



## **Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board**

### **Position Statement and Gap Analysis National CSE Action Plan/Bedfordshire Risk Assessment Action Plan**

#### **Executive Summary**

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) has been a strategic priority for the WBSCB since its establishment in 2013 with a position statement and gap analysis produced against the Home Office Enquiry into CSE delivered in November 2013. By November 2014 individual Board members had signed up to the Bedfordshire Self Assessment Tool for CSE and had agreed to use the tool to manage compliance and improve responses to CSE locally.

Throughout 2015 a CSE strategy task and finish group was set up to collate individual agency responses to the Bedfordshire Self Assessment in attempts to identify shared gaps as well as share good practice areas. The Task and finish group was also set up to address the requirements within the WBSCB business plan to develop a prevention and intervention strategy to tackle CSE. The collated Bedfordshire tool was completed and from the 38 standards within the tool 10 areas were identified as “partially achieved” or “yet to be addressed”.

In December 2016 Welsh Government issued Safeguarding Children Boards in Wales a National Action Plan for CSE to ensure an improved and consistent approach to practice and aligned outcomes. Due to the work already taken place across Western Bay this report provides a position statement and gap analysis in response to the National Action Plan as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016.

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In summary the National Action Plan sets out 47 individual actions 37 of which are issued to SCBs and partner agencies to take forward. Having mapped the associated actions with the Bedfordshire Assessment toolkit Risk Assessment and action plan, the WBSCB's business plan, Performance and Impact Framework and Quality & Performance audit plan the WBSCB is already compliant with 31 of the 37 actions. Five of the outstanding actions can be achieved to required timescales by incorporating them in the 2016/17 business plan and assigning the work to the various management groups and one can only be completed following an outstanding piece of work from Welsh Government.

### **Recommendation:**

**In order to ensure compliance with all actions set out in the National Action Plan WBSCB should:**

- **Adopt the recommended actions within the WBSCB's Bedfordshire Action Plan as SCB priorities for 2016/17.**
- **Accept and incorporate recommendations for action within the WBSCB's National Action Plan response<sup>1</sup>.**

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<sup>1</sup> The National Action Plan response is attached below with outstanding actions and suggestions highlighted.

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### WBSCB response to National CSE Action Plan

Outcome	Actions needed	Timeline	Responsibility	WB update
<b>Prepare</b>				
1.1 SCBs and partner agencies have established a strategic response to tackle CSE that reflects statutory guidance and aims to prevent and protection children from abuse.	1.1a Statutory safeguarding guidance including CSE guidance to be reviewed to ensure it reflects accurately new legislation including a clear definition of CSE that makes appropriate links with other associated risk behaviours.	July 2016	WG	Unable to undertake this work regionally until the revision of the guidance by Welsh Government
		September 2016	SCBs and partner agencies	
	1.1b SCBs and partner agencies contribute to and agree revisions to the All Wales CSE protocol and definitions within the AWCPP.	December 2016	SCBs and partner agencies	
	1.1c SCBs and partner agencies adopt and implement revisions to the All Wales CSE protocol and Definitions within the AWCPP			
1.2 SCBs and partner agencies have established operational arrangements and practitioner tools to support the identification	1.2a effectiveness of SERAF assessment tool to be evaluated across agencies and improvement action taken as needed.	July 2016	WG	Links with actions 2, 5 & 6 within the Bedfordshire Action plan. (Use of MASE meetings/prevention
		December 2016	SCBs and	

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<p>of CSE and enable a timely range of appropriate responses.</p>	<p>1.2b Service analysis of demand and need to include those resulting from risk/impact of CSE.</p> <p>1.2c the availability and usefulness of risk assessment processes/tools, to be reviewed and improvement action taken as needed.</p>	<p>December 2016</p>	<p>partner agencies</p> <p>SCBs and partner agencies</p>	<p>strategy</p> <p>To be added to audit plan following implementation of 1.1c (above)</p>
<p>1.3 SCBs and partner agencies assume CSE is present and have identified children and young people subject to or at risk of CSE as a shared priority.</p>	<p>1.3a SCBs have a CSE strategy and action plan in place which is incorporated into the SCBs work plan.</p> <p>1.3b SCBs prioritise work plans according to local issues.</p> <p>1.3c Development of a national response to address CSE</p>	<p>March 2016</p> <p>March 2016</p> <p>January 2016</p>	<p>SCBs and partner agencies</p> <p>SCBs and partner agencies</p> <p>WG</p>	<p>WBSCB has the Bedfordshire risk assessment and action plan.</p> <p>Already embedded into Business Plan</p> <p>Complete</p>
<p>1.4 SCBs and partner agencies contribute to a national shared dataset informed through local evidence and intelligence to improve understanding, profiling and response to CSE.</p>	<p>1.4a Development and agreement of a national data set to enable the collection of data that captures the profile, prevalence and response to CSE in Wales.</p> <p>1.4b SCBs and partner agencies to capture and return data to WG</p>	<p>December 2015</p> <p>April 2016</p>	<p>WB and SCBs and partner agencies</p> <p>SCBs and partner</p>	<p>In place with 12 months data now available</p> <p>In place with 12 months data now available</p>

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	<p>to inform both local and national collation and analysis of data.</p> <p>1.4c WG to publish a summary report on the CSE data submitted.</p> <p>1.4d Development of CSE information sharing systems e.g. CSE WASPI to contribute to effective information sharing in known or suspected CSE cases</p>	<p>April 2016</p> <p>July 2016</p>	<p>agencies</p> <p>WG</p> <p>SCBs and partner agencies</p>	<p>On schedule</p> <p><b>Outstanding</b></p>
<p>1.5 SCBs and partner agencies are active in informing all members of the community of the role that they can play to make the community safer from CSE.</p>	<p>1.5a WG/SCBs and partner agencies to develop general awareness-raising strategies and activities in respect of CSE (aimed at children, young people, their families and the general public)</p>	<p>December 2016</p>	<p>WG/SCBs and partner agencies</p>	<p>Embedded in Bedfordshire action plan (see standard 3).</p>
<p>1.6 SCBs and partner agencies ensure that the risk and impact of CSE forms part of safeguarding training for all staff, this includes awareness raising (including about those at greater risk of CSE as a result of their vulnerabilities), warning</p>	<p>1.6a SCBs and partner agencies undertake a review and analysis of their training needs in relation to CSE.</p> <p>1.6b SCBs to develop a relevant multi-agency training programme that promotes the board's aims and objectives in relation to CSE (which seeks to complement not</p>	<p>July 2016</p> <p>July 2016</p>	<p>SCBs and partner agencies</p> <p>SCBs and partner agencies</p>	<p>Embedded in the Bedfordshire Action plan (see standard 1)</p>

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signs and the responsibility to report and respond to concerns.	duplicate individual partner agencies training)  1.6c SCBs training sub groups to lead on and report progress to SCBs in relation to CSE and related risk behaviour (eg. Missing children)	December 2016	SCBs and partner agencies	
1.7 SCBs and partner agencies improvement agenda are supported through inspection activity that evaluates the service effectiveness in promoting the safety and well-being of children and young people.	1.7a All inspection frameworks to include safeguarding and well being focus.  1.7b SCBs and partner agencies to share inspection reports and resulting action plans to inform shared SCB and partner objectives regarding CSE and safeguarding	December 2016  Annually/December 2016	Inspectorates  SCBs and partner agencies	Already embedded in WBSCB terms of reference and signed up to via member role profiles.
<b>Prevent</b>				
2.1 Agencies preparedness for the implementation of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 includes a focus on the wellbeing outcomes of children subject to or at risk of CSE	2.1a SCBs and partner agencies to develop mechanisms to identify, map and assess risk and patterns of CSE within their areas.  2.1b SCBs and partner agencies to develop best practice approach to LAC placements of children and young people (at	December 2016  April 2016	SCBs and partner agencies  SCBs and partner agencies	There is ongoing work within the Q&PMG to map placement arrangements with risk assessment and matching both when placing out of area and when others are placed within our area.

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	high risk of CSE) through effective communication and cooperation arrangements. (LAs should be aware of the requirement in the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (Wales) Regulations 2015 to refer decisions about placements out of area to a panel, and to notify relevant partners about the placement)			
2.2 SCBs and partner agencies have identified the range of preventative services to support those at risk of CSE in their locality.	<p>2.2a SCBs and partner agencies to undertake/update a needs assessment that enables them to understand:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Service demand in relation to CSE prevention.</li> <li>- The impact and effectiveness of activity aimed at changing perception, motivation and behaviour of those likely to offend.</li> <li>- identify any gaps in service and areas for development</li> <li>- The impact and effectiveness of targeted preventative activity and services available to children and young people who have particular vulnerabilities or risks associated with CSE.</li> </ul>	December 2016	SCBs and partner agencies	Embedded in Bedfordshire action plan (see standard 6)

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<p>2.3 SCBs and partner agencies to hold each other to account for their contribution to the safety and protection of children and young people including those at risk of CSE and challenge practice shortfalls.</p>	<p>2.3a WG, SCBs and partner agencies to develop mechanisms in relation to CSE prevention to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitor practice and ensure a consistent multi agency response is applied.</li> <li>- Disseminate good practice and promote a learning culture.</li> </ul> <p>2.3b Amend interventions to reflect the local picture and ensure activity is kept updated relevant to service demand and emergent issues.</p>	<p>December 2016</p>	<p>WG, SCBs and partner agencies</p>	<p>Included in the WBSCB Performance Impact Framework and audit plan</p>
		<p>December 2026</p>	<p>SCBs and partner agencies</p>	<p>Embedded within the Bedfordshire action (see standard 2)</p>
<p>2.4 SCBs and partner agencies act to make Wales a hostile place for perpetrators of CSE and empower children and young people to make positive choices.</p>	<p>2.4a SCBs and partner agencies to develop mechanisms that raise awareness of CSE and how to report concerns including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Targeted campaigns (for such groups as vulnerable children and young people race and faith networks, night time economy staff)</li> <li>- SCBs and partner agencies to ensure safeguarding training provide to all staff working with children and young people that supports vigilance and confidence to act on risky behaviours, signs of abuse, including exploitation.</li> </ul>	<p>December 2016</p>	<p>SCBs and partner agencies</p>	<p>Embedded in Bedfordshire action plan (see standard 3)</p>



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	- Knowledge or access to expertise regarding specific risks such as those related to: gender, disability, culture, modern technology/social networking, LAC status etc			
<b>Protect</b>				
3.1 SCBs and partner agencies promote the wellbeing of children and young people who are subject to or at risk of CSE including those at greater risk of CSE as a result of their vulnerabilities	3.1a SCBs and partner agencies to review, evaluate and update their operational arrangements and training programmes to ensure that in relation to CSE: - Thresholds for intervention are understood and consistently applied - Staff get adequate supervision and support - Interface between risk assessment and risk management mechanisms are clear and understood - Partners work together at the earliest opportunity to coordinate assessments and action aimed at mitigating risk	December 2016	SCBs and partner agencies	Embedded into Bedfordshire Action plan (see standard 1)
3.2 CSE is considered as part of any risk management process/mechanisms	3.2a Children, young people and their families are supported through a responsive child protection/care and support plan	July 2016	SCBs and partner agencies	Embedded in practice?

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	aimed at reducing risk based on individual need			
3.3 SCBs and partner agencies have identified the range of services available/needed, to help those children and young people affected by CSE in their locality	<p>3.3a SCBs and partner agencies to undertake/update a needs assessment that enables them to understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Service demand in relation to children and young people subject to or at risk of CSE</li> <li>- The impact and effectiveness of the activity and services available to help those affected by CSE in their locality</li> <li>- Identify any gaps in services and areas for development</li> </ul>	December 2016	SCBs and partner agencies	<p>Local mapping exercise/needs assessment is required</p> <p><b>Outstanding</b></p>
3.4 SCBs and partner agencies to hold each other to account for their contribution to the safety and protection of children and young people subject to CSE and challenge practice shortfalls.	<p>3.4a SCBs and partners have mechanisms in place to assess and challenge whether they are fulfilling their statutory responsibilities to work in partnership to help protect children and young people experiencing or at risk of CSE</p> <p>3.4b SCBs and partner agencies routinely evaluate the difference/improvement made by changes in guidance, operational systems practice makes to</p>	<p>July 2016</p> <p>December 2016</p>	<p>SCBs and partner agencies</p> <p>SCBs and partner agencies</p>	<p>Embedded into WBSCBs Performance Impact Framework and data collection guidance</p> <p>Needs strengthening via audit planning</p>

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	outcomes for children and young people			
<b>Pursue</b>				
4.1 Make Wales a hostile place for perpetrators of CSE through development of robust investigative strategies to disrupt perpetrator activity and better protect children and young people.	4.1a Problem Profiles on CSE to be developed and to incorporate multi agency data to be shared with SCBs	July 2016	Police	See action 1.4e  Embedded in Bedfordshire Action Plan (see standard 1)
	4.1b Profiles to be reviewed annually with appropriate intelligence to help ensure a multi agency response	Annually/December 2016	Police	
	4.1c ensure perpetrators of CSE are prosecuted where there is sufficient evidence to do so and the victims of CSE receive appropriate protection in court	December 2016	Police	
	4.1d Information exchange mechanisms to be developed between police and probation to ensure coordinated criminal justice response	July 2016	Police and Probation	
	4.1e Training awareness programmes to include disruption and protection strategies	July 2016	SCBs and partner agencies	
4.2 Crown Prosecution	4.2a Equip professionals to	December 2016	SCB and	Achieving Best

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<p>Service, Police and partners to work collaboratively to deliver quality and timely investigations that meets the needs of the victim and brings abusers to justice</p>	<p>understand the CPS structure and to gather high quality evidence consistently and in accordance with Achieving Best Evidence.</p> <p>4.2b Develop working relationships between partner agencies and the CPS Rape and Serious Sexual Offences (RASSO) Unit</p>	<p>July 2016</p>	<p>partner agencies</p> <p>SCBs and partner agencies</p>	<p>Evidence training is delivered via local training plans WBSCB to highlight this requirement</p> <p>Outstanding – perhaps consider RASSO Unit rep to attend MASE/local operational meetings?</p>
<p>4.3 Increased understanding of the needs of young victims and witnesses of CSE giving them a voice, ensuring they are treated fairly, sensitively and in an age appropriate way</p>	<p>4.3a Analysis of experiences to ensure that victims are treated sensitively and given adequate support</p> <p>4.3b Develop an approach in responding to victims of CSE where their needs are recognised consistently, where they are treated fairly, sensitively supported in an age appropriate way which avoids blame</p>	<p>December 2016</p> <p>December 2016</p>	<p>SCBs and partner agencies</p> <p>SCBs and partner agencies</p>	<p>Outstanding – Link with CSE advocates to collect information?</p>
<p>4.4 Identifying and dismantling organised crime groups targeting and exploiting children and young people in our communities</p>	<p>4.4a welsh Police forces to be supported by partner agencies in conducting operations relating to CSE involving groups and gangs.</p> <p>4.4b Welsh Police Forces to work</p>	<p>December 2016</p> <p>December 2016</p>	<p>SCBs and Partner agencies</p>	<p>In place?</p>

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	collaboratively with the Regional Organised Crime Unit and the National Crime Agency to include CEOP		Police	
4.5 Welsh Police Forces to work with partner agencies to identify and disrupt perpetrators targeting young people in our communities	4.5a training and awareness programmes across all agencies to include disruption and protection strategies	July 2016	SCB and partner agencies	Embedded in Bedfordshire Action Plan (see standard 1)
	4.5b SCBs and partner agencies to develop formal multi agency arrangements to effectively manage CSE risk and protect vulnerable young children within their locality	July 2016	SCB and partner agencies	Needs to be added to the PPP work plan
	4.5c SCBs and partner agencies to strengthen enforcement and adherence of licencing laws	July 2016	SCB and partner agencies	In our current business plan – not currently pursued.
	4.5d Utilise ancillary and civic orders to maximise effect to assist investigations and restrict and manage offenders thereby supporting and safeguarding victims	December 2016	Police	