



CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2.00pm FRIDAY, 4TH SEPTEMBER 2015

COMMITTEE ROOMS 1 AND 2, PORT TALBOT

PART 1

1. To receive any declarations of interest from Members
2. To receive the Minutes of the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee held on 16th July 2015 (*Pages 5 - 12*)
3. To receive the Minutes of the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee held on 30th July 2015 (*Pages 13 - 18*)
4. To receive the Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2014/15 (*Pages 19 - 24*)

To scrutinise decisions, information and monitoring issues reported by:

Report of the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee

5. Scrutiny Inquiry to Assess Progress in Protecting Children from Sexual Exploitation in Neath Port Talbot (*Pages 25 - 70*)

Report of the Head of Participation

6. Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Data Unit - Report Card 2014-15 (*Pages 71 - 76*)
7. To select appropriate items from the Cabinet Board Agenda for pre-scrutiny (Cabinet Board reports enclosed for Scrutiny Members)

Please note that Quarter One Performance Monitoring reports are included within the Cabinet Board papers and should be subject to scrutiny

8. Any urgent items (whether public or exempt) at the discretion of the Chairman pursuant to Section 100B (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972

S.Phillips
Chief Executive

Civic Centre
Port Talbot

Thursday 27th August 2015

Committee Membership:

Chairman: Councillor A.R.Lockyer

Vice Chairman: Councillor H.N.James

Councillors: A.Carter, Mrs.A.Chaves, Mrs.J.Dudley, M.Ellis,
P.Greenaway, R.G.Jones, J.D.Morgan,
Mrs.S.Paddison, Mrs.K.Pearson, M.Protheroe,
A.L.Thomas, Mrs.L.G.Williams and Mrs.A.Wingrave

***Co-opted
Voting Members** Mrs.H.Stephens

***Co-opted Non
Voting Members** R.De Benedictis, A.Hughes and Mrs.C.Wheldon

Notes:

- (1) *If Committee Members or non-Committee Members wish to have relevant items put on the agenda for future meetings, then please notify the Chief Executive/Chair eight days before the meeting.*
- (2) *If non-Committee Members wish to attend for an item of interest, then prior notification needs to be given (by 12.00 noon on the day before the meeting). Non-Committee Members may speak but not vote, or move or second any motion.*
- (3) *For pre scrutiny arrangements, the Chair will normally recommend forthcoming executive items for discussion/challenge. It is also open to Committee Members to request items to be raised - though Members are asked to be selective here in regard to important issues.*
- (4) *The relevant Cabinet Board Members will also be invited to be present at the meeting for Scrutiny/ Consultation purposes.*
- (5) *Would the Scrutiny Committee Members please bring the Cabinet Board papers with them to the meeting.*

This page is intentionally left blank

**CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

(Committee Rooms 1 and 2, Port Talbot)

Members Present:

16th July 2015

Chairman: Councillor A.R.Lockyer

Vice Chairman: Councillor H.N.James

Councillors: R.G.Jones, J.D.Morgan, Mrs.S.Paddison,
M.Protheroe, A.L.Thomas and Mrs.L.G.Williams

**Co-opted Non Voting
Members:** A.Hughes

Officers InAttendance A.Evans, A.Jarrett, Mrs.A.Thomas, C.Millis,
J.Hodges, M.Lazarus, D.Harding, Ms.H.Lewis and
Ms.C.Gadd

Cabinet Invitees: Councillors P.A.Rees and P.D.Richards

1. **MINUTES OF THE CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND
EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 28TH MAY 2015**

Noted by the Committee.

2. **MINUTES OF THE CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND
EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 18TH JUNE
2015**

Noted by the Committee.

3. **SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15**

The Committee were informed that the Forward Work Programme would be updated following the workshop that had been held with Members.

Noted by the Committee.

4. **PRE-SCRUTINY**

The Committee scrutinised the following matters:

Cabinet Board Proposals

4.1 Performance Indicator Monitoring Report 4th Quarter 2014/15 - Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning

The Committee received the report and presentation on the actual performance achieved for 2014/15 financial year and the Complaints and Compliments for 2014/15 (i.e. 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015) for Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning, as detailed within the circulated report.

Members noted that there had been a small drop in the number of pupils receiving a teacher assessment at end of key stage 2 and 3 in Welsh first language (EDU/006i and EDU/006ii) and queried the reasons for this, as there had been an increase in the school roll for the Welsh Medium Comprehensive in Neath Port Talbot. Officers informed them that the cohort of pupils may be slightly smaller than the previous cohort and this would not be directly related to the school roll. Members queried if Officers knew the number of pupils who choose not to move from a Welsh medium primary to a Welsh medium secondary school and the reasons why they did not. Officers informed them that the amount of pupils would be reported back to the Committee. The reasons for not transferring were not clear and would be investigated further.

With regards to exclusions from both primary and secondary schools (EDU/010a, EDU/008b and EDU/009b) the Committee requested a breakdown of the reasons for exclusions. Officers agreed to circulate this information to the Committee and outlined that the top reasons were violence towards adults and pupils and violent behaviour. It was highlighted that there were more pupils with complex needs. Members noted that a report on Support for Behaviour Management that included an update on the work that had been undertaken was due to be reported to the Committee and it was queried when it would be presented. Officers would find out this information.

Members highlighted that there had been a drop in performance in the average number of school days that permanently excluded pupils did not receive an offer of part time appropriate education provision during the academic year (EDU/009b). It was explained that it was mainly due to a clash in definitions between the indicator and the

Neath Port Talbot Home Tuition Policy and in most cases pupils were receiving support. It was also noted that there had been three extreme cases where it had been hard to find suitable tutors.

Members queried if the number of final statements of special educational needs affected the budget. It was confirmed that it had an implication for schools, which could have budgetary implications depending on the support that was required. It was highlighted that the approach was to try to ensure that pupils with additional needs remained involved in the mainstream classroom.

The Committee noted that there had been a re-classification of childcare/day centres (Local (FP) 1+) and it was queried if this had resulted in a reduction in the number of placements. Officers would investigate this query further and report back to Members.

Members noted that one stage 2 complaint had been partially upheld and asked what change of procedure had taken place to address this. Officers informed them that the Service had looked at the journey of a Statement of Special Educational Needs and ensured that it was a more fluid process. Clear guidance had also been given to schools in how to manage this process. It was highlighted that the section had received two written compliments during the year, which was pleasing.

Following scrutiny, it was agreed that the report be noted.

4.2 Children and Young People Services – End of Year (2014-2015) Performance Report and Key Priority Indicator Information

The Committee received the report on the performance management information within Children's Services for the End of Year (April 2014-March 2015) and Monthly Key Priority Indicator information (May 2015), as detailed within the circulated report.

It was noted that as Children's Services had been removed from the Serious Concerns Protocol a report would be presented to Members at the next meeting to obtain their views on which are the Key Priority Indicators going forward.

Members noted that there had been lower performance this year in comparison with 2013/14 in regards to the percentage of children looked after with Personal Education Plans within 20 school days of entering care or joining a new school (SCC/024). It asked how the

Service was addressing this. Officers explained that there had been an improvement in performance over the year and the Education Co-ordinator for Looked After Children (LAC) now attends planning meetings, which had been beneficial and the quality of plans had improved. Previously the Service had not identified educational needs for LAC. Senior Officers had monitored this area and all LAC who had not had a Plan in place within timescales now had one.

Members highlighted that for some statutory timescales, such as the percentage of looked after children's reviews carried out within statutory timescales (SCC/021), improvements had been made but they were not reaching 100%. It was queried if 100% was achievable. Officers highlighted that the aim for the Service would always be 100% and the performance was monitored closely. However, it was noted that some timescales do slip and Members were reassured that it was checked that it was not the same staff missing the timescales, as this would result in disciplinary actions taking place and the reasons for the timescales being missed were looked at.

Members noted that there had been a big improvement in performance for Young Carers that were known to social services who were provided with a service (SCC/030) and asked what the story was behind the improvement. Officers informed them that it had previously been recorded incorrectly and this had been addressed. However, it was noted that not enough young carers are being identified.

In terms of school attendance for looked after pupils whilst in care (SCC/022), Members asked what support could be provided to Foster Carers to help improve performance in this area, especially for primary school attendance. Officers informed Members that support was given to Foster Carers and they would consider with Education colleagues how to address this further. Members also highlighted that the average external qualifications points score for 16 year old children (SCC/037) had dropped compared with the previous year. It was noted that the measures that had been put in place to improve educational attainment of LAC would come into effect and improve performance going forward. It was recognised that there were different cohorts of children with different number of children which would affect the figures.

Following scrutiny, it was agreed that the report be noted.

4.3 Centralisation of Student Finance

The Committee received the report on the centralisation of student finance, as detailed within the circulated report.

Members were informed that the Council previously administered student finance in respect of Neath Port Talbot students pursuing Higher Education courses. With effect from 31st March 2015, Student Finance Wales was centralised. Members queried how and where it was being administered from since the changes came into effect and if it had a positive impact on the budget. Officers informed them that the responsibility of administering Student Finance Wales was delegated by Welsh Government to the Student Loans Company based in Glasgow. It was noted that there had not been a positive budget impact and money had been clawed back by Welsh Government.

Following scrutiny, it was agreed that the report be noted.

5. ACCESS TO MEETINGS

Resolved: that pursuant to Section 100A(4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded for the following items of business which involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 12 and 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the above Act.

6. PRE-SCRUTINY

The Committee scrutinised the following matters:

Cabinet Board Proposals

6.1 The Children's Home (Wales) Regulations 2002

The Committee received the report on the Children's Home (Wales) Regulations requirement for monthly visits to Hillside Secure Centre by a member of staff who was not directly concerned with the conduct of the Children's Home, as detailed within the circulated report.

Members were informed that Hillside was dealing with children and young people with complex needs and this does result in some incidents. It was noted that any complaints received had been dealt with satisfactorily. A restorative justice approach is taken, however,

at times there have to be restrictions and sanctions put in place. It was recognised that having cases with more complex needs puts extra pressure on staff and a review of the staff rota was being undertaken to facilitate increased time for clinical support and training, which would have a significant impact on the well-being of staff.

Members queried if there had been an increase in the number of placements in Hillside. Officers informed them that there had been positive engagement with the Youth Justice Board and the Service was being used more frequently and the demands on welfare placements had increased. Work had also been undertaken to further develop a complete wrap around service. It was highlighted that a refurbishment programme was underway and part of this was the development of a walled garden with horticultural area in Education.

The Committee was informed that the Service was in the process of developing an overarching Comprehensive Risk Management Strategy to improve risk management for both young people and staff. There had also been the introduction of a post incident reviewing process. Members highlighted that appropriate action needs to be taken in regards to any incidents that occur. Officers agreed that they would ensure robust systems were in place and would report back to the Committee.

Members asked if there were facilities for children and young people to teleconference or facetime with their families if they were placed far from home. It was confirmed that there was teleconferencing facilities there and they were looking at trying to utilise SKYPE.

Following scrutiny, it was agreed that the report be noted.

6.2 The Manager's Report on Hillside Secure Children's Home

The Committee received the Manager's Report on Hillside Secure Children's Home for the period 1st February 2015 to 28th May 2015, as detailed within the circulate report.

The key points from the report were highlighted to Members. It was queried if any young person from Wales had to be accommodated outside of Wales. It was confirmed that local demand had been met and the only reason a referral would not have come to Hillside would have been due the nature not being appropriate for the support available, for example, specific mental health issues.

Members highlighted that the time young people were spending in Hillside seemed to have reduced and this could be more disruptive and more can be achieved over a longer period. However, it was the decision of the courts how long young people stay. It was noted that the Service was piloting a trauma recovery pilot to assess the impact on those becoming involved in the criminal justice system. Officers would circulate information on this model to the Committee outside of the meeting.

Members recognised the qualifications being achieved despite the short length of stay of some young people. It was also highlighted that a Resettlement Officer had been appointed to improve the transition process of young people returning home.

It was noted that there had been a reduction in incidences of long term sickness of staff, however, there was still improvements to be made. The development of the new staff rota would assist with this.

It was recognised that it was positive that Hillside had been visited by two ex-residents who wanted to thank everyone who had supported them through their time there.

Following scrutiny, it was agreed that the report be noted.

CHAIRMAN

This page is intentionally left blank

**CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (SPECIAL)**

(Committee Rooms 1/2 - Port Talbot Civic Centre)

Members Present:

30th July 2015

Chairman:	Councillor A.R.Lockyer
Vice Chairman:	Councillor H.N.James
Councillors:	A.Carter, Mrs.J.Dudley, M.Ellis, P.Greenaway, R.G.Jones, J.D.Morgan, Mrs.S.Paddison and Mrs.L.G.Williams
Co-opted Non Voting Members:	A.Hughes
Officers In Attendance	A.Jarrett, Mrs.A.Thomas, C.Millis, J.Hodges, J.Haeney and Ms.C.Gadd
Cabinet Invitees:	Councillors P.A.Rees and P.D.Richards

1. **REVIEW OF YOUTH CLUB PROVISION**

The Committee received the report on progress implementing the approved changes to the current allocation of youth clubs to enable continuity of the service within the context of current budget limitations, as detailed within the circulated report.

It was recognised that there had been some impact on the Service with budget reductions, however, the Service had undertaken a lot of work to negate this and the value of youth clubs was recognised.

Members were provided with an overview of current provision and what changes had been made. It was highlighted that a review was being undertaken of youth club provision across Neath Port Talbot with a view of ensuring a more equitable spread across the area. A full report on the review would be brought to the meeting of the Committee in October. Youth Support Services were currently being analysed to help inform a county

wide mapping exercise and it was noted that some population analysis had been undertaken which would be cross referenced with other information such as the Multiple Index of Deprivation. This information would assist in assessing which young people were accessing clubs and whether it was representative of the young people in the area. It was highlighted that the Youth Service was more than just youth clubs and it provided a wide range of services.

The Committee highlighted that, as recognised in previous meetings, there were imbalances in youth club provisions across the County Borough. Members noted that in some areas youth provision was available from other providers and this should be taken into consideration during the mapping process and should be included in the future report. Members highlighted that in the sustainability of the different groups needed to be taken into consideration as some organisations would be reliant on grants and fixed funding. Members noted that the Youth Service should consider ways to assist other provisions in the community as they can help to deliver services and access funding not available to the Council. It was highlighted that this work was already undertaken and Officers informed Members that where possible alternative models of provision was considered. It was also recognised that community profiling should be undertaken more regularly as a lot of provision was historic.

In relation to the Youth Club in Bryncoch, Members queried what the minimum staffing levels were and was the preferred night based on the choice of the young people who attended. Officers explained that minimum staffing levels would be based on the size of the club and requirements of the venue and as a general rule the minimum levels would be three members of staff. It was confirmed that the preferred night was based on the choice of young people in the area. It was noted that the Deputy Worker in Charge posts had been removed across the Service, as the post was not required.

Members queried if the changes that had been made to Youth Clubs had had an impact on antisocial behaviour and it was suggested that the Service worked with the Community Safety Team to include this information in the forthcoming report. It was highlighted that the role of the Service was not just to provide activities it also had a safeguarding role, which was why it was important to try and target as many young people as possible. It was noted that it needs to be ensured that youth clubs were fit for purpose and meet the needs of young people. Members asked how children and young people's views were being sought and Officers informed them that surveys were being completed in a number of ways. This included surveys that could be completed online or face to face, the Service had noted that some young people preferred to answer questions on a one to one basis so they could give their views more openly. It was suggested that surveys could be

undertaken in schools to gather the views of a broader range of young people. Members requested that care was taken in gathering views not to raise expectations or for information to be misinterpreted about decisions that had already been taken.

It was queried if the Youth Service still trained young people in the Junior Leader Award. It was confirmed that this was the case and there was a bank of youth workers that had been trained up through this scheme. Members requested that information regarding levels of qualifications offered to young people and those completed to be included in the future report. It was noted that the Service had been struggling to find drivers for the Rolling Zone, however, this had been resolved with two new Youth Workers being trained up as drivers.

Following scrutiny, it was agreed that the report be noted.

2. **PRE-SCRUTINY**

The Committee scrutinised the following matters:

Cabinet Board Proposals

2.1 Children and Young People Services – Proposed 2015-16 Performance Reporting Arrangements

The Committee received the report to inform Members of the performance reporting obligations to Welsh Government during 2015-16 and the revised suite of quarterly performance indicators for Children and Young People Services. The report also sought Members' approval of the selection of priority performance indicators for 2015-16, as detailed within the circulated report.

It was explained that the first recommendation to agree the suite of 2015-16 Performance Indicators would be a decision for the Cabinet Board. The second recommendation to select the key priority indicators to be reported to the Committee would be a decision for the Scrutiny Committee.

Members were informed that previously 28 performance indicators and eight priority performance indicators were reported to the Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet Board. The Service had received notification from Welsh Government of reporting obligations for 2015-16. Welsh Government aimed to lessen the burden on local authorities in the run-up to the introduction of a more outcome

focussed set of performance measures developed to support the implementation of the Social Services and Well Being (Wales) Act during 2016/17. The revised reporting obligations would be reflected in the quarterly report of performance information and the proposed suite of indicators was noted by the Committee. Officers informed Members that the full suite of performance information would still be collated for internal reporting arrangements to the management group.

It was highlighted that Children's Services had been removed from the Serious Concerns Protocol and the Committee had previously asked if the priority indicators remained fit for purpose in light of the significant changes to the Service. Members were keen to ensure that the scrutiny of the right priority indicators added value and appropriate areas were being considered. Members were presented with a shortlist of key indicators that provide evidence as to whether functions within the service were performing to the required level. Members were invited to decide on which indicators from the shortlist they wanted as priority indicators. It was noted that there would need to be some pattern to the indicators chosen rather than indicators being considered in isolation to provide enough information to Members.

Members discussed the different options in depth and put forward their preferences. Officers provided them with advice regarding which indicators complemented each other and would provide useful information. It was also noted which indicators would be reported on a quarterly basis and which would only provide limited information. It was highlighted that the priority indicators would assist in focussing the work of the Committee. They would allow Members to further drill down into areas, consider the story behind the data and the quality of the work undertaken.

From the list of 14 potential priority indicators to be reported to the Scrutiny Committee the Committee agreed on the following 8 indicators:

1. Average number of children's cases held by qualified social workers across the Service.
2. Staff supervision rates to include qualified and unqualified workers.
3. The number of social work vacancies across the Service.
4. Number of Looked After Children. Including the number of children who have been discharged from care and then subsequently re-admitted.
5. The number of Foster Carers approved by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council.

7. The number of cases ‘stepped down’ from Children and Young People Services to Team Around the Family.
9. The number of cases held within the Service categorised by status – child protection, looked after or child in need.
14. The percentage of children looked after during the year with a Personal Education Plan within 20 school days of entering care or joining a new school in the year ending 31st March.

The reporting arrangements were agreed where by sets of four indicators would be reported at alternate meetings. The first set would include the indicators that related to the workforce and work demand (indicators 1, 2, 3 and 5) and the second set would include the indicators that related to aspects of performance of the Service (4, 7, 9 and 14). The priority indicators and reporting arrangements would be reviewed in six months by the Committee.

Following scrutiny, the Committee was supportive of the proposal - the suite of 2015-16 Performance Indicators to be report to Children, Young People and Education Committee - to be considered by the Cabinet Board.

CHAIRMAN

This page is intentionally left blank

**Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee
Forward Work Programme 2015/16**

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item
28 th May 2015	Presentation from CSSIW on Children's Services Inspection Report
	Pre-Scrutiny – Cabinet Board Items
18 th June 2015	Safeguarding Self-Assessment Toolkit
	Pre-Scrutiny – Cabinet Board Items
16th July 2015	Quarterly Performance Reporting
	Pre-Scrutiny – Cabinet Board Items
30 th July 2015	Youth Service Report
	Pre-Scrutiny – Cabinet Board Items

4th September 2015	CSE Inquiry Report
	Report Cards – Education Data Unit
	Quarterly Performance Reporting Including Complaints Data
	Pre-Scrutiny – Cabinet Board Items
24 th September 2015	Report Cards – Flying Start, Childcare Settings, Play Development Team
	CYPS Monthly Key Priority Performance Indicators – 1, 2, 3 & 5
	Pre-Scrutiny – Cabinet Board Items
22nd October 2015	CAHMS Progress
	Youth Service Provision Report
	Report Card – Youth Service
	School Standards Monitoring Group Thematic Report

	CYPS Monthly Key Priority Performance Indicators – 4/8, 7, 9 & 14
	Pre-scrutiny - Cabinet Board Items
12 th November 2015	STAND ALONE BUDGET SCRUTINY
3rd December 2015	Quarterly Performance Monitoring including all 8 Monthly Key Priority Indicators and Complaints Data
	Pre-scrutiny - Cabinet Board Items
14th January 2016	Report Cards – Education Development (ERW – data coming to this meeting)
	CYPS Monthly Key Priority Performance Indicators – 1, 2, 3 & 5
	Pre-scrutiny - Cabinet Board Items
11th February 2016	Report Cards – ACL, Work Based Learning, MEAS & Music Service

	CYPS Monthly Key Priority Performance Indicators – 4/8, 7, 9 & 14
	Pre-scrutiny - Cabinet Board Items
10 th March 2016	School Standards Monitoring Group Thematic Report
	Quarterly Performance Monitoring including all 8 Monthly Key Priority Indicators and Complaints Data
	Pre-scrutiny - Cabinet Board Items
7 th April 2016	CYPS Monthly Key Priority Performance Indicators – 1, 2, 3 & 5
	Pre-scrutiny - Cabinet Board Items
28 th May 2016	CYPS Monthly Key Priority Performance Indicators – 4/8, 7, 9 & 14
	Pre-scrutiny - Cabinet Board Items

Note: Reports requested include:

- Schools Sickness (through report cards)
- Behaviour in schools final guidance, result of pilot and progress updates

This page is intentionally left blank

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2ND SEPTEMBER 2015

REPORT OF THE CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

SECTION A – MATTER FOR DECISION

Scrutiny Inquiry to Assess Progress in Protecting Children from Sexual Exploitation in Neath Port Talbot

Purpose of Report

To inform the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee of the outcome of the One Day Inquiry to assess progress in protecting children from sexual exploitation in Neath Port Talbot. The recommendations contained within the main report to be agreed by the Scrutiny Committee.

Background

Members of the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee had received several reports on Safeguarding and undertook an Inquiry to assess progress in protecting children from sexual exploitation in Neath Port Talbot. The Inquiry was held outside the main Committee Cycle of meetings and considered information provided by different Council Services and relevant partners in relation to this matter.

The Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board has adopted the Bedfordshire University “self-assessment tool” to assess progress in protecting children from sexual exploitation and this formed the basis for the Inquiry.

The attached report provides a summary of the information considered by the inquiry group and makes several recommendations.

Equality Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010. An overview of the EIA has been included in this report in summary form only and it is essential that Members read the EIA, which is attached to the report at Appendix 2, for the purposes of the meeting.

There will be a positive or neutral impact on protected characteristics as the recommendations and potential actions will assist with strengthening arrangements and processes that are already in place.

Recommendation

Having given due regard to the EIA it is recommended that:

1. The recommendations contained within the main report are endorsed by the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee.
2. If the recommendations are agreed the Chairman of the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee writes to the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board, Council departments and other agencies to whom recommendations are addressed drawing their attention to the report and requesting that they:
 - a) Provide an indication that they accept the recommendations addressed to them.
 - b) Provide a response to the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee informing them of what actions will be taken and within what timescales.
 - c) Confirm any relevant actions have been included in strategic and business plans for the organisations.
3. If the recommendations are agreed that progress against the recommendations is assessed in six months by the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

To strengthen the processes that are in place to protect children and young people from sexual exploitation in Neath Port Talbot.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Report of the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee - A scrutiny inquiry to assess progress in protecting children from sexual exploitation in Neath Port Talbot.
- Appendix 2 – Scrutiny Inquiry Scoping Document

- Appendix 3 – University of Bedfordshire Self-Assessment Tool to assess progress in protecting children from sexual exploitation
Appendix 4 - Equality Impact Assessment

List of Background Papers

None

Officer Contact

Catherine Gadd
Democratic Services Officer
Tel no. 01639 793118
E-mail: c.gadd@npt.gov.uk

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

Scrutiny Inquiry to Assess Progress in Protecting Children from Sexual Exploitation in Neath Port Talbot

(a) Implementation of Decision

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

(b) Sustainability Appraisal

Community Plan Impacts

Economic Prosperity	No impact
Education & Lifelong Learning	Positive
Better Health & Wellbeing	Positive
Environment & Transport	No impact
Crime & Disorder	Positive

Other Impacts

Welsh Language	No impact
Sustainable Development	No impact
Equalities	Positive
Social Inclusion	Positive

(c) Consultation

There has been no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

**Report of the:
Children, Young People and Education
Scrutiny Committee**

**A scrutiny inquiry to assess
progress in protecting children
from sexual exploitation in Neath
Port Talbot**

July 2015



Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

CONTENTS

PURPOSE	TBC
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	TBC
BACKGROUND	TBC
RECOMMENDATIONS	TBC
SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION	TBC
APPENDIX 2 – SCOPING DOCUMENT	TBC
APPENDIX 3 – UNIVERSITY OF BEDFORDSHIRE SELF ASSESSMENT TOOL	

PURPOSE

A report on the findings of the One Day Scrutiny Inquiry to assess progress in protecting children from sexual exploitation in Neath Port Talbot. The report provides a summary of the information received and Members of the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee that attended the Inquiry have made several recommendations which are listed in the report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Scrutiny Members undertook a One Day Inquiry to consider information provided by different Council Services and relevant partners to ensure there are effective steps being taken to protect children from sexual exploitation in Neath Port Talbot.

Each organisation had a 30 minute slot to discuss their view of preventing Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) in Neath Port Talbot and Members asked questions in relation to their role and progress within their departments and organisations. The discussions with officers and partners were very beneficial in assisting Members to understand the current position in Neath Port Talbot and how different organisations are working together. A summary of the discussions with each organisation and department is included within the report.

The Group felt that there were some effective measures in place to protect children and young people from CSE. Overall there is good partnership working and effective communication and a multi-agency approach is adopted. In some areas the Group felt that communication could be improved. It was the Groups view that appropriate information and training was not penetrating all partner organisations to the same extent, this was of particular concern for large organisations. The Group have made several recommendations to further enhance the work that has been undertaken already.

BACKGROUND

Members of the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee had received several reports on Safeguarding and had asked for an inquiry to be undertaken to ensure that effective steps are being taken to protect children from sexual exploitation in Neath Port Talbot. Scrutiny Members requested a one day inquiry to be held outside of the main Committee Cycle of meetings to consider information provided by different Council Services and relevant partners in relation to this matter.

A Local Safeguarding Children Board is a statutory body and is part of a wider strategy for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board has been developed to build safeguarding arrangements across Swansea, Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend. Its main functions are to provide challenge and assurance that all agencies concerned are individually and collectively meeting their duties to safeguard children and young people and promote their wellbeing. Protecting children and young people from CSE is an example of this work.

The Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board has adopted the University of Bedfordshire “self-assessment tool” to assess progress in protecting children from sexual exploitation and provides a check list of what is required to be done to further develop an effective strategy to address the issue locally. The tool has been completed by Children and Young People Services in collaboration with representatives from Health, Education and Police from a Neath Port Talbot perspective and highlights the areas that are performing well and what requires further improvement. At the meeting of the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee, held on 18th June 2015, Members received the report on the self-assessment tool. After receiving this information the Committee agreed that the tool would form the basis for the Inquiry Day.

The Inquiry focussed on the following areas:

- How does Neath Port Talbot assess itself in protecting children from sexual exploitation?
- Are improvements required, if so, how are they going to be implemented?
- What strategies are in place in Neath Port Talbot to address CSE?
- What monitoring processes are in place?

RECOMMENDATIONS

Overall Members were reassured that there are some effective systems in place to protect children and young people from CSE in Neath Port Talbot. The Group have made the following recommendations to the Western Bay Safeguarding Children's Board, Council departments and other partner organisations to help strengthen the process.

The Group recommends that:

All Organisations

1. The Children Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee to commend the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board and all organisations involved for the substantive work that has already been undertaken up to the time of the Inquiry to address protecting children from CSE and the audit work that had been undertaken within Neath Port Talbot, which has been robust.
2. Progress against the University of Bedfordshire self-assessment toolkit to be reported back to the Children Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee in six months.
3. Communication to be improved between the Licensing Department, Children and Young People Services and the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board.

Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board

4. For all organisations that are part of the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board to be monitored by the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board to ensure CSE Awareness Raising Training, procedures and information are cascaded down to frontline staff within a timescale set by the Board. In particular the larger organisations such as the Health Board and Police.
5. The Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board to be encouraged to have a mechanism in place to have an overview of all CSE training and schemes of work that is undertaken by organisations who are members of the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board, not just the CSE Awareness Raising Sessions.

6. The Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board to continue with CSE Awareness Raising Sessions and for there to be a priority list of officers to attend.
7. The Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board to assess if more trainers could be trained in CSE Awareness Raising Sessions to increase the capacity of the training available.
8. The Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board to promote who are the representatives that sit on the Board from different organisations.

Human Resources Training Department

9. Improvements are made to sharing information on what CSE training has been undertaken across all departments of the Council and to be co-ordinated centrally by the Human Resources Training Department.

Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Services

10. Neath Port Talbot's Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Services to have a more co-ordinated and consistent approach to CSE Awareness Raising and better mapping of what work has been undertaken, future priorities identified and a specific officer identified to oversee this.
11. The Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee to receive a report highlighting the consistent approach that will be taken across schools in Neath Port Talbot in light of the production of the toolkit from Welsh Government.
12. School Governors to be encouraged to attend CSE Awareness Raising Sessions and the governor in each school with responsibility for safeguarding to attend as a minimum.

Democratic Services

13. CSE Awareness Raising Sessions to be made available for all Elected Members in Neath Port Talbot in due course.

Licensing Department

14. Licensing Officers to attend the CSE Awareness Raising Sessions.

15. The Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee to endorse the approach of Swansea and Neath Port Talbot's Licensing Department regarding the training of taxi drivers in relation to CSE.

Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Board

16. The report to be formally presented to the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Board.

Additional Observations:

Several issues were raised that were outside the remit of the review and have been highlighted in this section.

- Further consideration to be given to a leaflet to be developed to be provided to applicants for licences on raising awareness of safeguarding issues.
- Workforce information for Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning and Children and Young People Services to be circulated to the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee, including staff retention and managing vacancies.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

The following Members of the CYPE Scrutiny Committee took part in the inquiry:

- Cllr A. R. Lockyer (Chairman)
- Cllr H. N. James (Vice Chairman)
- Cllr A. Carter
- Cllr Mrs J. Dudley
- Cllr P. Greenaway
- Cllr R. G. Jones
- Cllr Mrs S. Paddison
- Cllr A. L. Thomas
- Cllr Mrs L. G. Williams

The departments and partner organisations that gave evidence to the Inquiry were:

- Children and Young People's Services
- Training Department
- Education Service
- Director of Social Services, Health and Housing and Chair of Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board
- ABMU Health Board
- SERAF Service, Barnardo's
- Youth Offending Team
- South Wales Police
- Licensing Department

Each organisation had a 30 minute slot to discuss their view of CSE in Neath Port Talbot and Members asked questions in relation to their role and progress within their departments and organisations. Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) were invited to contribute as the umbrella organisation for the voluntary sector in Neath Port Talbot. They do not deliver services directly in preventing CSE so did not attend the day but informed Members that when the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board prioritised this area they made use of the training available and their child protection procedures were changed accordingly. Voluntary organisations in Neath Port Talbot are independent and CVS provides them with relevant information where possible.

The discussions with officers and partners were very beneficial in assisting Members understanding of the current position in Neath Port Talbot and how different organisations are working together and a summary of the key points has been summarised below.

Children and Young People Services

It was highlighted that there was clear communication with partners and strong relationships both strategically and operationally. It was noted that the Self-Assessment Tool is a strategic document and is useful at that level to take forward this priority area. It helps to structure the approach of professionals. The toolkit is a marking point in time and in some areas Neath Port Talbot is performing well and there are some areas that could be improved. Early intervention was a key factor.

Officers provided further information from an operational perspective and gave some case examples that demonstrated some of the dilemmas that services faced in protecting young people. Members were also provided with an insight into what was included in CSE and the themes. It was noted that the focus in Neath Port Talbot has been on awareness raising with partner organisations and communities.

The Group was assured that overall there was commitment from partner organisations and cases are continually tracked. Any drift in actions being completed on time is challenged and agencies work well together. There is a low rate of CSE cases in the area, however, preventative work has to continue. It was noted that on occasion there is disagreement amongst partners on how to manage cases, which is a good situation as it provides challenge to ensure that all the options are considered before a final decision is agreed. Social Workers often get criticised when incidents of CSE occur and having robust systems and challenge provides them with the support they need. It was also noted that there should be better communication with some departments who have not traditionally been involved in the CSE preventative agenda, for example, Licensing Department.

One of the main tactics undertaken in the area is to disrupt potential situations and breaking patterns to prevent children and young people becoming more vulnerable and situations escalating. One example of an effective approach is the use of Abduction Notices. It was highlighted that another important aspect was raising the self-esteem of children and young people and this has resulted in some successful outcomes. Looked After Children are particularly vulnerable as their self-esteem will already be affected by being removed from their families. Good Foster Carers play a key role as they can make a real difference in boosting self-esteem and recognising achievements. It was noted that other external factors affecting children can make them more vulnerable to CSE such as substance misuse, including legal highs.

Members were reassured that partner organisations were committed to the CSE safeguarding agenda and appropriate systems were in place to protect vulnerable children and young people, particularly those in the care of the Council. There also seemed to be sufficient challenge between partners to ensure the best outcomes for children and young people were achieved. The Group would like to see communication strengthened in some areas, for example with the Licensing Department.

Training Department

The Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board was successful in a bid to South Wales Police to develop a train the trainer programme for CSE awareness raising. This has resulted in a pool of trainers across partner organisations that are able to deliver half day sessions and there is an agreement across the organisations to provide venues to hold the training. The philosophy was to train officers with expertise in this area and to target early intervention across all sectors. It was noted that this is an investment programme that has been effective and almost 700 people have attended this training to date. It was highlighted that a CSE Awareness Raising Session had been held for Members of Children Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet Board and the Corporate Parenting Panel. The Members that had attended reflected on how useful the session had been and that they would recommend all Members attend a session.

The Training Department has a detailed overview of the number of Awareness Raising Sessions that have been held and who had attended from across the different organisations. Training feedback is evaluated and attendees' knowledge of the subject area at the beginning and the end is tested. The next steps will be to evaluate the impact of the training in 6 months. It was noted that the quality and outcomes of the training will be evaluated and reported back to the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board.

It was highlighted that some organisations may run their own internal training and there was no overall record of what training was undertaken by partners. For example, the Police run their own training and the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board would not be aware of how many had attended or the level. Some departments within the Council also have their own training and therefore some staff would not be required to attend the Awareness Raising Sessions, but this information is not gathered centrally for the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board. It was noted that Children's Services staff would have attended different levels of training due to the nature of their work so they would not necessarily have been on the Awareness Raising Sessions but they would have received appropriate training. The benefits of multiagency training were recognised as it provides opportunities for partners to share their experiences and learning and offers a fresh perspective.

There is a mix of officers from different departments within the Council who had attended Awareness Raising Sessions and it was discussed that

some departments would benefit from more officers being trained, such as: licensing, transport, One Stop Shop and parks and gardens. It was also noted that it was not clear if School Governors had attended the sessions. It was highlighted that under the grant conditions a fee could not be charged for the training, however, a cancellation fee was charged to encourage attendance.

Members were pleased to see that there is an expansive awareness raising in place and felt that the train the trainer programme had maximised the use of the grant from South Wales Police. The Group would like to see the Awareness Raising Sessions continue and if possible expanded. Members would recommend that the training is offered to school governors and in particular those governors with responsibility for safeguarding. In addition, the Group would like all Elected Members to have the opportunity to attend a session. An area for improvement would be for the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board to have an overview of all CSE training that was undertaken by partner organisations.

Education Services

The Group was informed that every school has a designated member of staff for safeguarding and there is an overall lead in Education Services. All designated persons attend the CSE Awareness Raising Sessions and their role is to cascade this information to staff in their school. There are three slides included in governors training that cover CSE and safeguarding. It was noted that the Awareness Raising Sessions had been offered to governors, however, it was unknown how many had taken up this training and whether any designated safeguarding governors had done so.

The Youth Service regularly delivers separate CSE training to its staff. However, it was noted that other areas within the Education Leisure and Lifelong Learning Department had not yet received any training. There is high demand for places on the sessions and there are waiting lists. It was suggested that more trainers in this area would increase the capacity. It was highlighted that staff in some departments should be prioritised, such as libraries, parks and leisure centre staff, as these are all places where children and young people congregate. It was noted that it was not clear whether staff at libraries that were now run by community organisations would be offered the training.

It was noted that CSE awareness raising for pupils is undertaken in all schools through Personal and Social Education (PSE) lessons and the

Relationship Advice Drop in Service (RADS) and it is adequate. Generally children and young people are engaged in the sessions, but the most vulnerable are often the ones that show less interest and may require more targeted sessions. It was highlighted that there is not a consistent or co-ordinated approach across schools in the County Borough and other Local Authorities have more co-ordinated approaches and deliver consistent packages. It was highlighted that Welsh Government had been working with Barnardo's to develop a toolkit for schools to deliver more effective packages and the Service would be awaiting the outcome of this work before putting a more consistent approach in place. It is anticipated that the pack will be available in the autumn. There has been some discussion on what age the awareness raising should start from and the information being age relevant. Having a consistent package will make it easier to evaluate its effectiveness.

The Group noted that in considering the information they received during this session and presentations to the Scrutiny Committee there had been considerable work undertaken in Safeguarding. However, it was felt that a more co-ordinated approach was required within Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Services. Also improving the sharing of information on what training has been undertaken across all departments of the Council and to be co-ordinated centrally by the Human Resources Training Department.

Director of Social Services, Health and Housing and Chair of the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board

The Group was provided with an overview of the actions that had been taken over the last two years, which included internal audits of the processes in place to safeguard against CSE within the Council. In particular for Looked After Children and those who are placed outside the County Borough, as they can be more vulnerable. The results of this work demonstrated that there was good performance in this area in Neath Port Talbot. The other two Local Authorities within the Western Bay area had been encouraged to undertake similar audits.

The Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board has taken a strategic approach to this area and the Board's role is to identify and target weaknesses and support strengths. All partners on the Board have to be held to account and ensure there is a dynamic approach. It was noted that action by the Board has resulted in a more sophisticated approach being undertaken and there is better collation of data. The Board agreed that all three areas would adopt the University of Bedfordshire self-assessment

tool to evaluate where they were at that point in time in relation to CSE. It was highlighted that all organisations need to ensure that the relevant information is cascaded down to the relevant areas and in particular to frontline staff. There is co-ordinated approach to sharing information, however, there was still room for some improvement to ensure that all resources were being used effectively. It was noted that organisations had different commitments and ways of undertaking actions.

It was highlighted that the most effective tool against CSE was detection and disruption. It was recognised that the focus had been prevention and there was some work to be done in improving services for victims. The usefulness of the train the trainer programme for CSE Awareness Raising was highlighted and the multiagency approach has been successful. It was noted that the sessions run cannot meet the current demand.

Members were reassured that saving targets for the Social Services, Health and Housing Directorate would not affect this area of work. It was highlighted that responsibility for this area was ultimately with the senior officers and directors of the organisations involved. It was noted that Neath Port Talbot was in a good position, but it was important not to be complacent. One of the main functions for the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board is to ensure standards are met in all areas.

The Group noted that the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board had undertaken extensive work in this area and that an overall effective strategic approach was in place. There are still some areas that require further strengthening.

Barnardo's

The Sexual Exploitation Risk Assessment Framework (SERAF) and Service were explained to Members and it was noted that SERAF was the name of the framework and service. It was highlighted that the SERAF Framework is embedded in the all Wales Protocol.

It was explained that Barnardo's has a Service Level Agreement with Neath Port Talbot Council that consists of three strands: policy and influencing, advice and guidance and direct work with young people. The Service tries to personalise and tailor packages to meet the needs of the individual child or young person. Barnardo's SERAF Programme is funded through a combination of Service Level Agreements and spot purchasing of services with Local Authorities. It was highlighted that Service Level Agreements were more effective than spot purchasing as it

allows more planning and results in the Service being able to respond to referrals more effectively. The strength of multi-agency working was recognised. It was noted that there can be weaknesses in communication between agencies and it was not consistent in all Local Authority areas. However, it was highlighted that it was better in Neath Port Talbot than in other areas and further demonstrated the advantage of having a Service Level Agreement.

It was confirmed that Barnardo's is working with Welsh Government to develop an education and training programme for children and young people to be used by schools. The pack has been developed and it is anticipated that it will be ready to be used for the new academic year in September. It will be a free resource and there will be two versions aimed at different age ranges.

It was noted that young people and families could not self-refer to the SERAF programme and it was asked whether the Service thought self-referral would be useful and if the Service would have the capacity to deal with this. It was explained that the Service worked with children and young people who were at significant risk and the children had to be known to Children's Services to reach the threshold to access the programme. Therefore, Children's Services was the front door to accessing SERAF Services and self-referral would not work.

It was explained how the Service helps young people and that workers spend time building up trust with the young person and undertake different pieces of work to help explain what has happened. The young people are vulnerable and often have low self-esteem and attachment issues, which makes them more susceptible to unhealthy relationships. There was discussion over preventative measures and an outline of other projects. It was highlighted that trauma has an impact as well as environmental aspects. It was noted that there had been a 30% increase in cases referred to SERAF in the last financial year. There has also been an increase in the level of risk and more complex work is required with the young people.

It was noted that Barnardo's was in the process of developing a contract with South Wales Police to assist with interviewing and follow up work with young people who have gone missing.

The Group felt that the service being delivered by Barnardo's was effective and the organisation was very knowledgeable. Members felt

confident in the expertise of the officers and the way the service was working with partners.

ABMU Health Board

It was highlighted that the Health Board is a large organisation that works across a wide area. It was explained that there was a Safeguarding Committee and any relevant information was disseminated by this Committee. It was highlighted that that each Health Board area shares information on best practice. It was noted that there was a new all Wales tool for CSE assessment specifically for Health and was based on the SERAF assessment.

A programme of training sessions was being developed for staff was based on the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board Awareness Raising Sessions which had been adapted to make it more relevant to Health. It was highlighted that CSE Awareness Raising Training was at an early stage and not fully rolled out in the Health Board. For example, sexual health workers have received this training but it had not been rolled out to accident and emergency staff. However, all staff would follow child protection procedures.

It was queried how information was shared with GPs and Dentists. It was explained that there were officers with a specific remit to work with the primary care sector. It was highlighted that it is a challenge getting staff released from practices to attend training. Every GP and Dentist Practice has a lead person for safeguarding who is responsible for cascading information to all staff. There is also a multi-agency Primary Care Forum. It was noted that there was better engagement with GPs and more consistency recently.

From the Health Board's perspective the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board is working well and there is good partnership working. It was identified that the disseminating information can be a challenge and ensuring that frontline staff received the relevant training. Some concern was expressed over how information was filtered through the organisation and the training of frontline staff.

Members noted that the Risk Assessment being developed for Health was different to the SERAF assessment that was standardised and used by other organisations. The Group had concerns that CSE awareness raising and relevant training was reaching frontline staff in a timely manner.

Youth Offending Team

Members were informed of the work of the Youth Offending Team and their role in safeguarding young people from CSE. The Team is a multidisciplinary team and the teams across the Western Bay area have been amalgamated. A big part of the role of the team is to prevent offending and re-offending. The majority of referrals are made via the Police and courts and includes young people who are at risk of offending. A holistic view is taken which includes taking account the background of the young people and areas of risk. It was noted that the focus on CSE has been on the radar for the last few years and activities have been undertaken to address this and other related safeguarding areas. There are procedures in place within the team to assess vulnerability and risk of CSE.

It was highlighted that issues, such as substance misuse, peer pressure and young people accessing properties unsupervised, increases the risk of CSE. Preventative actions, such as Abduction Orders, have helped to address this. It was queried if mental health problems increased the vulnerability of young people. It was confirmed that this was the case and it was positive that a senior Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) nurse was part of the Team. This ensures that young people known to the Team have access to this support if required.

It was highlighted that the Youth Justice Board follows up cases to establish if there were incidents of re-offending both pre and post 18 years old. It was noted that where possible the Team works with parents and families to provide alternative strategies to manage young people's behaviour to complement the work undertaken with the young people.

The Anti-social Behaviour Team engages with the Youth Offending Team, which provides them with useful information from the community. It was noted that the level of reporting of incidents of anti-social behaviour has dropped recently.

The Group was pleased that there was a CAMHS nurse as part of the team. The Youth Offending Team seemed to be working well with partners to address CSE concerns that arose.

South Wales Police

The Group was informed of the areas covered by the Public Protection Unit and that the department has increased in size, which highlights the

priority given to these areas. It was noted that the workload had increased but it was not all related to CSE. The referral unit is where all enquiries are received and the information gathered is assessed to decide on the appropriate response. Relevant information is shared with partners, such as Health and Children's Services. There is a Conference Team that attends different meetings to ensure continuity of officers and a more structured and consistent approach to cases.

It was noted that the Western Bay area is made up of diverse communities and it was queried if there were different issues affecting different localities. It was highlighted that this was not really the case. The importance of early intervention and the work that was undertaken was outlined. Actions such as Abduction Orders were identified as being a useful preventative tool and in the majority of cases it has a significant impact. It also provides the Police with the power of arrest if these orders are broken.

It was highlighted that the systems in enhancing this work have improved and have expanded in the last 18 months. For example, hotspots for potential activity were being identified and targeted. It was noted that there are a number of audit tools in place to quality assure the work of the Unit. There are also good working relationships with partners and healthy challenge between professionals. It was highlighted that information is shared securely between partners, where appropriate. However, it was identified that some partners rely on the Police IT systems as they do not have their own robust systems in place and it has to be ensured that things do not get missed as a consequence. It was asked if there was an increase in the number of cases of CSE and it was explained that it was hard to say. It has come more to the forefront and there is increased awareness which has resulted in reporting of more incidents.

The Group felt that overall the Police was working well with partners to undertake preventative work in CSE. In light of inspection reports and the information received as part of the Inquiry the Group is pleased that work is being undertaken with Barnardo's to assist with interviewing and follow up work with young people who regularly go missing. As identified previously the Group has concerns that adequate steps are being taken by large organisations to ensure that appropriate information is being cascaded to relevant frontline staff in a timely manner.

Licensing Department

The Licensing Department is responsible for a number of functions and their priority is safeguarding the public. Areas covered include licensing taxi drivers, pubs and clubs, ice cream vendors, street traders and tattoo parlours.

Taxi licensing was identified as one of the high risk areas, as they often carry vulnerable members of the public. It was noted that they have enhanced DBS checks. The Group was informed that Licensing Officers had attended a seminar on CSE, which included some examples of good practice taking place in other Local Authorities. The Licensing Department has started to consider taxi drivers attending CSE Awareness Raising Sessions and mechanisms for how they can report any suspicions of CSE. It was highlighted that there is scope for taxi drivers to play a role in being the “eyes and ears” in the community to report concerns. It was noted that this could be made mandatory training for all taxi drivers and for it to be made part of the license conditions as they were renewed. Taxi drivers have not yet been approached regarding these potential proposals, as the views of safeguarding professionals were being sought. The Licensing Departments in Swansea and Neath Port Talbot were looking to take forward this work and the Group were supportive of this initiative. It was further queried if there was scope for other areas to receive CSE awareness training, such as door staff. It was explained that this could be considered in the future but one area at a time had to be addressed. The success of such initiatives could then be evaluated.

The issues around legal highs were discussed and it was highlighted that the Licensing Department had no powers in this area at the moment.

It was noted that the All Wales Licensing Expert Panel has formally registered its concerns in relation to the changes to the recent Notifiable Occupations Scheme for hackney carriage and private hire drivers. The Notifiable Occupations Scheme was withdrawn in April 2015 and now relies instead on ‘Common Law Police Disclosure’ (CLPD). Under the old scheme Licensing Departments received notifications in respect of licensed drivers upon arrest, charge and conviction of relevant offences. The CLPD should ensure that this information is still passed to Licensing Departments, however, in practice there appears to have been a dramatic reduction in the receipt of notifications. The Panel has written to the Welsh Local Government Association and have asked for their concerns to be raised with the Chief Police Officer or Commissioner for each force in Wales to ensure that the necessary information required by licensing

authorities will continue to be provided at the point of arrest, to enable them to put measures in place to mitigate the risk to public safety immediately.

It was noted that an area for improvement would be to improve communication between the Licensing Department and Children's Services in regards to safeguarding. Members also suggested that a development of a safeguarding factsheet to be provided to all applicants for a license.

The Group were supportive of the proposals being put forward to train taxi drivers and they were also supportive of the representations made to the Chief Police Officers or Commissioners from the All Wales Licensing Expert Panel.

SCRUTINY INQUIRY SCOPING DOCUMENT

Title	A scrutiny inquiry to assess progress in protecting children from sexual exploitation in Neath Port Talbot
Reasons for undertaking Inquiry	Members of the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee have received several reports on Safeguarding and had asked for an inquiry to be undertaken to ensure there are effective steps being taken to protect children from sexual exploitation in Neath Port Talbot.
Key Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does Neath Port Talbot assess itself in protecting children from sexual exploitation? • Are improvements required, if so, how are they going to be implemented? • What arrangements are in place in Neath Port Talbot to address child sexual exploitation? • What monitoring processes are in place? • Do Elected Members receive appropriate information and training?
Intended Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Members to have a clear understanding of the arrangements in place in Neath Port Talbot in protecting children from sexual exploitation. • The Children and Young People Education Scrutiny Committee to have assurance that there are effective multiagency arrangements in place across Neath Port Talbot. • To establish what monitoring information and training Elected Members should receive. • Any recommendations from the Inquiry to be made to the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Board.
Background Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Inspection of Safeguarding and Care Planning of Looked After Children and Care Leavers who exhibit vulnerable or risky behaviours (CSSIW, Jan 2015) • University of Bedfordshire ‘Self-Assessment tool’ to assess progress in protecting children from sexual exploitation • Welsh Government – Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation Supplementary Guidance to Safeguarding Children (January 2011) • Internal Audit – Safeguarding Children – Children who go missing and children at risk of sexual exploitation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on Safeguarding Children and Families in Neath Port Talbot to the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet Board on 12th February 2015. • All Wales protocol – Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children who are at risk of abuse through sexual exploitation.
Member Involvement	Members of CYPE Scrutiny Committee
Officer Support	Catherine Gadd – Democratic Services Laura Kinsey – Children and Young People Services
List of potential key officers, stakeholders, partners or other agencies to involve	<p><u>Internal</u></p> <p>Children and Young People Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of Social Services, Health and Housing and Chair of the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board • Head of Children and Young People Services • Principal Officer for Safeguarding Quality Assurance and Independent Reviewing <p>Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of Participation • Transformation Manager • Child and Vulnerable Adult Safeguarding Officer <p>Human Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and Development Officer (Children’s Services) <p>Licensing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensing Principal Officer <p><u>External</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Wales Police • AMBU Health Board • Western Bay Youth Offending Team Manager • Barnardo’s – SERAF Project • NPT CVS
Timeframe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18th June 2015 (date subject to approval at the annual meeting) - Children, Young People and Education (CYPE) Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet Board to receive the completed University of Bedfordshire ‘Self- Assessment tool’ to assess progress in protecting children from sexual for

	<p>Neath Port Talbot.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scrutiny inquiry to be held on Tuesday 30th June 2015. Recommendations to be reported to CYPE.• Progress against the 'Self-Assessment tool to be reported back to CYPE in December 2015.
--	--



University of Bedfordshire 'Self-Assessment tool' To Assess Progress in Protecting Children From Sexual Exploitation

What's Going On To Safeguard Children And Young People From Sexual Exploitation? (CSE)

A Self-Assessment Checklist - (Children And Young People Services, Health, Education And Police – Neath Port Talbot) – June 2015

In 2009 the government published guidance on *Safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation*. This was supplementary to *Working Together* and was directed at Local Children Safeguarding Boards and all agencies with practitioners who come into contact with children and young people and who therefore have a role to play in the identification and support of young people who may be at risk of or experiencing sexual exploitation, and the disruption and prosecution of their abusers.

The way that the guidance has been implemented in local areas has been the subject of a 2 year Comic Relief funded research project, carried out by the International Centre for the Study of Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Young People at the University of Bedfordshire. During the course of that project, which involved over 100 interviews with practitioners, the research team was asked many times for a 'check list' of what is required to be done to develop an effective strategy to address child sexual exploitation. This Self-Assessment document has been produced to meet that need. Each element is included in the research report but is drawn together here for ease of use. Under each heading, relating to the sections of the research report and each element of a child sexual exploitation strategy, outcomes are set out for assessment:



University of Bedfordshire 'Self-Assessment tool' To Assess Progress in Protecting Children From Sexual Exploitation

A – In place, fully achieved

B - Under development, or partially achieved

C - Yet to be addressed, or at a very early stage of development.

The document also provides a column to record evidence of how the outcome is being achieved.

The document is for local use as a tool for LSCBs and partner agencies to assess progress and to focus on future activity.

Further information is contained in the guidance on *Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation* (2009), available from the Department for Education, and in the full research report, *What's Going On to safeguard children and young people from sexual exploitation* (2011) available as a pdf from www.beds.ac.uk/research/iasr

University of Bedfordshire 'Self-Assessment tool' To Assess Progress in Protecting Children From Sexual Exploitation

Coordinating A Multi-Agency Approach

Outcome	A	B	C	How this is achieved/is planned to be achieved
The LSCB has fully signed up to the 5 principles underpinning a CSE strategy: A shared responsibility An integrated approach A proactive approach A child-centred approach and support for parents and carers Recognising criminality		√		Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board (WBSCB) has recently developed a CSE Strategy sub group and a Data Collection Group to monitor CSE activity across the region and respond to any gaps in services/interventions; Lead agencies are represented on these groups. The 5 principles will underpin the Western Bay Strategy.
The LSCB supports a sub group to drive work forward to tackle child sexual exploitation	√			The LSCB has recently set up a multi-agency CSE Strategy sub-group.
All key agencies are represented at the sub group, lead professionals identified and the expectations of each agency clearly understood	√			Board members have nominated representatives who sit on this group. Members of the Board have also confirmed details of their lead professionals and arrangements for ensuring staff within their organisation understand their responsibilities.
Child sexual exploitation is championed at the highest level in partner agencies		√		CSE is of high priority in member agencies and is reported/discussed in internal safeguarding committees/forums. Further work is planned to promote the role of the Lead/Champion within the Education Department and individual schools.

University of Bedfordshire 'Self-Assessment tool' To Assess Progress in Protecting Children From Sexual Exploitation

Outcome	A	B	C	How this is achieved/is planned to be achieved
An up to date and specific child sexual exploitation protocol has been agreed and disseminated, focussing on identification, engagement, disruption and prosecution	√			Agencies adhere to the All Wales Protocol -'Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of Children Who are at Risk of Sexual Exploitation (2013). This has been disseminated widely to all appropriate staff who can also access training on its application.
The CSE protocol is aligned with other relevant strategies e.g. with regard to missing children	√			As above
There is a coordinator in post whose function is recognised in the local area so that referral routes for concerns are widely understood		√		Organisations have identified a 'lead professional' in line with the CSE protocol. Plans to further raise awareness of their role are underway within Health, Education and Leisure settings.

University of Bedfordshire 'Self-Assessment tool' To Assess Progress in Protecting Children From Sexual Exploitation

Recognising Child Sexual Exploitation

Outcome	A	B	C	How this is achieved/planned to be achieved
A scoping exercise has been conducted focussing on victims, perpetrators and locations		√		An audit tool has been implemented by the Board which provides collated monthly case updates from partner agencies and is reported to the WBSCB. Work is underway to establish a mechanism for including 'location' data.
Key agencies work with a range of other organisations to reduce the risks of child sexual exploitation, according to local need	√			Child sexual exploitation strategy meetings are well attended by statutory agencies in addition to representatives from other organisations involved with the child or young person(s) being discussed. There is a demonstrable commitment to reducing risk and undertaking action aimed at affecting change.
All practitioners working with children and young people have the requisite skills and knowledge to safeguard children and young people from sexual exploitation		√		Statutory agencies (Social Services, Police, Health and Education) have provided awareness raising training at a basic level. The WBSCB have supported the establishment of a pool of trainers to cascade multi-agency sessions across the region to ensure training is available to a wider audience.

University of Bedfordshire 'Self-Assessment tool' To Assess Progress in Protecting Children From Sexual Exploitation

Outcome	A	B	C	How this is achieved/planned to be achieved
Through training and awareness raising, all local practitioners working with children and young people are aware of the risk factors, including local factors, for child sexual exploitation		√		The training referred to above will cover these factors.
There is a programme in place to raise awareness with parents and carers		√		There is no formal programme in place at present. Posters are displayed in some health and education settings aimed at raising awareness.
The community is aware of the risks of child sexual exploitation and where to report concerns locally		√		As above
In all cases of children and young people going missing the risk of sexual exploitation is specifically considered.	√			Children reported as missing (MISPERS) are managed in daily meetings by the Police and CSE is always considered; MISPERS are also reviewed daily by a MISPER coordinator who works from the Police public protection unit (PPU) offices. The MISPER coordinator is key to CSE matters and will undertake the return interviews in relation to those identified as being at risk of CSE along with Child Abuse Investigation Unit (CAIU) officers. Multi-agency training also refers specifically to the relevance of missing

University of Bedfordshire 'Self-Assessment tool' To Assess Progress in Protecting Children From Sexual Exploitation

Outcome	A	B	C	How this is achieved/planned to be achieved
Children and young people who have been victims of child abuse or witnessed domestic violence are monitored to minimise the risk of sexual exploitation	√			PPN's and MARAC highlight those children at risk of domestic violence in households. PPN's are risk assessed daily by police and information shared with relevant partners. High Risk DV victims are managed via MARAC, involving a number of key agencies including Health, Education, Social Services .In circumstances whereby children have experienced these situations, and have been referred to Children services as a result, there would be a multi-agency Child in Need Plan / Child Protection Plan in place. If a particular Health or Education professional is working with the child / young person this would be considered and routinely monitored as a potential issue.
Preventative work is regularly delivered with children and young people at particular risk, and with their parents/carers	√			Looked after children's health teams across ABMU HB discuss the risks of CSE with every child during their health assessment. Age appropriate discussion is held, including a discussion with carers and parents to raise awareness as part of a holistic health promotion intervention. All strategy meetings held under the CSE protocol consider whether a referral to specialist services is required for individual children.
Preventative strategies are delivered in a way that is accessible to young people and their families, regardless of gender and community			√	There is no preventative strategy in place and families cannot self-refer to the SERAF service.

University of Bedfordshire 'Self-Assessment tool' To Assess Progress in Protecting Children From Sexual Exploitation

Supporting Young People and Their Families

Outcome	A	B	C	How this is achieved/planned to be achieved
There is a programme in place to raise awareness of CSE with children and young people		√		Some schools, sometimes in conjunction with Police Liaison Officers, deliver awareness raising with pupils but a consistent approach/package is yet to be established
Services are fully accessible to all young people who may need them, regardless of gender, ethnicity or any other characteristic		√		Children and Young People Services facilitate attendance at the SERAF service which is flexible and accessible; Within Sexual health services, an 'open access' policy is operated which enables those attending clinic to do so without an appointment in an area most convenient to them. Language translators would be made available wherever possible across all areas of the HB for children / young people if required; The youth service provides a relationship advice drop in service for all young people aged 14 – 25 years; the school based counselling service is also accessible to all pupils aged 11years and above.
Services are flexible to meet the needs of both young children and adolescents		√		As above. There are also midwives employed by the 'Flying Start Initiative' within the Health Board who are appointed to work specifically with pregnant young people. There is a suite in Singleton Hospital specifically designed and dedicated for performing child protection medicals which would include sexual abuse/ exploitation cases. The Community Paediatricians undertake these medicals with the aid of a School Health Nurse and both would have a full awareness of CSE
Children and young people attend Strategy Meetings and care pathways are discussed and explained				N/A – this is not consistent with the All Wales Child Protection Procedures.

University of Bedfordshire 'Self-Assessment tool' To Assess Progress in Protecting Children From Sexual Exploitation

Outcome	A	B	C	How this is achieved/planned to be achieved
Parents and carers attend strategy meetings and care pathways are discussed and explained				As above
Transition arrangements are in place for young people reaching the age of 18 and still in need of services	√			There are Transition Protocols/Pathways in place across the Health Board and within Social Services for young people reaching the age of 18 years that are still in need of services.
Where parents and carers are not implicated in child sexual exploitation, access to support is available		√		The SARC and ISVA service provide support when cases trigger Police enquiries. The SERAF service will have some contact with parents but do not undertake direct work with them at present.
Feedback from service users is taken into account in the development/review of those services		√		Victims of crime surveys are conducted by South Wales Police; there are patient/public feedback forums across various disciplines within the Health Board that could be utilised should such a service be developed; Children and Young Peoples Services are launching service user feedback mechanisms.
A process has been developed for professionals to meet and agree a plan as soon as concerns have been recognised	√			All statutory agencies follow the All Wales Protocol and would refer accordingly any concerns to Social Services. In response to an invitation to a CSE strategy meeting the relevant professional would attend and share information and would be part of the planning process for the young person.
A wide range of services are available to respond to the needs of children and young people at risk of, or experiencing, sexual exploitation	√			There is a wide range of support available to victims e.g. Youth Service, LAC Health and Education teams, School Health Nursing, CAMHS, Substance Misuse services, Schools, Social Services and Police. For specialist support cases are referred to the SERAF service by Children and Young People Services as required.

University of Bedfordshire 'Self-Assessment tool' To Assess Progress in Protecting Children From Sexual Exploitation

Identifying, investigating, disrupting and prosecuting abusers

Outcome	A	B	C	How this is achieved/planned to be achieved
All local practitioners working with children and young people recognise that those at risk of, or experiencing, sexual exploitation suffer significant harm and should not be regarded as displaying bad or criminal behaviour	√			This principal is conveyed during any CSE/ Safeguarding training sessions across all professions.
Cases are managed in a way that supports the gathering of evidence	√			All Health, Social Services and Education professionals involved with cases would ensure that all information is shared appropriately with Police in order to ensure all evidence is gathered. Gathering evidence is part of the fundamental role of investigators, from 1st officer at scene adopting the 'Golden Hour' principles through to Senior Investigating Officers managing serious and complex crime
Proactive investigation of location 'hot spots' and to identify potential abusers is undertaken	√			CSE forms part of the south Wales Police Force Delivery Plan and daily management meetings. Location hot spots are managed locally by sectors targeted via intelligence led policing - Weymarkers, ir3 management, patrol strategies and intelligence bulletins.

University of Bedfordshire 'Self-Assessment tool' To Assess Progress in Protecting Children From Sexual Exploitation

Outcome	A	B	C	How this is achieved/planned to be achieved
All agencies in direct contact with children and young people understand how to record information for evidential purposes		√		All Health professionals adhere to ABMU Record Keeping policy with regards recording of information for evidential purposes, together with guidance contained within ABMU Safeguarding Children Policies/ and relevant professional guidelines. The subject of record keeping for the purpose of evidential gathering of information is covered within HB Level 2 and 3 Safeguarding Children Training which is accessible by all HB/primary care staff .This is also covered in recording training for practitioners within Children and Young People's Services. Further work is required within Education.
Action is taken promptly to disrupt child sexual exploitation, involving all relevant agencies	√			Strategy meetings consider, in depth, actions that can be taken by everyone to disrupt situations giving cause for concern. The Police ensure pro-active measures are adopted and early intervention tactics are used. This would range from an early arrest with bail conditions imposed through to the serving of abduction notices which have proved to be an excellent intervention tool.
Prosecutions are pursued wherever possible to prevent re-offending	√			Prosecutions are pursued wherever possible by the police.
Investigative methods have been developed to minimise the reliance on the evidence of the child or young person who is the victim of child sexual exploitation	√			During the course of investigations police gather wide ranging evidence including forensic, mobile data, witness testimony, CCTV, medical findings etc .

University of Bedfordshire 'Self-Assessment tool' To Assess Progress in Protecting Children From Sexual Exploitation

Outcome	A	B	C	How this is achieved/planned to be achieved
Where criminal proceedings take place against exploiters, access to special measures is requested where appropriate	√			Yes this is always considered as part of investigative action planning and during liaison with CPS.
Arrangements are in place to support young people and their families throughout any investigation and court proceedings	√			Professionals involved with individual cases offer support in line with their roles. Specialist support is primarily provided by Police and includes SARC, ISVA, Victim support, early Court visits. Experienced SOLO trained CAIU Investigators .
Parents, carers and young witnesses are kept informed of progress at all stages	√			Police investigators ensure victims are kept updated and supervisors intrusively monitor this. All contact is recorded on investigative logs (OEL'S) so a full audit trail is held.
Arrangements are in place to support young people after any court proceedings have concluded to minimise the risk of re-victimisation	√			Cases are subject to regular review under the auspices of the CSE protocol and services would only cease if it is agreed by professionals that issues have been addressed and risks reduced.

Collecting And Managing Data

Outcome	A	B	C	How this is achieved/planned to be achieved
The LSCB coordinates a data collection system to monitor the nature and prevalence of child sexual exploitation locally, and to assess outcomes for children and young people		√		An audit tool has been implemented by the Board which provides collated monthly case updates from partner agencies and is reported to the SCB. Work is underway to establish a mechanism for including 'location' data.
The LSCB contributes to a national snapshot to be coordinated annually by CEOP				N/A in Wales.

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Report Form

This form should be completed for each Equality Impact Assessment on a new or existing function, a reduction or closure of service, any policy, procedure, strategy, plan or project which has been screened and found relevant to Equality and Diversity.

Please refer to the ‘Equality Impact Assessment Guidance’ while completing this form. If you would like further guidance please contact the Corporate Strategy Team or your directorate Heads of Service Equality Champion.

Where do you work?
Service Area: Democratic Services
Directorate: Chief Executive’s Office

(a) This EIA is being completed for a...

Service/ Function <input type="checkbox"/>	Policy/ Procedure X	Project <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	Proposal <input type="checkbox"/>
--	----------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	----------------------------------	--------------------------------------

(b) Please name and describe below...

A scrutiny inquiry to assess progress in protecting children from sexual exploitation in Neath Port Talbot

(c) It was initially screened for relevance to Equality and Diversity in June 2015

(d) It was found to be relevant to...

Age x	Race x
Disability <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion or belief..... x
Gender reassignment <input type="checkbox"/>	Sex x
Marriage & civil partnership <input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual orientation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity <input type="checkbox"/>	Welsh language..... <input type="checkbox"/>

(e) Lead Officer

Name: Catherine Gadd
Job title: Democratic Services Officer
Date: 25th August 2015

(f) Approved by Head of Service

Name: Karen Jones
Date: 25th August 2015

Section 1 – Aims (See guidance):

Briefly describe the aims of the function, service, policy, procedure, strategy, plan, proposal or project:

What are the aims?

To strengthen the processes that are in place to protect children from sexual exploitation in Neath Port Talbot.

Who has responsibility?

The Council, the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board and relevant partner organisations

Who are the stakeholders?

- The Council including – Children and Young People Services, Training Department, Education Services and the Licensing Department
- The Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board
- ABMU Health Board
- Barnardos
- The Western Bay Youth Justice and Early Intervention Services
- South Wales Police
- Children and Young People in Neath Port Talbot

Section 2 - Information about Service Users (See guidance):

Please tick what information you know about your service users and provide details / evidence of how this information is collected.

Age	x	Race	x
Disability	x	Religion or belief.....	x
Gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sex	x
Marriage & civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual orientation.....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Welsh language.....	x

What information do you know about your service users and how is this information collected?

Information is collected by Children and Young People’s Services and other partners where relevant as children and young people become known to Services.

Overall figures for County Borough are also available via the Census 2011.

Any Actions Required?

No

Section 3 - Impact on Protected Characteristics (See guidance):

Please consider the possible impact on the different protected characteristics. This could be based on service user information, data, consultation and research or professional experience (e.g. comments and complaints).

Positive	Negative	Neutral	Needs further investigation
----------	----------	---------	-----------------------------

Age	➔	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability	➔	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender reassignment	➔	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marriage & civil partnership	➔	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity	➔	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race	➔	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or belief	➔	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex	➔	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual orientation	➔	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Welsh language	➔	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Thinking about your answers above, please explain in detail why this is the case? including details of any consultation (and/or other information), which has been undertaken to support your view?

Child sexual exploitation has an impact on children and young people of both genders. It also has an impact on race and religion and belief as these protected characteristics can have an effect on who is targeted.

What consultation and engagement has been undertaken (e.g. with the public and/or members of protected groups) to support your view?

Departments and partner organisations gave detailed evidence to the Inquiry of their views and experiences of protecting children from sexual exploitation in Neath Port Talbot. A summary of key points is contained within the report. The Council departments and partner organisations work directly with children, young people and their families in relation to these matters.

Any actions required (to mitigate adverse impact or to address identified gaps in knowledge)

No

Section 4 - Other Impacts:

Please consider how the initiative might address the following issues.

You could base this on service user information, data, consultation and research or professional experience (e.g. comments and complaints).

Foster good relations between different groups	Advance equality of opportunity between different groups
Elimination of discrimination, harassment and victimisation	Reduction of social exclusion and poverty

(Please see guidance for definitions)

Please explain any possible impact on each of the above.

Advance equality of opportunity between different groups and elimination of discrimination, harassment and victimisation – often the children and young people who are targeted in cases of CSE are more vulnerable and this includes children who are known to social services or are looked after. By strengthening the processes in protecting children and young people from CSE it will have a positive impact on these issues.

What work have you already done to improve any of the above?

The work that already has been undertaken has involved raising the self-esteem of vulnerable children and young people. Early intervention and prevention work has been a key factor, such as disrupting potential situations and all partners have been committed to this agenda. Awareness Raising sessions have been carried out across partner organisations through a successful train the trainer programme. There has also been awareness raising with children, young people, families and communities.

Is the initiative likely to impact on Community Cohesion?

Yes as it will strengthen processes to protect children and young people from sexual exploitation and assist children and young people integrating into their local communities. Raising awareness in local communities will help communities to prevent incidents happening.

How will the initiative treat the Welsh language in the same way as the English language?

Not relevant

Actions (to mitigate adverse impact or to address identified gaps in knowledge).

- Not required

Section 5 - Monitoring arrangements:

Please explain the arrangements in place (or those which will be put in place) to monitor this function, service, policy, procedure, strategy, plan or project:

Monitoring arrangements:

Progress in Neath Port Talbot in assessing progress against the University of Bedfordshire Self-Assessment Tool to assess progress in protecting children from sexual exploitation to be reported back to Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet Board in six months.

Progress against the recommendations contained within the main report to be monitored and reported to the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee.

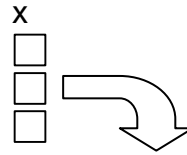
Actions:

The Chairman of the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee to write to the Western Bay Safeguarding Board, Council departments and other agencies to whom recommendations are addressed drawing their attention to the report. Organisations to provide an indication that they accept the recommendations addressed to them contained within the main report and a response to the Committee informing them of what actions will be taken and in what timescales. Also to confirm any relevant actions have been included in strategic and business plans for the organisations.

Section 6 – Outcomes:

Having completed sections 1-5, please indicate which of the outcomes listed below applies to your initiative (refer to guidance for further information on this section).

- Outcome 1: Continue the initiative...
- Outcome 2: Adjust the initiative...
- Outcome 3: Justify the initiative...
- Outcome 4: Stop and remove the initiative...



Section 7 - Publication arrangements:

On completion, please contact the Corporate Strategy Team for advice on the legal requirement to publish the findings of EIAs.

Action Plan:

Objective - What are we going to do and why?	Who will be responsible for seeing it is done?	When will it be done by?	Outcome - How will we know we have achieved our objective?	Progress
Progress against the Bedford self-assessment toolkit to be reported back to Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet Board in six months	The Director of Social Services, Health and Housing and the Principal Officer for Safeguarding, Quality Assurance And Independent Reviewing	March 2016	Report on progress against actions	
The Chairman of the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee to write to the Western Bay Safeguarding Board, Council departments and other agencies to whom recommendations are addressed drawing their attention to the report	The Chairman of the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee	By next meeting on 24 th September 2015	Confirmation at the meeting on 24 th September 2015	
Organisations to provide an indication that they accept the recommendations addressed to them contained within the main report and a response to the Committee informing them of what actions will be taken and in what timescales	Lead Officers in relevant organisations	By January 2016	Responses received and updates on progress against the actions	

Organisations to confirm any relevant actions have been included in strategic and business plans for the organisations.	Lead Officers in relevant organisations	By January 2016	Responses received and updates on progress against the actions	
---	---	-----------------	--	--

*** Please remember to be 'SMART' when completing your action plan.**

This page is intentionally left blank

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4th SEPTEMBER 2015

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF PARTICIPATION -

CHRIS MILLIS

SECTION C – MATTER FOR MONITORING

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

Education Leisure Lifelong Learning Data Unit Report Card 2014-15

Purpose of Report

To provide Members of the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee with information to assist them to scrutinise the performance of the Data Unit Team, which sits within the portfolio of Head of Participation.

Background

The Council introduced a revised Performance Management Framework in 2014/15. One of the requirements within that framework is the production of service report cards by service managers which will enable Members to scrutinise the performance of all services within its purview.

This report will also enable the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Board and Scrutiny Members to discharge their functions in relation to performance management.

Report Card

The Data Unit has developed a report card to demonstrate what is being achieved for the resources invested in that service area from the perspective of customers, staff, internal processes and finance. This ensures there is a more holistic view of services performance.

It is a means for the service to translate its vision and strategies into action which is particularly important at a time when resources are diminishing to ensure a culture of continuous improvement aligned to our service and individual standards and performance measures.

The Data Unit has a wide remit which includes managing the Directorate's Management Information System, providing an increasing amount of data to schools and Education Leisure and Lifelong Learning Services, gathering and reporting national and other key performance indicators, undertaking research, dealing with complaints and Freedom of Information requests. The number and variety of organisation dealt with is therefore significant.

The following report card provides members with details of the services provided by the team, review of performance during 2014-15 and the focus of our work going forward for 2015-16.

Appendices

None

List of Background Papers

None

Officer Contact

Mr Carl Glover
Information Manager Finance, Data and Grants Service
Education, Leisure & Lifelong Learning
Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
01639 763139
Email c.glover@npt.gov.uk

ELLL – Data Unit

Report Card – April 2015

What We Do

Aim

- To support ELLL services, NPTCBC schools, and other Data Unit customers with their information needs.

To fulfil the above aim, having considered the outcome of the service review in 2010, the Data Unit will provide timely, accurate, useful, complete, concise and well-presented information to support ELLL services and schools etc.

Key Tasks

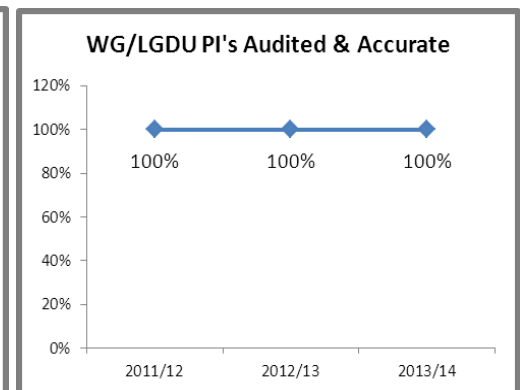
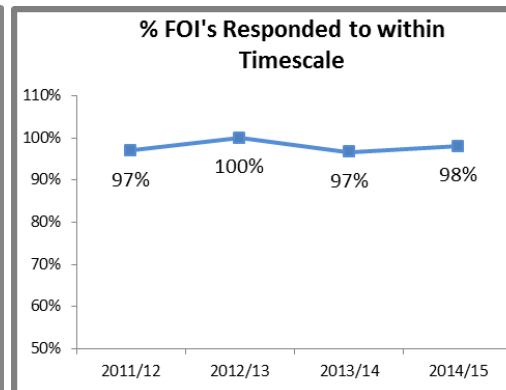
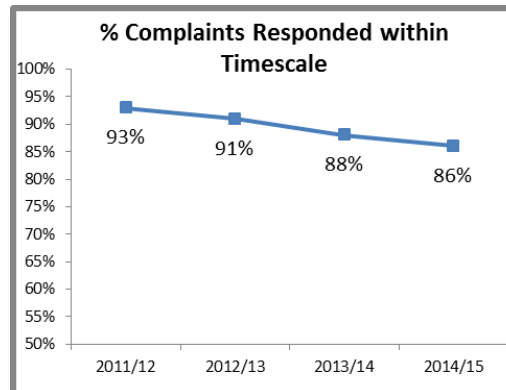
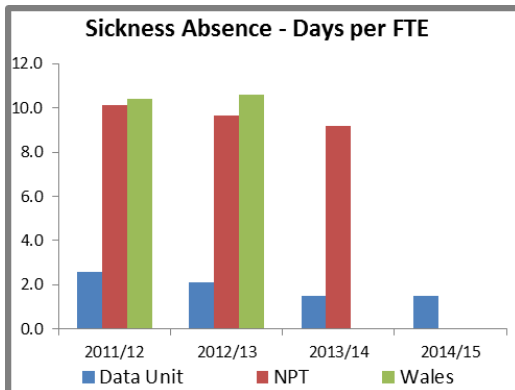
- Manage ELLL's Management Information System (EMS)
- Co-ordinate/validate school PLASC returns
- Provide a range of data e.g. attainment, attendance, exclusions to schools etc
- Gather & verify a no. of national key performance indicators on behalf of ELLL
- Respond to all ELLL FOI requests & provide advice to schools & services
- Manage Complaints on behalf of ELLL.

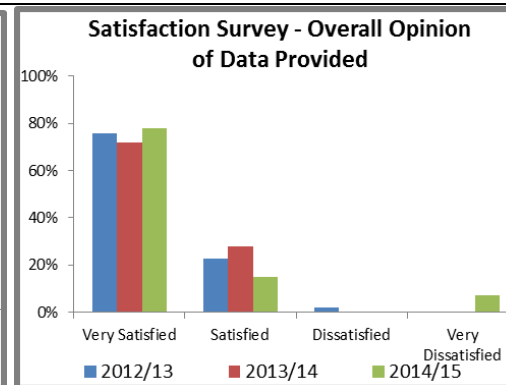
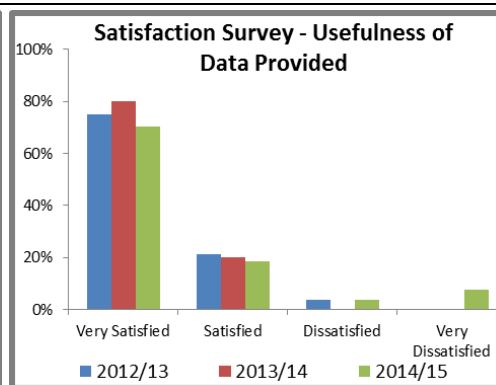
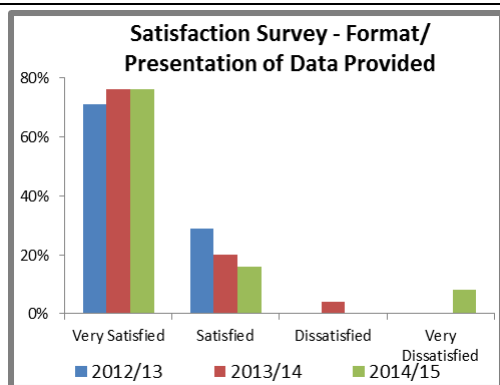
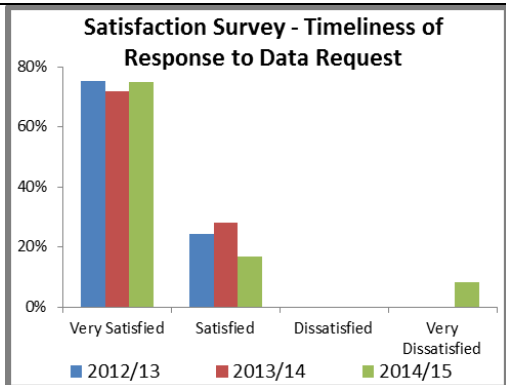
Who We Work With

The Data Unit has a wide remit which includes managing the directorates MIS, providing a increasing amount of data to schools and ELLL services, gathering & reporting national and other key performance indicators, undertaking research, dealing with complaints and Freedom of Information requests. The number and variety of organisation dealt with is therefore significant and includes:

ELLL services	Non ELLL services	ERW
NPT schools	Welsh Government	Capita
Other Education Authorities	General public	
Neath Port Talbot College	AM's/MP's	
Information Commissioners Office	Incerts	
Private/Voluntary sector	Local Govt Data Unit	
Wales Audit Office	ABMU Health Board	
Welsh Language Board	Fischer Family Trust	

How Are We Doing?





2014/15 Achievements

- Lost an average of only 1.49 days per FTE due to sickness.
- High satisfaction level from data recipients (92.6% overall). Only negative responses came from complainants.
- Provided responses to 114 FOI requests. 98% of the 80 responded to directly by ELLL were answered within timescale.
- Successfully helped secure Minority Ethnic Achievement Grant funding.
- PLASC was successfully co-ordinated and validated.
- Data on FSM eligible pupils provided to schools in December for the first time
- Assumed responsibility for updating EMS LAC records
- Provided ELLL services & schools with monthly attendance & exclusion updates and detailed attainment (annual) and attendance (biennial) reports.
- Pre-populated self evaluation reports and National Test Analysis were provided to schools for the first time.
- Distributed all monthly sickness absence data to ELLL & schools (non teaching)
- Foundation Phase, Key Stage 2 & Key Stage 3 assessment analysis was provided to each school by mid June.
- Key Stage 4 provisional data was provided to schools in the first week of Sept.
- Baseline (CDAP), Foundation Phase, KS2, KS3, KS4, National Numeracy & Literacy Test & Incerts pupil progress data has all been imported into EMS.
- All schools were provided with Pupil Tracking and Vulnerability Assessment data in June & October.
- Work commenced on developing EMS functionality for SEN to record TA hours.
- MSP Summary Sheets were distributed by mid/late September.
- Reported quarterly all ELLL's performance indicators to CYPE & ECR Boards.
- Managed statutory etc. returns to the Welsh Government on behalf of the directorate e.g. exclusions, EOTAS, PLASC, performance indicator data.

2015/16 Actions

The Data Unit will continue to undertake a number of tasks which have now become routine e.g. Plasc, MEAS grant, B2B, PI reporting, provision of attendance, attainment & exclusion reports, dealing with complaints & FOI's, assisting schools with statutory returns etc.

In addition, the need for improved data, changing circumstances etc mean new tasks for 2015/16 will include:

- FFT Live will be ending in summer 2015 and replaced by FFT Aspire. Training for schools will need to be arranged whilst all logins will be reset.
- School mergers etc mean most spreadsheets need to be amended taking account of the new school list.
- Key Stage 4 analysis will require amendment in light of the new reporting arrangements.
- Work is ongoing to improve the MSP spreadsheets for schools.
- From Sept 2015 it will be statutory for schools to baseline all pupils within 6 weeks of entering reception. Discuss with EDS collection, analysis etc and whether we still gather baseline data for those entering nursery.
- Expected Levels at Foundation Phase are changing from Sept which will require amending all FP analysis data.
- Continue to develop EMS functionality to support SEN.
- Review of some performance measures currently reported.
- Flying Start – enter records into EMS.
- Try to resolve problems with EMS reporting FSM flag.
- Continue to work to improve the accuracy data held in EMS e.g. SEN.

This page is intentionally left blank