

# **Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel**

**27 July 2017**

**Commenced:** 6.00pm

**Terminated:** 7.20pm

**Present:** Councillors Peet (Chair), Cartey (Deputy Chair), Affleck, Bowden, Cooper, P Fitzpatrick, Fowler, Patrick, T Smith, Sweeton, R Welsh, Wills.

**Apologies for absence:** Councillors Kinsey, Middleton, Ryan, Whitehead.

The Chair opened the meeting and received apologies.

## **8. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel held on 15 June 2017 were approved as a correct record.

## **9. CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

The Panel welcomed Dominic Tumelty, Assistant Executive Director, Children's Services; DCI Rob Cousen, Greater Manchester Police; Gerard Sweeney; Head of Safeguarding; and Tania Brown, Local Authority Designated Officer and Education Link, to receive an update on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) following the in-depth review undertaken in 2015/16.

It was reported that an independent review of the system for responding to child sexual exploitation had recently concluded. The review was commissioned by Tameside Safeguarding Children Board (TSCB) in February 2017, with findings and recommendations reported in July 2017.

The Panel heard that the report detailed there is good evidence that CSE as an issue is given priority across local agencies. Agencies demonstrate awareness, understanding and commitment to address CSE across the borough. Next steps will include the Board's CSE sub-group developing an action plan based on the findings.

Members received an overview of the current Phoenix Team resources, with details of the roles and responsibilities within the co-located multi-agency team based at Ashton-under-Lyne Police Station. It was reported that the social work input alongside the Police and a CSE health nurse allows the team to react quickly and appropriately to address a range of often complex safeguarding issues.

DCI Cousen provided current CSE activity in Tameside, with 225 children flagged 'at risk' of CSE, 14 of which are deemed to be 'High Risk'. Panel members were advised that it is important to note that for all children who have ever been flagged 'at risk' of CSE, the flag will remain with them until they are 18 years old. This therefore means that the total number of flagged children can appear high when compared with the number of active 'at risk' children.

The Greater Manchester wide 'Week of Action' continues to grow in Tameside and is raising awareness of emerging trends. This is also complemented by the TSCB training plan which has a comprehensive rolling programme of events.

The Panel was interested to hear more about specific recommendations from the review undertaken in 2015/16 and the improvements that have been made. Attention was focused on

the risks associated with children reported as missing and the support available to current and past victims of CSE.

Mr Tumelty advised members that since the review, work has been undertaken to further understand the impact and concerns relating to children in Tameside reported as missing and their safety. There has been a review of the Missing Panel which has resulted in greater safeguarding involvement and improved governance.

Members were also advised that victim support has had increased focus with provision from Off the Record, Survivors Manchester as well as independent advocates. Peer support options were explored, however this has proved challenging due to the often physical, mental and emotional impact on victims of CSE.

Ms Brown advised the Panel that awareness and prevention work with Tameside schools will continue, with all schools having the 'Real Love Rocks' training pack. All schools have also been funded to ensure training on 'sexting' in October 2017. The service will continue to increase awareness with young people through school workshops, presentations for parents and staff on grooming, CSE, online safety and sexting.

**RESOLVED:** That officers present at the meeting be thanked for their attendance.

#### **10. UPDATE ON CURRENT REVIEW**

The Panel received an update on the new review topic which will look at Homecare Provision in Tameside. It was confirmed that the first working group meeting will take place on 7 September 2017.

**RESOLVED:** Members of the Homecare Provision working group to be notified of arrangements of future meetings by email and electronic calendar invitation.

#### **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

To note that the next meeting of the Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel will take place on Thursday 9 November 2017.

#### **12. URGENT ITEMS**

The Chair reported that there were no urgent items for consideration at this meeting.

**CHAIR**