

EXECUTIVE MEMBER RESPONSE

NAME OF TOPIC GROUP: HSCB

CHAIRMAN: Roger Beeching

SCRUTINY OFFICER: Natalie Rotherham

DATE OF SCRUTINY: 18 January 2016

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Richard Roberts

DATE REPORT PUBLISHED: 8 February 2016

DATE RESPONSE DUE: 14 April 2016

Recommendations:

*e.g. To undertake a customer survey in April 2016
(Note: All abbreviations used must be set out in full the first time they are used)*

Executive Response:

*e.g. To carry out the survey in April 2016
(Note: All abbreviations used must be set out in full the first time they are used)*

2.1 A proposed re-fresh of the **Say Something If You See Something campaign** should include how to identify signs of CSE more explicitly. There is a need to increase awareness among parents and carers to identify and better understand the signs of CSE and how to protect their children. This should be developed over the next 12 months (4.1, 4.2, 4.9, 4.12)

The Say Something If You See Campaign was relaunched in Watford on 9th February at Youth Connexions. The campaign urges young people and parents and carers across Hertfordshire to learn the warning signs of sexual exploitation, so they can protect themselves and their friends from becoming victims. The event went really well with some young people spending time with the Sexual Violence Advisor which was encouraging. More than 40 young people kicked off the campaign by learning about the signs of sexual abuse. To show their support some posted eye selfies on their social media timelines using #eyesopen to demonstrate that they understand and can spot the signs. See photo link [About Youth Connexions](#)

The event raised awareness of the signs of CSE, by providing literature as well as having the opportunity for face to face discussions with professionals. It was well supported by all partner agencies. The approach has been the use of on-line mediums to push the message out to people, using twitter and

	<p>Facebook.</p> <p>Since the launch further literature has been cascaded to children’s centres for parents and other teams throughout Hertfordshire. National CSE awareness day has been promoted across the County. It is planned later in the year to look at targeting other areas e.g. pharmacies and taxi drivers. The district councils have also contributed significantly to the campaign through promotions via their websites and doing localised work e.g. with taxi drivers in their area. The message will continue to be promoted throughout the coming year and HSCB have commissioned Alterego to go into Hertfordshire secondary schools with their production Chelsea’s Choice which again raises awareness of the signs of CSE.</p> <p>Expected Outcomes: From the campaign we expect young people and parents to become more aware of the signs of exploitation and this to be reflected in the work being undertaken by partner agencies.</p>
<p>2.2 At the 2016 HSCB scrutiny the topic group requested that members be updated on the:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes of the March 2016 district/borough Housing Workshop (4.7) 	<p>The East of England Local Government Association Improvement Panel met on 18 March 2016 and has agreed to allocate some resources to enable the coordination of the actions identified at the East of England Homelessness meeting in January.</p> <p>A project plan is in place, designed to put a framework around the collaborative actions identified by the East of England Local Government Association and partners to mitigate the impact of the movement of homeless households out of London into the</p>

	<p>east of England. It is based around three key areas: improving communications and relationships, sharing practice and addressing policy challenges to deliver on the proposed actions to mitigate the impact of the movement of homeless households out of London into the east of England.</p> <p>This multi-agency work is not being monitored by the Safeguarding Children Board as there has been no significant evidence that this aspect of housing issues has increased safeguarding risks to children.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of the uncertainties at 4.12 	
<p>4.2.1 In December 2015 central government announced a review of Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs). This is to raise poorer performance of partners (not an issue in Hertfordshire) and centralise Serious Case Reviews. The details of the review are not available and it is unclear what impact this will have on the remit or budget of HSCB.</p>	<p>Awaiting publication</p>
<p>4.2.2 In years with few Serious Case Reviews HSCB retained the accumulated underspend as reserves that have funded activity in 2014/15 and 2015/16. The announcement of the government review has made financial planning for 2016/17 difficult (4.2.1)</p>	<p>Awaiting publication</p>
<p>4.2.3 The proposal to commission an external organisation to undertake the Return Interview for missing children was welcomed by members. However, they were</p>	<p>Funding has been secured to test an alternative model for offering independent return interviews over the course of a year. Impact will be closely monitored and the model evaluated to determine if</p>

<p>concerned that finances beyond the pilot are in question due to 4.12.1(4.2.2)</p>	<p>it delivers improved outcomes. If successful, opportunities to embed the model in local practice will be explored.</p>
<p>4.2.4 The NSPCC GCP template is welcome as it will provide the means by which to measure performance with comparator authorities. Currently authorities use a variety of templates or none which makes benchmarking difficult. Information regarding the content and timeframe is not available which makes further development difficult for HSCB (4.8)</p>	<p>The NSPCC has launched the GCP2 which is the updated version — building on the NSPCC national evaluation — which retains the core concepts, design and structure of the original GCP but adds value in relation to new, more accessible language. GCP2 now includes new ‘items’ such as obesity and online safety.</p> <p>The GCP2 is the only authorised and fully tested update of the original GCP. It is a more user-friendly and comprehensive tool that helps professionals with their assessment and subsequent work with families. But it keeps the original principles and values — ensuring that it retains its integrity in the way it scales and supports work with families.</p> <p>GCP2 is a licenced tool which does not permit any adaptations. There are currently two trained practitioner in Hertfordshire who are licensed to deliver the training to Hertfordshire professionals. Proposals are being put forward to consider how GCP2 is to be rolled out.</p>
<p>4.2.5 The success of HSCB and the topic group is due to personal commitment and understanding of the issues. This has been coupled with objectivity to provide sound challenge to both HSCB and partners. Members raised the need for succession planning both within the topic group and HSCB chair. The latter is one that the HCC chief executive has in hand. The composition of the topic group is a matter for</p>	

OSC discussion.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Return Interview pilot (4.9) 	To commission a provider of independent return interviews for missing children by June 2016.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) Graded Care Profile (GCP) template (4.8) 	Please refer to 4.2.5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact of the Prevent / radicalisation work 	
Any other comments on the report or this scrutiny?	

