

Solihull LSCB Strategy to tackle Sexual Exploitation 2017-2019

“It’s hard to see what life could look like if not involved in what is happening at present (CSE), so help to explore what the possibilities are, what they could look, feel like, what things are available etc. so we can make our own plans would help” (Local young adult)

1. Introduction

- 1.1. National and local experience shows that organised sexual exploitation has been happening on a massive scale over many years. The Government is determined that action is taken to address this problem. Sexual exploitation affects all our communities. While the full extent of this crime is still unknown, we do know that it is not confined to one area or to one age group. Local practitioners’ experience and national research and enquiry reports indicate that the problem does not stop once the child reaches adulthood. This strategy explains our approach to tackling Child Sexual Exploitation and it aims to also reflect our growing understanding of the challenges faced by young people as they mature to adulthood and our developing aspirations to help them. There is also growing recent concern about modern slavery which involves a range of ways vulnerable people can be exploited and includes sexual exploitation of girls and boys.
- 1.2. Much work has been achieved at regional level, with LSCB’s and Local Authorities in the West Midlands sharing information and disseminating locally resulting in increased awareness through conferences and seminars on local activities to tackle child sexual exploitation.
- 1.3. In 2016 and 2017 similar work has also been carried out by both the Safeguarding Adult Board, the LSCB, the health and well being board and the community safety partnership to look at young people reaching maturity and how partners can support them. Transitions has been a recurring challenge and the steering group is opening up this as an area of continuing development, breaking new ground to resolve this problem.
- 1.4. Work with local young people who experienced CSE has influenced this strategy. The quotes throughout this document are the words of one adult who experienced sexual exploitation as a child and as an adult and has worked with the LSCB to help shape this strategy.
- 1.5. The LSCB CSE steering group has refreshed its terms of reference to reflect the advancement of the work, and is now a smaller group of high level leaders, including adult social care and the safeguarding adult board, making strategic decisions and effectively steering local developments with impact.
- 1.6. Multi-agency activity on children missing from home or care continues to be a high priority for this group with agencies coming together in several meetings and

workshops to focus on this issue. The steering group will continue to monitor progress on this.

- 1.7 Informed by these developments, the four strategic objectives of this strategy are;

“I think I still thought it was normal until I spoke with others who were also involved, and we had the chance to explore our own thoughts and rights and what we should expect away from it all.”

PREVENT (Lead: Local Authority Children’s Services)

Objective one: Children, young people and adults have an increased awareness of safe and healthy relationships.

Objective two: To raise awareness in the community of sexual exploitation including where it occurs within the context of modern slavery.

PROTECT (Lead: Local Authority Children Services)

Objective three: Children young people who are being sexually exploited are protected and supported.

PURSUE (Lead: Police Public Protection Unit)

Objective four: Perpetrators are disrupted and/or held to account using appropriate criminal and/or civil interventions

- 1.7. Each objective has a specific set of actions and key performance indicators identified in in Appendix one.

- 1.8. Full guidance on CSE is available on http://solihullscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_safeg_sex_exploit.html
Department for Education guidance is also on this link http://www.solihullscb.co.uk/media/upload/fck/file/CSE/CSE_Guidance_Core_Document_13.02.2017.pdf

“There needs to be help for parents/ carers too. It would help if there was clear information about what services can help us and how we can get the help, and we need to know they will all understand how we may be”.

2. What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

- 2.1. The LSCB has adopted the definition of sexual exploitation that is set out in statutory guidance:

“Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual

exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.”(DFE Feb 2017)

- 2.2. This strategy aims to continue the work to promote awareness in the professional and general community about the vulnerability of children to this form of abuse including where it occurs within the context of modern slavery. Although all children and young people are vulnerable, those living with additional features may be especially so, as they can be targeted by perpetrators. These additional features are listed in Appendix 5. They form the basis of awareness raising and training programmes to enable early identification of people at risk in practice.

3. Key facts:

3.1 Child sexual exploitation:

- can affect any child or young person (male or female) under the age of 18 years, including 16 and 17 year olds who can legally consent to have sex;
- can still be abuse even if the sexual activity appears consensual;
- can include both contact (penetrative and non-penetrative acts) and non-contact sexual activity;
- can take place in person or via technology, or a combination of both;
- can involve force and/or enticement-based methods of compliance and may, or may not, be accompanied by violence or threats of violence;
- may occur without the child or young person’s immediate knowledge (through others copying videos or images they have created and posting on social media, for example);
- can be perpetrated by individuals or groups, males or females, and children or adults. The abuse can be a one-off occurrence or a series of incidents over time, and range from opportunistic to complex organised abuse; and
- is typified by some form of power imbalance in favour of those perpetrating the abuse. Whilst age may be the most obvious, this power imbalance can also be due to a range of other factors including gender, sexual identity, cognitive ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or other resources.
- Can feature where the child is involved in modern slavery.

4. Principles of Effective Practice

“I think the most important thing is to have a trusted worker who is going to help you and be there for you, but that person needs to be trained, knowledgeable, committed and willing to stand up for you, and supported by someone who understand too”.

4.1. The child’s or adults best interests must be the top priority

The best interests of children and young people and their rights to protection must drive all decision making. The paramountcy principle (Children Act 1989) must be adhered to where applicable and children’s rights under UNCRC Article 3 fully honoured.

4.2. Participation of children and young people and adults

Services need to involve people who are experiencing or at risk of sexual exploitation when decisions are being made about their care, protection and on-going support and be kept them informed and involved in any issues that affect

them throughout. Professionals must be mindful of children and young people's needs and equalities. Their UNCRC Article 12 rights must be honoured.

4.3. Enduring relationships and support

Support must be tailored to meet the needs of the person, according to their age, identity, ethnicity, belief, sexual orientation, disability, language, and stage of development. Children, young people and adult victims have told us that a consistent person who sticks with them throughout the whole period of their protection and on-going care is crucial to their recovery.

4.4. Comprehensive problem-profiling

It is critical that agencies regularly problem-profile their local area to analyse and understand all the patterns of exploitation to which children and young people are subjected to. A comprehensive problem-profile needs to be compiled with the oversight of the LSCB and should be shared across all key partners to inform the development of a multi-agency strategy and action plans, the commissioning of services and the delivery of training and awareness-raising activity to support local professionals.

4.5. Effective information-sharing within and between agencies

Every area should have a cross sector information-sharing protocol which is predicated on the best interests and safeguarding of children and young people and adults. All relevant agencies and services should be signatories and it should clearly state what information should be shared, by whom and the process for doing this.

4.6. Supervision, support and training of staff

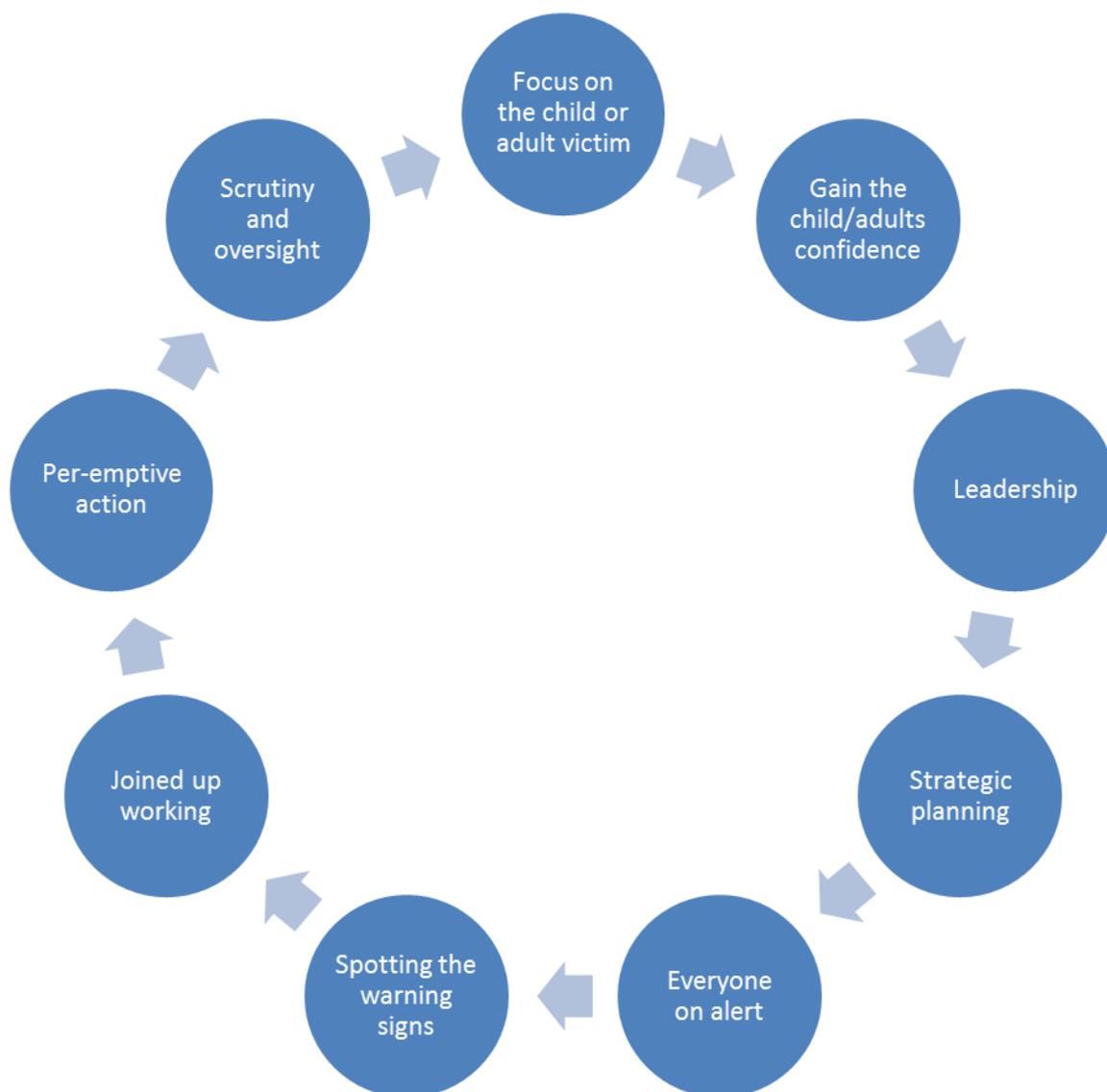
Services should invest in the development and support of staff including providing regular supervision and the opportunities for them to reflect on practice. Those professionals who offer direct support to sexually exploited children, young people and adults might require further intensive training and must have regular opportunities to reflect on their practice with a skilled consultant or supervisor.

4.7. Evaluation and review

Evaluations and regular reviews of the effectiveness of the CSE strategy is necessary to ensure services and interventions are achieving their intended outcomes and meeting the child and young person's needs.

4.8. Essential foundations of good practice: (Office of the Childrens Commissioner)

“A number we could ring 24/7 if we are in trouble that could give advice/ get us help. If all services are focused on our safety and really listen and work with us rather than try and tell us what to do this will help,”



4.9. Solihull LSCB members are committed to translating these foundations into practice through the effective co-ordination of arrangements to respond to sexual exploitation and to raise awareness about modern slavery.

5. Voice of the Child

“Don’t try and force people to give evidence, when they feel their safety is being protected they will talk if they are able to, but the main focus should be in keeping them safe.”

5.1 The LSCB is committed to ensuring the voice of the child influences and informs its work to prevent and respond to CSE.

5.2 Young people who have been victims of sexual exploitation have suggested the following statements/questions should be at the heart of all planning and decision-making about CSE:-

- Don’t make assumptions about who I am and what I need
- Help make me safe and stop it happening
- It’s not just me

- Punish the right people
- Don't think there is a quick fix

5.3 Their messages for all agencies are:-

- Don't turn your back, it happens, talk about it
- If the child or young person does not recognise the situation as abuse, consider what to do to help them see it is not acceptable
- Make sure that there is a shared plan you are working on with the young person so they can have a bright future
- Plan ways of engaging with children and young people and getting their feedback on whether prevention and protection processes work for them.

5.4 These messages are just as relevant when they mature into adulthood.

“The trusted person working with the young person and not to a service agenda is going to help this. At some point there may need to be some specialist counselling, and other support, so this also needs to be available and we need to know what to expect from it, so we can prepare and go when we are ready; if we miss appointments though, this needs to be understood. There may be need for more in-depth specialist support to help prepare for what life looks like without CSE and help you see that it can be OK (post traumatic therapy).”

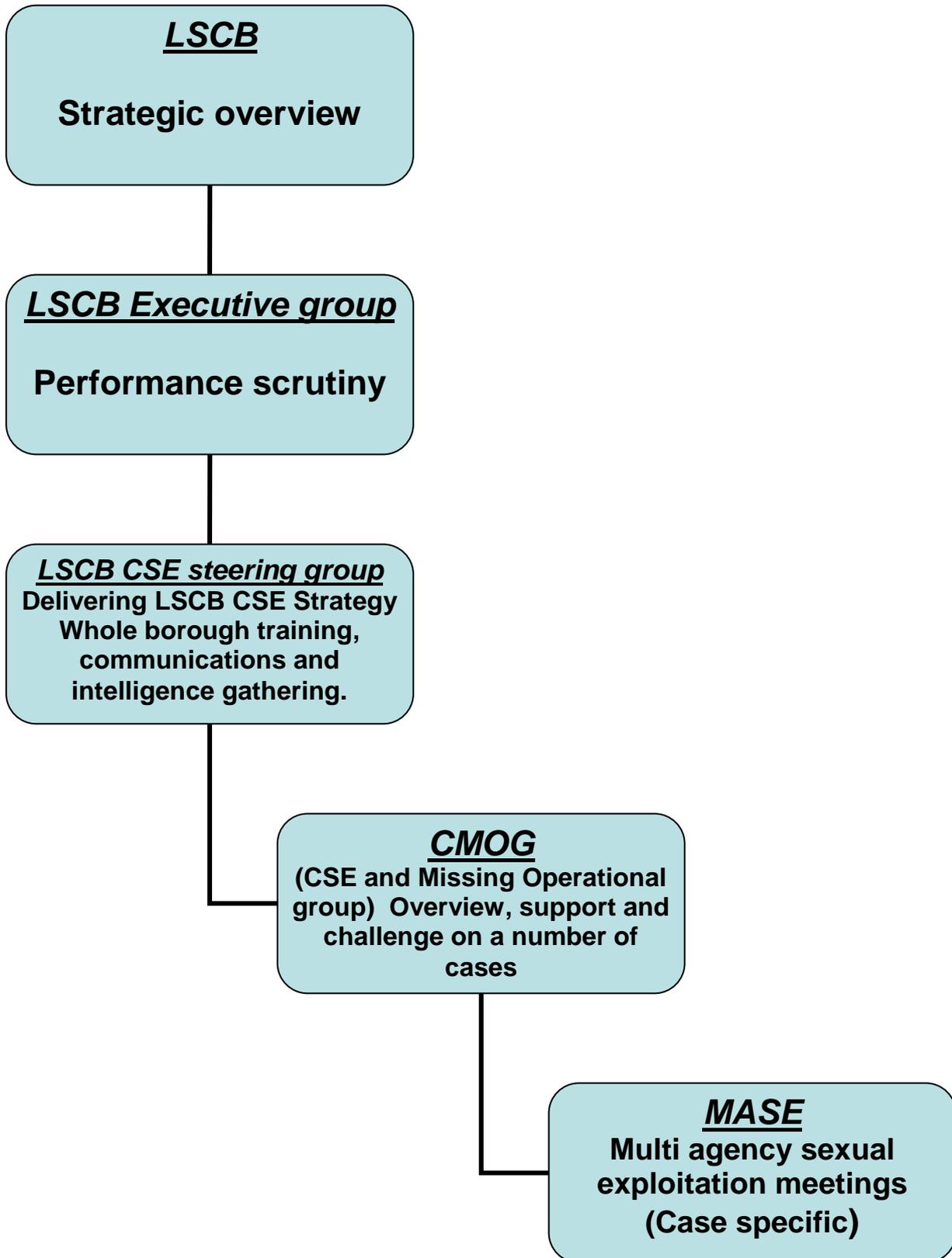
6. Monitoring the effectiveness of this strategy

- 6.1. The LSCB will receive quarterly reports from the CSE steering group on performance in relation to the key objectives described above with particular reference to outcomes for children achieved through the creation of the CMOG and MASE groups. (See performance indicators in the CSE action plan Appendix one)
- 6.2. The CSE steering group will monitor performance by analysing the data provided in relation to the objectives, ensuring delivery and taking remedial action where there are poor trajectories.
- 6.3. On an annual basis, the CSE steering group will carry out an assessment of the effectiveness of this strategy by providing a forum for the CSE, CMOG and MASE stakeholders to come together to analyse and reflect on performance. This assessment will inform an account of progress made and areas for development to the annual report.

7. Governance

- 7.1. In 2016-2017 the steering group reflected on the terms of reference and decided on more focussed actions and reduced membership to include higher level decision makers.
- 7.2. An action plan for 2017-2019 setting out the work that will be undertaken in order to protect children from sexual exploitation in Solihull using the key objectives described in paragraph one of this strategy is included at Appendix 1. Performance on the objectives are scrutinised by the C/SE steering group and reported to the LSCB on a quarterly basis.
- 7.3. The LSCB has an embedded CSE governance structure to protect children from sexual exploitation at operational, tactical and strategic levels, each with a set of performance indicators. These arrangements for challenge and scrutiny are summarised as follows;
 - The CSE steering group monitors the effectiveness of the LSCB strategy. (See terms of reference Appendix 2) and will in 2018/19 consider the regional policy developments around modern slavery and local governance.
 - The CSE and Missing Operational Group (CMOG terms of reference Appendix 3) provides advice, support and challenge to practitioners involved in the protection of children from sexual exploitation. This group receives information on a number of children and so has insight into local developments and progress, reporting in this to the CSE steering group.
 - The CSE and Missing Operational group is a multi-agency group arranged to discuss and plan for individual children. (A summary of purpose is at Appendix 4 and full procedures (need to ensure the link is to the right procedures/check they are updated)
- 7.4. Local intelligence is gathered using the regional problem profile identifying key areas of vulnerability and providing targeted awareness raising and intervention strategies to tackle CSE locally.
- 7.5. Links are made between Solihull LSCB and SAB with regional and national developments through representation on regional groups and information sharing from national experience.
- 7.6. A comprehensive training programme has been devised to target professionals working with children and young people and adults, raising awareness and developing workforce competencies to respond effectively to concerns and increasingly including modern slavery. The training is under constant review. Bespoke training is also provided to adult social care professionals.
- 7.7. The LSCB has worked with the Safeguarding Adult Board, the Health and Well Being Board and the Community Safety Partnership to develop a business case to support young people aged 16-25 years who are experiencing or at risk of sexual exploitation. Partners are committed to finding ways to provide support to these young people.

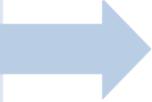
LSCB governance:



Appendix 1 – Performance Framework

PREVENT										
CSE Strategic Objective 1:										
Action	Data Owner	Progress Against Objective								
Raise awareness among children and young people about safe and healthy relationships, including online safety	Bev Petch	No. of primary schools (Key Stage 2) where happy and safe relationships learning is embedded in the PSHE curriculum:			No. of secondary schools where healthy and safe relationships is embedded in the PHSE curriculum:					
CSE Strategic Objective 2: Increase community awareness about CSE										
Action	Data Owner	Progress Against Objective								
Raise awareness in business establishments	Shabnam Beattie/Anne Bettison	No. of businesses reached:			No. of taxi drivers who have received CSE training:					
Raise awareness among parents and carers	Gary McLeod	No. of parents who have received CSE PACE training:								
Under 12's Screening Tool Data Owner: Bev Petch										
No. of under 12's screening tool carried out		No. of these screening tools that have led to MASH referrals		No. of schools where at least one staff member has been trained in using the tool:						
PROTECT										
CSE Strategic Objective 3: Children who are sexually exploited are protected and supported										
Action	Data Owner	Progress Against Objective								
Target children at risk of CSE using regional problem profile and intelligence	Angela James	No. at risk of CSE: By age:								
		Gender:			Ethnicity:					
Assess quality of help to these children by ensuring the risks are reduced (CMOG)	Jim Edmonds	Total Nos.		Level 1:	Level 2:	Level 3:	Pending:	CIN:	CP:	LAC:
Ensure we understand the experience of children missing from home or care by analysing return interview data	Children's social care (Karen Norton)	Missing from home no: Episodes:			Missing from care no: Episodes:					
		Number and % with completed return interviews:			Number and % with completed return interviews:					
Analyse what children are saying to inform actions to prevent and protect them	Ian Green and Simon Stubbs	What are the children saying?								
		What actions have we taken as a result?								
PURSUE										
CSE Strategic Objective 4: Perpetrators are disrupted and/or held to account using appropriate criminal and or criminal interventions										
Action	Data Owner	Progress Against Objective								
Use available criminal and civil interventions to disrupt local perpetrator activities	Jim Edmonds	No. of harbouring notices:	No. on remand: 0	Other civil interventions: 0	No. of NRMs:	No. of arrests:	No. of criminal investigations/prosecutions:			

PREVENT

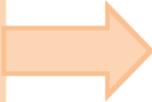


Strengths
Areas for Development



Next Steps

PROTECT



Strengths
Areas for Development



Next Steps

PURSUE



Strengths
Areas for Development



Next Steps

Appendix 2

C/SE Steering Group Terms of Reference October 2017

1. MEMBERSHIP

Agency	Role	Name
West Midlands Police	Chair/ Lead for Child Abuse Investigation in Coventry and Solihull, Public Protection Unit	DI Jo Floyd (Chair)
	Chair of CMOG	DS Jim Edmunds
Health (CCG)	Designated Nurse Safeguarding Adults and children & Mental Capacity Act Lead	Rosie Luce
Health (HEFT)	Named Nurse, Safeguarding Children	Maria Kilcoyne
SMBC-CYPF	Head of Service	Frank McSheffrey
SMBC-Referral, Assessment & Child Protection	Assistant Director	Simon Rushall
SMBC-Learning & Achievement	Head of Early Years & Education	Phil Leivers
SMBC-LAC & Adoption	Head of Service	Jane Wilton
SMBC-Safeguards	Head of Service	Simon Stubbs
SMBC	Head of Alternative Provision	Bev Petch
SMBC	Lead Member	Councillor Ken Meeson
SMBC- Early Help Service	Collaborative Lead – Direct Work	Sally Green
SMBC	Housing	Adrian Thomas
Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Trust	Head of Safeguarding	Cath Evans
SSAB	Business manager	Jane Wilton
LSCB	Business manager	Betty Lynch
LSCB	Training officer	Denise Lewis

This group's main purpose is to provide strategic leadership and direction to the work of partners around sexual exploitation, delivering on;

- This strategy, including the monitoring of progress made in relation to the specific objectives
- Direction to and accountability from CMOG
- Resolution of emerging challenges with specific reference to children maturing to adulthood
- Challenge to each other
- Accountability to LSCB executive and the full LSCB.
- A renewed, energised CMOG and a continued focus on children missing from home or care

The group will provide performance data to each LSCB executive group and a comprehensive account of its progress each year in the LSCB and SAB annual reports.

Managing the business

The group will meet formally on a quarterly basis. Members will consider those meetings as an opportunity to assess together the progress being made and resolve any impediments. The on-going development of the work should progress actively in between meetings and members should not wait for each meeting to make progress.

The group will create work streams to focus on specific work. These do not necessarily involve meetings and may involve one or two members working together on identified areas in order to progress the business.

Minutes will be taken by the LSCB administrator.

Appendix 3

CSE and Missing Operation Group CMOG Terms of Reference

1. Purpose of CMOG

- 1.1 The CSE and Missing Operation Group (CMOG) is a multi-agency tasking group which meets with the sole purpose of directing medium and long term actions to safeguard, disrupt and reduce opportunity for children to be harmed through sexual exploitation and missing episodes.

2. Accountability

- 2.1 The CMOG will report on activity to the CSE strategic group however each agency represented at CMOG retains their own existing line of accountability for safeguarding.

3. Outputs of CMOG

- Determine plans and actions to protect children identified as being at risk of sexual exploitation or who go missing from home or care (see below criteria)
- Direct intelligence collection and/or disruptive actions with regard to individuals who are believed to be harming children through sexual exploitation activities.
- Direct safeguarding and disruptive activities in locations considered vulnerable to sexual exploitation activities.
- Provide oversight of ongoing criminal investigations to ensure interventions reflect the risk of harm.

4. This will be achieved by:

- Sharing information and intelligence with regard to children whose behaviour and activities indicate they are at risk through missing episodes or sexual exploitation.
- Sharing information and intelligence with regard to individuals involved in perpetrating abusive and criminal behaviour.
- All CMOG member agencies being actively involved in plans to protect children and to prosecute/disrupt perpetrators.

5. Confidentiality Statement

- 5.1 Any agency in attendance or in receipt of information circulated from CMOG will be signed into the local Information Sharing Protocol.
- 5.2 All CMOG members will sign a confidentiality form at the start of each meeting based on the following statement:
- 5.3 All information discussed at CMOG is strictly confidential and must not be disclosed to third parties. All documents circulated in connection with CMOG are to be considered restricted documents and must not be disclosed to third parties.

- 5.4 The retention of all CDOP documentation in a secure location is the responsibility of the receiving agency. If disclosure is sought to a third party then permission must be received from the Chair/Co-Chair of CMOG.
- 5.5 The disclosure of information outside of CMOG will be deemed to be a breach of the subject's confidentiality and a breach of the confidentiality of the agencies involved. It may be considered an offence under the Data Protection Act.

6. Sexual Exploitation

- 6.1 LSCB Child Protection Procedures should be read in all cases where there is a child/young person considered to be at risk of sexual exploitation.
- 6.2 CMOG will consider any child/young person where there are concerns that they are at risk of sexual exploitation. CMOG uses the following definition for determining child/young people at risk of sexual exploitation.
- 6.3 The sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive 'something' (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of performing, and/or others performing on them, sexual activities.
- 6.4 Child sexual exploitation can occur through use of technology without the child's immediate recognition, for example the persuasion to post sexual images on the internet/mobile phones with no immediate payment or gain. In all cases those exploiting the child/young person have power over them by virtue of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and/or economic or other resources.
- 6.5 (The National Working Group for Sexually Exploited Children and Young People, 2008) Where information or intelligence exists to suggest individuals are arranging, facilitating, organising, encouraging or allowing such activity to take place they will be subject of referral into CMOG via the single entry pathway – see below for referral pathway.
- 6.6 Referral Pathway
- 6.6a If any agency is aware of intelligence regarding individuals or locations where the above criteria are satisfied should make a referral via the single referral pathway. Any referral to CMOG DOES NOT replace the need to refer to Children's Social Care Services where there is concern that a child/young person is in need of support services, protection or accommodation.

7. Pre-CMOG meeting/review

- 7.1 The CMOG Chair will conduct a review of new referrals with support from LA or LSCB CSE Coordinator working days prior to CMOG. Those cases considered in need of medium/long term intervention will be identified to the CMOG administrator and be circulated to CMOG members prior to the CMOG meeting.

- 7.2 Any urgent submissions after the Pre-CMOG, should be in agreement with the CMOG Administrator who will contact the Chair. In such cases the CMOG Administrator will take all reasonable steps to update the agenda however, where this is not possible, details and reports will be provided at the meeting.
- 7.3 Pre-CMOG will use information contained in Welfare Return Interviews and CSE risk assessments and plans as their primary information source for decision making, however will also consult where relevant, Police safe and well checks and case notes to support the assessment of cases to be discussed.

8. CMOG Process

- 8.1 Partners routinely / on a case by case basis receive a copy of the agenda and will provide the Chair with any relevant information or intelligence by secure email in advance of the CMOG meeting. Their personal attendance at the meeting is at the discretion of the Chair.
- 8.2 In advance of the meeting the CMOG administrator will circulate the agenda which will detail the young people, risky individuals and locations to be discussed prior to the meeting. This circulation will include the CSE risk assessments and WRI forms.
- 8.3 The Chair will conduct the meeting on the understanding that attendees have read the circulated documentation and are attending briefed to share any other relevant information or intelligence that their agency has.
- 8.4 CMOG members will be responsible for bringing their own copies of all the relevant paperwork to this meeting.
- 8.5 CMOG will record all actions agreed upon during the CMOG meeting in a single document and circulate this as soon as possible to CMOG members. (NB The purpose of this document is to record current actions and it is not intended to be a diary of actions taken. Once an action is completed or considered no longer necessary it will be marked as such by instruction of the Chair and removed.)
- 8.6 Actions will be assigned to agencies and/or individuals present at the meeting who take responsibility for completion by the date decided upon by the Chair.
- 8.7 All action updates are to be provided in advance to the CMOG administrator on a date to be determined at the CMOG meeting. The action document with action updates will be circulated prior to the CMOG meeting to all members.
- 8.8 If members disagree with the actions recorded within the document they should email the Chair to request amendments.

9. Frequency of the Meetings

- 9.1 The panel will meet monthly on TO BE AGREED AT A LOCAL LEVEL, however additional meetings may be held, if deemed necessary by the Chair/Co-Chair.

Appendix 4

Multi-agency Sexual Exploitation meeting Summary of purpose

http://solihullscb.proceduresonline.com/pdfs/cse_protocol.pdf

1. The purpose of the meeting should be to:

- Share and clarify information in order to complete CSE risk assessment;
- Establish exact nature of concerns and the child or young person's needs;
- Establish risk for any other children, including siblings;
- Share information pertaining to a suspected perpetrator(s) with police, i.e. car registration, nickname/ alias, descriptions, tattoos, premises/locations etc;
- Consider the disruption and prosecution of perpetrators;
- Consider a referral using the National Referral Mechanism in cases where a child/ young person may have been trafficked;
- Develop a multi-agency plan to meet the child's needs including support for parents/carers;

2. The outcome of meeting may be that:

- There is a need to invoke child protection procedures;
- There is a possibility of criminal action against an adult;
- Coordinated multi-agency support is required to support and divert the child from involvement in sexual exploitation;
- There is insufficient information at this stage, but concerns remain, and further assessment is required to clarify them; 16

3. If a decision is made during the MASE meeting that a Section 47 Enquiry should be initiated, then the status of the meeting should change to that of a Strategy Discussion.
4. Where on-going work is required, a Lead Professional will be identified at the meeting. This will usually be a social worker.
5. The Child's Plan must identify the desired outcomes for the child/young person and specify who is responsible for undertaking the work to achieve the desired outcomes. Unless Child Protection Procedures are invoked, a date for a review meeting should be agreed to take place in a timeframe commensurate with the child's needs and no later than 3 months after the initial meeting.

Appendix five

Key features of children additionally vulnerable to CSE.

- Living in a chaotic or dysfunctional household (including parental or carers' substance use, domestic violence, parental mental health issues, parental criminality)
- History of abuse (including familial child sexual abuse, risk of forced marriage, risk of honour-based violence, physical and emotional abuse and neglect)
- Recent bereavement or loss.
- Gang-association either through relatives, peers or intimate relationships.
- Children attending school with children and young people who are already sexually exploited. Similarly adults associating with other adults who are sexually exploited.
- Learning disabilities.
- Unsure about their sexual orientation or unable to disclose sexual orientation to their families.
- Friends with young people/adults who are sexually exploited.
- Homeless.
- Lacking friends from the same age group.
- Living in a gang neighbourhood.
- Living in residential care.
- Living in hostel, bed and breakfast accommodation or a foyer.
- Low self-esteem or self-confidence.
- Children who are carers.
- Children involved in other forms of exploitation and modern slavery.

Children and young people who are sexually exploited may display the following indicators. This is not conclusive and is not an exhaustive list.

- Missing from home or care.
- Physical injuries.
- Drug or alcohol misuse.
- Involvement in offending.
- Repeat sexually-transmitted infections, pregnancy and terminations.
- Absent from school.
- Change in physical appearance.
- Evidence of sexual bullying and/or vulnerability through the internet and/or social networking sites.
- Estranged from their family.
- Receipt of gifts from unknown sources.
- Recruiting others into exploitative situations.
- Poor mental health.
- Self-harm.
- Thoughts of or attempts at suicide.

Common myths and stereotypes;

- The victim invited sex by the way they dressed or acted

- The victim used alcohol or drugs and was therefore sexually available
- The victim didn't scream, fight or protest so they must have been consenting
- The victim didn't complain immediately, so it can't have been a sexual assault
- The victim is in a relationship with the alleged offender and is therefore a willing sexual partner
- A victim should remember events consistently
- Children can consent to their own sexual exploitation
- Adult consent is binding, and there are no coercion and control issues to think
- Adults always make sound and rational choices??
- SE is only a problem in certain ethnic/cultural communities
- Only girls and young women are victims of CSA
- Children from BME backgrounds are abused
- There will be physical evidence of abuse."

This strategy will be reviewed by the CSE steering group October 2018