
Taxi trade information leaflet
Premises Licence Information leaflet.

Contact point

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