Scottish Borders Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy 2017-2020

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1. Introduction

The Scottish Borders Child Protection Committee (CPC) has developed this Scottish Borders multi-agency Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) strategy to ensure that all partner organisations and individuals across the Scottish Borders are supported to work together effectively to ensure the well-being and safety of Scottish Border’s children and young people.

Children and young people who are sexually exploited are the victims of child sexual abuse and their needs require careful assessment and intervention. This group may include children who have been sexually abused though the misuse of technology, coerced into sexual activity by criminal gangs or the victims of trafficking.

The Scottish Border’s CSE strategy builds on Scotland’s National Action Plan 2014 (updated March 2016) that acknowledges a co-ordinated and multiagency response is required to prevent and tackle CSE.

The specific areas of focus for tackling Child Sexual Exploitation are identified as:

- **Prevention** of abuse (with specific measures for dealing with particularly vulnerable children);
- **Disruption** and **prosecution** of offenders through legislation; and
- **Supporting** children and young people affected by CSE.

Detailed information around the prevalence of CSE in Scotland is in its infancy. However, recommendations from National CSE studies and wider UK reports, including Rotherham, clearly identifies those children who are most vulnerable, and also confirms that CSE happens in both the urban and rural areas. Moreover technological advances mean an ever easy platform to take advantage of the most vulnerable in our communities. Victims can either be targeted or chosen at random; unwittingly lured into a grooming process on the pretext of friendship and close relations.

As such Scottish Borders acknowledges the need to apply the learning from research, in conjunction with the National Action Plan, to develop a CSE strategy and action plan that will specifically support Scottish Borders practitioners to be vigilant and proactive in our objective to prevent and disrupt CSE while supporting those children and young people affected by CSE.

Scottish Border’s vision for its children and young people:

‘We will strive to improve the wellbeing and life chances of all our children, young people and families through the provision of high quality, integrated services. We are committed to ensuring that all our children and young people living in the Scottish Borders have a good childhood and are prepared for adulthood. This requires a strong focus on early intervention and prevention, building resilience and supporting children, young people and families to develop the skills and capabilities that enable them to navigate the challenges of modern life.’

*Integrated Child and Young People's Plan in the Scottish Borders 2015-18*
2. What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

The following is the revised Scottish Government definition and summary, October 2016:

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse in which a person(s), of any age takes advantage of a power imbalance to force or entice a child into engaging in sexual activity in return for something received by the child and/or those perpetrating or facilitating the abuse. As with other forms of child sexual abuse, the presence of perceived consent does not undermine the abusive nature of the act.

Applying the definition: If someone takes advantage of an imbalance of power to get a child/young person to engage in sexual activity, it is CSE if:

1. The child/young person receives, or believes they will receive, something they need or want (tangible or intangible gain or the avoidance of harm) in exchange for the sexual activity.

AND/OR

2. The perpetrator/facilitator gains financial advantage or enhanced status or power from the abuse.

Where it is the victim who is offered, promised or given something they need or want, the exchange can include both tangible (money, drugs or alcohol, for example) and intangible rewards (status, protection or perceived receipt of love or affection, for example). It is critical to remember the unequal power dynamic within which this exchange occurs and to remember that the receipt of something by a child/young person does not make them any less of a victim. It is also important to note that the prevention of something negative can also fulfil the requirement for exchange, for example a child who engages in sexual activity to stop someone carrying out a threat to harm his/her family.

Where the gain is solely on the part of the perpetrator/facilitator, it must be something more than sexual gratification to constitute CSE (as opposed to another form of sexual abuse). This could be money, other financial advantage (reduced cost drugs/alcohol or discharge of a debt for example), status or power.

CSE can take a variety of different forms (see examples in Child Sexual Exploitation: Definition and Practitioner Briefing Paper). It can take place in person or online and involve both contact and non-contact sexual activities. Although CSE is not a specific criminal offence in itself, it does encompass a range of sexual offences and other forms of serious criminal misconduct that can be used to disrupt and prosecute this form of abuse.

Any child under the age of eighteen, male or female, can be a victim of CSE, including those who can legally consent to have sex. The abuse most frequently impacts upon those of a post-primary age and can be perpetrated by adults or peers, on an individual or group basis.

CSE can be difficult to identify. Many children and young people - and professionals - can misinterpret such experiences as consensual and fail to recognise the exploitation involved.
This can contribute to misplaced feelings of loyalty or shame on the part of victims (many of whom will consequently not self-disclose) and a potential failure to identify abusive situations on the part of professionals. However, the fact that all such scenarios are typified by a power imbalance in favour of those perpetrating the abuse and/or some form of vulnerability or limited availability of choice on the part of the young person clearly delineates/distinguishes the experiences as abusive.

3. Links to National Guidance and Key Reference Material

Please see Appendix 1 for a Summary of Scotland’s approach to tackling Child Sexual Exploitation.

- Revised definition of child sexual exploitation for Scotland (Scottish Government, October 2016)
- National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014
- The National Practice Model
- Scotland’s National Action Plan to tackle Child Sexual Exploitation
- Scotland’s Nation Action Plan to tackle Child Sexual Exploitation update March 2016
- Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham 1997-2013
- Barnardo’s Scotland; Lesson for Scotland from the Jay Report into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham
- Children in Scotland; Safeguarding Scotland’s vulnerable children from child abuse
- National Raising awareness CSE material (2016)


Our Scottish Borders CSE Strategy is underpinned by the ambitions of Scotland’s National Action Plan 2014.

The National Action Plan has been developed with specific areas of focus for tackling CSE:

PREVENTION of abuse (with specific measures for dealing with particularly vulnerable children)
DISRUPTION AND PROSECUTION of offenders through legislation
SUPPORTING children and young people affected by CSE

Delivery of the National Action Plan requires a collective commitment from the following:

1. Scottish Government
2. Police Scotland
3. Local Authorities
4. Third sector organisations
5. Communities
6. Families
5. **Scottish Borders and CSE**

The Scottish Borders is the sixth largest local authority in Scotland. It is a rural local authority with only two towns, Galashiels and Hawick, with more than 10,000 people. The 2011 Census showed that there were 113,870 people in the Scottish Borders with approximately 19,000 children living in the Scottish Borders (0-18 years).

As the understanding of the prevalence of CSE continues to grow there is full recognition that rural locations act as no barrier or deterrent to those who exploit and abuse our children and young people.

**How many children and young people are being Sexually Exploited in the Scottish Borders?**

There are reported instances of CSE in the Scottish Borders (see Appendix 2) but, as with all other areas of the country, we are unable to provide a confident answer to this question. CSE is a hidden form of child abuse. Perpetrators act covertly and are usually highly manipulative. Some young people do not always consider themselves to be victims of abuse and may, for a variety of reasons, find it difficult to talk about their experiences.
6. What have we done to tackle CSE so far?
Scottish Borders has existing robust single and multi-agency procedures, guidance and training in place to promote, support and safeguard children and young people’s wellbeing. When they are harmed or their safety is threatened, the Scottish Borders Child Protection Procedures provides a clear pathway of response.

i. EXISTING PRACTICE when responding to CSE concerns:

- Any concern that a child is at risk of child sexual abuse or has suffered child sexual exploitation to be referred as per the Scottish Borders Child Protection Procedures to one of the core agencies (Social Work, Police, Health). Advice may be sought at any time from the Child Protection Unit.
- In some cases Adult Protection processes may be appropriate when dealing with either victims, perpetrators or others involved in the case. In such circumstances, the Adult Protection procedure should be followed. Advice may be sought from relevant staff involved in Adult Protection work.
- Where the referrer has concerns that the sexual abuse is as a result of exploitation they should provide as much information as possible to support their assessment.

ii. TRAINING, BRIEFINGS, CONSULTATION - developing the competence of the workforce and awareness raising of stakeholders:

- The SBCPC training strategy reflects the national framework for child protection learning and development to raise awareness and better equip practitioners dealing with CSA/CSE.
- Child trafficking / CSE training courses have been available since November 2011.
- The CSE course material was completely revamped in 2015 and CPC currently offer a three hour CSE session to practitioners, including residential workers, as part of their suite of training.
- To date SBCPC has delivered training on child sexual exploitation to over 400 practitioners as well as a wide range of stakeholders.
- CSE briefings have been delivered to Elected Members, the Council Corporate Management Team and NHS Executive Board.
- All SBCPC training courses cover CSE and professionals are encouraged to attend the specific CSE session.
- CSE is also included in the training of a wider audience including night time and other business economies: taxi drivers, Borders College, Superstores, hotels.
- In October 2016 a 560+ mailshot of information sheets on CSE and support contacts were distributed to taxi drivers and hotels.
- Reference to CSE in our Public Protection briefing session which is available to the public.
- The CPC training calendar includes details of all CSE courses as well as all other Child protection Training sessions.
- CSE event in October 2016 hosted by the SBCPC to engage with stakeholders to support the development of the Scottish Borders Child Sexual Exploitation strategy and action plan. There were 62 attendees including representation from Police, Social Work, Education, Health, 3rd Sector, Live Borders, Scottish Rugby Union, Licensing and Housing.
- Following the CSE event a number of events have been held to engage with professionals to gain their views on how best to tackle CSE in the Scottish Borders. This has included an electronic CSE survey for Professionals.
iii. **YOUNG PEOPLE and their FAMILIES - the provision a range of delivery methods to support prevention by raise awareness of CSE as well as service provision to support recovery**

- **All 11 High Schools** including Longridge (private school in England but serving this area) and the Wilton Centre in Hawick input on CSE using various methods with guest speakers, PowerPoint presentations, online information and set packages of materials presented to pupils by in-house staff. This delivery is currently subject to review.

- **Internet Safety** – All 11 High Schools teach ‘Safe Use of the Internet’ and use external sources to deliver this message such as the Police or victim who give talks on this.

- **CSE Posters** were distributed to all High School in March 2016 - aligned with the Scottish Government CSE campaign.

- Through the **locality integration officers** (commissioned service) police officers carry out a range of Internet related inputs in schools. There is an existing programme of escalated messages appropriate for different year groups. In addition these officers have also done work with parents to help them understand Internet related safety issues and how they can support their children. These inputs are currently being revised to try and keep a pace with emerging trends.

- The **locality integration officers** are also often the first port of call for any Internet, in particular social media, and related issues. This will include advising school staff and carrying out interventions including warnings regarding online behaviour.

- In 2015 Safer Communities hosted numerous Internet safety sessions across the SB library network, with sessions in all the towns and with separate sessions aimed at young people or adults. This was supported by us hosting an Internet awareness session for professional staff, facilitated by a national project that updates people on the most recent trends in this subject.

- Work has started locally to integrate CSE into a **Wellbeing pathway** for Scottish Borders children attending Education from the Early Years until the end of Secondary school.

- Following the CSE event a number of events have been held to engage with young people, and parents/carers to gain their views on how best to tackle CSE in the Scottish Borders. This has included **World Cafes in Secondary Schools** and **4 Parent Council CSE evenings** and an **electronic CSE survey for Parents/carers**.

- **An existing trauma recovery service commissioned from Children 1st.**
iv. **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES - supporting and inform practitioners**

- There are a number of specific guidance topics on the CP procedures covering young people who are at risk from the various forms of sexual abuse/exploitation including consensual underage sexual activity, ritual abuse, trafficking and prostitution. The **Vulnerable Young Persons (VYP) protocol** is also on the procedures. The language has moved from child ‘trafficking’ to child ‘sexual exploitation’, however, as our CP procedures incorporates a search engine the term ‘trafficking’ has been left to ensure staff who attended older training course will be directed accordingly. All of these documents stress the importance of passing on any concerns to the Child Protection Unit immediately.
- SBCPC existing guidelines and procedures include specific information for practitioners on working with child sexual exploitation - **Police Scotland and Scottish Borders Child Protection Committee Child Sexual Exploitation Procedure**.
- There is an overarching **Police Scotland and Scottish Borders Child Protection Committee CSE Procedure** which is also available on the online CP procedures and is well known to the Child Protection Unit staff who receives the concerns.
- Established Missing Person protocol.
- Return to school discussion for a child who has been found after being reported as missing procedure developed October 2016.
- The Chief Officers Group receives a written child protection update on a quarterly basis. This includes training and information on all CSE training courses and events including any briefings eg to elected members.
- A report on the activity of CSE was presented to the Chief Officers group in February 2015, it included information on policy and procedures, training, and raising awareness with young people. They were also advised that the CSE training had been updated to reflect the impact of the Rotherham case.
- The Chief Officers are kept informed on the introduction of new protocols eg the Vulnerable Young Persons (VYP) protocol, the joint Police and CPC CSE protocol.
- The Chief Officers group review and sign off the CPC annual report which contains information on CSE training.
- The CPC annual report is presented to Elected Members. The report contains information on CSE training.

v. **MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS - to provide robust information with regard to CSE**

- Management systems are in place to ensure that SBCPC would be notified if any children are subject to the CSE protocol. Young people who are presenting with concerning behaviour which could put them at risk of CSE can be subject to our VYP protocol which ensures on inter-agency plan is in place and it is overseen by our reviewing officers.
- An audit has been completed to review our approach to CSE.

vi. **STRATEGY and GOVERNANCE - ensuring that CSE is a key priority**

- The Chief Officers Group receives a written child protection update on a quarterly basis. This includes training and information on all CSE training courses and events including any briefings eg to elected members.
- A report on the activity of CSE was presented to the Chief Officers group in February 2015, it included information on policy and procedures, training, and raising awareness with young people. They were also advised that the CSE training had been updated to reflect the impact of the Rotherham case.
- The Chief Officers are kept informed on the introduction of new protocols eg the Vulnerable Young Persons (VYP) protocol, the joint Police and CPC CSE protocol.
- The Chief Officers group review and sign off the CPC annual report which contains information on CSE training.
- The CPC annual report is presented to Elected Members. The report contains information on CSE training.
Summary of recent developments:

**June 2016**
A self-evaluation of existing processes and practices in relation to CSE was completed as part of Scottish Government’s national CSE mapping exercise. This work has also informed the development of this CSE strategy and action plan as it considered where we were at in relation to awareness raising, training, guidance, knowledge/practice, information sharing and management, protocols, statistical information, recovery services, cultural barriers, consultation. Please see Appendix 3 for detail.

**September 2016**
A local electronic CSE survey was run to provide a professional reference point in relation to the prevailing prevalence and understanding of CSE across the Scottish Borders. The findings informed our CSE event in October 2016 as well as this strategy and accompanying action plan (see Appendix 2).

**October 2016**
The Scottish Borders Child Protection Committee hosted a multi-agency CSE event to progress the development of this strategy and action plan. From the event a number of suggestions were made about how best to engage with children/young people, parents/carers and professionals to raise their awareness of CSE.

**January – March 2017**
A range of consultations were undertaken to explore the best means of engaging with children/young people, parents/carers and professionals subsequently. This included World Cafes events for Secondary schools, four evening events for Parents as well as two further electronic CSE surveys; one for professionals and one for parent/carers.

**March 2017**
A draft version of the Scottish Borders CSE strategy and action plan considered by the Scottish Borders Child Protection Committee.
7. What areas need strengthened in order to ensure a robust CSSE strategy and action plan?

We know there is more that we can do. Consultations with young people, parents/carers and professionals following our CSE event have informed this work.

What have local young people told us?
Between January and March 2017 we asked our young people about CSE via World Café events held at Secondary Schools as well as asking practitioners in Health and Social Work to talk to some of the young people they are working with. These young people are often harder to engage because they don’t attend universal events like World Cafes.

The following is a summary of findings:
- The vast majority of young people we spoke to had not heard about CSE.
- They unanimously advised that the education of young people about CSE needs to start happening in primary 6/7; when children as starting to use social media.
- They felt it important that they get to know more about CSE to enable them to know the signs, and how to report in a concern.
- They said that they want a variety of people to tell them about CSE including using the Senior pupils to speak with younger pupils because of the nature of the contemporary issues not least the use of social media.
- They would like the learning of CSE to happen during their PSE classes advising that it is important that they are taught using different materials eg films, use real life examples.
- They also thought it important that, while some reported that their parents are aware of CSE, most parents have little or no knowledge of CSE but need information on this.

What have parents/carers told us?
During February and March 2017 four consultation sessions on CSE were arranged for parents via Parent Councils. The purpose was to engage with parents to ascertain their views on CSE as well as their role as parents in tackling CSE in the Scottish Borders. In total 25 parents attended. The following is a summary of the parents’ views:
- A Scottish Borders CSE Strategy and Action plan is considered a good idea.
- Acknowledged the difficulty in trying to engage with parents
- Parents Councils need to be involved to support this piece of work, needs to be on their agenda, review materials
- School is key in delivering CSE message
- P6/7 need to be made aware of CSE (age/stage appropriate) - Parents requesting prior notification of children getting CSE input
- Police should to deliver to older pupils
- Senior pupils to deliver to younger pupils – so that younger pupils can relate to other “young” people
- Sessions for young people needs to be interactive
- Parents would like information via posters, links/updates on School websites, group call, email, A5 leaflet about how to gather evidence, CSE clips on school websites
• Information leaflets would be a good idea – produced – and suitable for parents and highlighted on School Website. Suitable for age information appropriate children , YP, and parents.
• All School websites to have a link e.g. “Internet safety” - this would take parents to specific pages, links to CEOPS and other suitable information sites.
• The message about CSE needs to be reinforced at any opportunity
• Using the term CSE might be counterproductive as parents may not want to address the issue directly and on its own. A more “Holistic approach” is need about keeping young people safe.

Electronic CSE survey versions for Parents/carer
• The survey was made up of 9 questions.
• The survey was live on the intranet between 21 November 2016 – 1 March 2017.
• Throughout the period parents/carers were encouraged to complete the survey. It was advertised in SBUUpdate twice, was featured on the staff intranet (homepage/announcements) and was sent as a zz to People and Place departments as authorised by the two respective heads of those departments.
• There were 138 Reponses to the Survey.

Based on those who responded the following is a summary of findings:
• Overall parents/carers are aware of their need for them and their children to be more informed about CSE so that they are better placed to support the prevention of CSE in the Scottish Borders.
• There is a need to support parents/carers with their understanding of CSE as just under half reported some or little knowledge or understanding of CSE.
• There is an overall acknowledgement that CSE does happen in the Scottish Borders
• The clear majority assert that children of primary age need to be made aware, age and stage appropriately, of CSE
• The onus of responsibility for telling children about CSE should be with their parents although there is a clear role for professionals and also young people to support with this.
• Parents/carers need more information on CSE – to mainly be access via an information pack/social media/email/parents evenings

Electronic CSE survey versions for Professionals
• The survey was made up of 10 questions.
• The survey was live on the intranet between 21 November 2016 – 1 March 2017.
• Throughout this period agencies encouraged practitioners to complete the survey via email reminders
• There were 87 responses to the survey covering 105 people.

Based on those who responded the following is a summary of findings:
• Overall professionals are very receptive to developing their role in tackling CSE in the Scottish Borders
• Health, Education, Social Work and Police responded with the majority proportionate response from Education
• The whole of the Borders was represented with responses from all localities and a third of respondents stating that they work across the whole of the Borders
• Overall majority reported a mid to high level of understanding and knowledge of CSE; there remains a need to provide baseline information as a small minority report little knowledge or understanding of CSE
• Strong acknowledgement that there is a professional role to support with tackling CSE
• Professional role is considered, in descending order of import:
  1. To keep informed, aware and identify CSE.
  2. Report and act on concerns
  3. Share knowledge
  4. To support
• The clear majority assert that children of primary age need to be made aware, age and stage appropriately, of CSE
• Professionals request a range of information about CSE to be made available to them
• Professionals would like information to be made available using a range of delivery methods eg training, information pack, lesson plans
• Majority of respondents thought that the existing CSE training needs to be mandatory

Summary of areas to strengthen:
• Raise local awareness about child sexual exploitation so that we can engage more broadly with all sections of our local community and increase the number of sets of ‘eyes and ears’ which are alert to the threats and able to take action to help disrupt perpetrators and protect children,
• Ensure that there is a consistent ‘offer’ to all children, young people and parents across the Scottish Borders which delivers age-appropriate messages about risks and how to stay safe,
• Ensure that frontline staff in key agencies and roles understand the risk factors and the potential indicators of child sexual exploitation,
• Strengthen the existing inter-agency operational arrangements and ensure that there is excellent intelligence gathering and sharing, both to protect children and to disrupt and prosecute perpetrators,
• Ensure strong leadership on the issue at Committee level and within key agencies
• Scope the resources needed in the longer-term to provide targeted work with vulnerable groups of young people and high quality support to young people most ‘at risk’ and ensure that this informs commissioning and service planning decisions.

For further detail please refer to the Scottish Borders Child Sexual Exploitation action plan.
8. Scottish Borders Vision, Outcomes and Action Areas

**Vision:** To work together to keep children and young people safe from child sexual exploitation.

**Outcomes:** Aligned with the National areas of focus.

**Action Areas:** Specifically detailed in the Scottish Borders CSE Action Plan.

9. Governance

- Critical Services Oversight Group (CSOG) to agree Scottish Borders CSE strategy
- Leadership Group and CPC to have joint ownership of the Scottish Borders CSE strategic aims
- The Scottish Borders Child Protection Committee is responsible for the development, progress and regular review of the Scottish Borders CSE action plan.
- All relevant partners will share responsibility and work together to ensure an integrated and proactive approach to tackling CSE which is child and family centred.
APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Summary of Scotland’s approach to tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (Scottish Government)

- Ministers established the Ministerial Working Group on Child Sexual Exploitation in 2013 to consider the range of activity underway to support children at risk in Scotland, and develop an action plan. The group is chaired by Jackie Brock and membership is drawn from organisations which advise, deliver or support improvement in child protection practices and services in Scotland.

- The National Action Plan to Tackle Child Sexual Exploitation was published on 11th November 2014. It reflects the issues that the Scottish Parliament’s Public Petitions Committee raised in its own inquiry in this area which followed an original Petition lodged by Barnardo’s Scotland (PE1393) on 8 July 2011.

- The plan sets out 41 actions for Scottish Government, Police Scotland, the Crown Office, local authorities, Child Protection Committees, third sector organisations and the Care Inspectorate and includes a commitment to develop an updated plan, which builds on current action. Good progress is being made in implementing the plan. Key developments include:

  - Improving information about the nature and scope of CSE in Scotland. Forth Valley has piloted a self-assessment tool created by the University of Bedfordshire which will be rolled out across Scotland following completion of the evaluation.

  - Providing specialist support to child abuse investigations. Police Scotland’s National Child Abuse Investigation Unit is fully operational and is providing specialist support to local policing Child Protection Units to develop a more co-ordinated and strategic response to child abuse investigations across Scotland.

  - Increasing understanding of frontline practitioners. Barnardo’s Scotland, in partnership with the West of Scotland Child Protection Chairs Consortium, has developed a practitioner training resource which raises awareness of how children and young people become involved in CSE and how practitioners should respond. The training was piloted between October 2014 and March 2015 and has been delivered in 29 local authority areas.

  - Ensuring that all practitioners and agencies use the same definition of child sexual exploitation to facilitate joint risk assessment and work to disrupt and investigate offending. Barnardo’s Scotland is leading on collaborative work with the University of Bedfordshire to agree a definition of CSE and its relationship with Child Sexual Abuse, for use by all Scottish practitioners and agencies by December 2015.
o Supporting improvements in local practice. CSE is included as a theme in strategic inspections of children’s services and inspections of care homes for children and young people. The Care Inspectorate will prepare a thematic report drawing together common findings from these inspections by March 2016.

o Raising awareness of CSE amongst children and young people, parents and the wider population. The Scottish Government ran a campaign in January 2016 raising awareness of what child sexual exploitation (CSE) is, improving public understanding, and empowering those with concerns to act upon them. It included a new TV advert – a UK first in terms of targeting parents on the subject of CSE – supported by outdoor and digital advertising, a new website, and PR activity. [http://www.csetheensigns.scot/](http://www.csetheensigns.scot/)

o Reforming civil prevention orders to better protect communities from those who may commit sexual offences. The Abusive Behaviour and Sexual Offences (Scotland) Bill will strengthen and streamline the measures that can be imposed on convicted sex offenders and those thought to pose a risk of sexual harm to children and young people.

o Permitting child sexual offences committed in the rest of the UK to be prosecuted in Scotland. The Abusive Behaviour and Sexual Offences (Scotland) Bill will extend the extra-territorial effect of the law concerning sexual offences committed against children to include offences committed elsewhere in the UK.

o Improving early identification of CSE and reporting of concerns. Work will begin shortly to develop guidance and training for taxi drivers, hotel workers, bar staff and other night time economy staff who come into first hand contact with children and young people so that they can identify CSE and take appropriate steps.

o The remit and membership of the Ministerial Working Group has been refreshed. The Group has been tasked with advising the Scottish Government on the national strategic framework for action to tackle CSE, ensuring that work is taken forward within the wider child protection context.

o A National CSE Sub Group sits below the Ministerial Working Group and leads on work to support practice improvement and workforce development in relation to CSE. The Sub-group is accountable to the Ministerial Working Group and the Scottish Child Protection Committee Chairs Forum.

o The Ministerial Working Group and National Sub-group met jointly in August 2015 to consider progress to date, identify gaps and agree priority areas for further work. These discussions are informing the development of the updated national plan.

o In parallel to these developments, the Scottish Government is reviewing its approach to tackling online child sexual abuse, working with the Scottish Stakeholder Group on Child Internet Safety. Action in Scotland is set within the context of UK wide measures which include a new joint team between the National Crime Agency and GCHQ to track perpetrators and the establishment of a single secure database of indecent images of children to improve identification of victims and bring more perpetrators to justice. Police Scotland connected to the database in July 2015.
Appendix 2: Findings from the Scottish Borders CSE survey October 2016

The Scottish Borders CSE survey was designed to provide a professional reference point in relation to the prevailing prevalence and understanding of CSE across the Scottish Borders. The findings also informed our CSE strategy and action plan. The questionnaire was made up of 10 questions.

There were 218 responses.

Who responded to the CSE survey by service?

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Who responded to the CSE survey by geographical area?

The following 7 question consider the current understanding of Child Sexual Exploitation. Responses are either agree/disagree/not sure)

Is child sexual exploitation the exploitation of children and young people under 18?
Children and young people can be coerced, manipulated forced or deceived into CSE in exchange for material, emotional or basic care goods?

- Agree, 216, 99%
- Disagree, 0, 0%
- Not sure, 2, 1%

CSE can occur through the use of technology and without the child’s knowing.

- Agree, 216, 99%
- Disagree, 0, 0%
- Not sure, 2, 1%

Perpetrators of CSE have power over the child/young person due to age, gender, intellect, physical strength or financially?

- Agree, 202, 93%
- Disagree, 4, 2%
- Not sure, 12, 5%
Violence, coercion and intimidation are common features of CSE?

- Agree, 192, 88%
- Disagree, 10, 5%
- Not sure, 16, 7%

CSE only takes place between the child/young person and perpetrator (whether an adult or peer)?

- Disagree, 163, 75%
- Not sure, 29, 13%
- Agree, 26, 12%
How confident do you feel in spotting the warning signs of CSE?
(Scale 0 = no confidence – 10 = totally confident)

Who do you go to when you have concerns about CSE?
(More than 1 response possible)

CSE takes place between the child/young person and more than one perpetrator (whether an adult or peer)?

Not sure, 34, 15%

Disagree, 45, 21%

Agree, 139, 64%
Have you had any training on CSE?

No, 129, 59%
Yes, 89, 41%

Have you dealt with any issue which could be CSE?

No, 180, 83%
Yes, 38, 17%

What would be helpful for continued CSE learning and Development? (please tick all that apply)

- Briefing paper for staff: 111
- Online learning: 131
- Further face to face learning: 131
- Other: 24
- Non Response: 2

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Appendix 3: Self Evaluation of existing processes and practices in relation to CSE (June 2016)

Self Evaluation Tool
For Child Protection Committees

To Review Existing Process and Practices in Relation to Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation

May 2016
1. INTRODUCTION

"Reducing the risk of sexual exploitation requires a co-ordinated, multi-agency approach to raise awareness amongst children and young people, parents and the wider public, help children and young people develop resilience and make safe choices, ensure that practitioners and agencies have the knowledge and skills to identify exploitation and respond appropriately, disrupt and prevent the activities of perpetrators and reduce tolerance of exploitative behaviour".

Scotland’s National Child Sexual Abuse Action Plan has been developed with specific areas of focus for tackling CSE –

- Prevention of abuse (with specific measures for dealing with particularly vulnerable children)
- Supporting children and young people affected by CSE
- Disruption and prosecution of offenders through legislation

The long term outcome for this work is that the sexual exploitation of children and young people is reduced and children and young people are protected from harm, while society becomes a hostile place for perpetrators and facilitators of CSE. In working towards this long term outcome the following intermediate outcomes have been identified

- The risk that children and young people are exploited is eliminated through a focus on early identification and prevention
- Children and young people at risk of or affected by sexual exploitation and their families receive appropriate and high quality support
- Perpetrators are stopped, brought to justice and are less likely to re-offend
- Cultural barriers to preventing and tackling CSE are reduced

This self-evaluation tool has been developed to support and assist CPC’s in reviewing existing processes and practices in relation to CSE and to inform a national overview of practice across Scotland. This work may also identify good practice examples that can be shared nationally and built upon as practitioner knowledge and experience continues to be informed by research and direct practice on the ground.
CPC’s are requested to complete this self-evaluation exercise and forward to With Scotland (LINK) for collation and dissemination.

1. The risk that children and young people are exploited is reduced through a focus on early identification and prevention

1.1 Practitioners, managers and agencies are equipped with the knowledge and skills to identify and respond to CSE

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Does your CPC have training strategy that reflects the national framework for child protection learning and development framework to raise awareness and better equip practitioners dealing with CSA/CSE

- [ ]
- [ ]
- [x]

Has CSA/CSE training been delivered across agencies/services targeting all relevant staff groups

- [ ]
- [ ]
- [x]

**Detail the services/agencies**

Child trafficking / CSE training courses have been available since November 2011. The CSE course material was completely revamped in 2015 and CPC currently offer a three hour CSE session to practitioners as part of their suite of training.

In addition to this all CPC training courses cover CSE and professionals are encouraged to attend the specific CSE session.

CSE is also included in the training of a wider audience
including taxi drivers, Borders College, Superstores, hotels, and we also include reference to CSE in our Public Protection briefing session which is available to the public.

The CPC training calendar includes details of all CSE courses as well as all other Child protection Training sessions.

Has training/awareness raising been undertaken with Chief Officers and Elected Members

CSE briefings have been delivered to Elected Members, the Council Corporate Management Team and NHS Executive Board.

1.2 Practitioners and Agencies are provided with information and guidance that informs and supports the early recognition of, assists in the assessment of and the development of the child’s plan/protection plan

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There are a number of specific guidance topics on the CP procedures covering young people who are at risk from the various forms of sexual abuse/exploitation including consensual underage sexual activity, ritual abuse, trafficking and prostitution. The Vulnerable Young Persons (VYP) protocol is also on the procedures.

The language has moved from child ‘trafficking’ to child ‘sexual exploitation’, however, as our CP procedures incorporates a search engine the term ‘trafficking’ has been left to ensure staff who attended older training course will be directed accordingly.

All of these documents stress the importance of passing on any concerns to the Child Protection Unit immediately.

There is an overarching Police Scotland and Scottish Borders Child Protection Committee CSE Procedure which is also available on the online CP procedures and is well known to the Child Protection Unit staff who receive the concerns.
### 1.3 Children and young people are equipped with the knowledge and skills to help protect themselves and their peers

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**Have awareness programmes been delivered to children and young people to raise awareness of CSE within education/residential settings**

**Please give examples**

**CSE** - All 11 High Schools, including Longridge private school in England but serving this area and the Wilton Centre in Hawick, teach USI using hand-outs, PowerPoint presentations and a set package of materials. These are presented to pupils by in-house staff. 8 of the 11 High Schools include input on CSE using various methods with guest speakers, PowerPoint presentations, online information and set packages of materials presented to pupils by in-house staff. This needs further development however.

A package of CSE materials was piloted in two schools and is currently being rolled out across all Scottish Borders secondary schools. We are in the process of considering where we are and the next steps with this project. There is possibly a bigger piece of work around linking it to Es and Os (experiences and outcomes) in the curriculum and ensuring consistency around schools.

**Internet Safety** – All 11 High Schools in the borders teach ‘Safe Use of the Internet’ and use external sources to deliver this message such as the Police or victim who give talks on this.

Through the locality integration officers (commissioned service) police officers carry out a range of Internet related inputs in schools. There is an existing programme of escalated messages
appropriate for different year groups. In addition these officers have also done work with parents to help them understand Internet related safety issues and how they can support their children. These inputs are currently being revised to try and keep a pace with emerging trends.

The locality integration officers are also often the first port of call for any Internet, in particular social media, related issues. This will include advising school staff and carrying out interventions including warnings regarding online behaviour.

In 2015 Safer Communities hosted numerous Internet safety sessions across the SB library network, with sessions in all the towns and with separate sessions aimed at young people or adults. This was further supported by us hosting an Internet awareness session for professional staff, facilitated by a national project that updates people on the most recent trends in this subject.

**CSE Posters** - the Scottish Government posters were distributed to all High School in March 2016.

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1.4 **Communities are equipped with the knowledge and skills to identify and report concerns about CSE**
Local arrangements are in place to raise awareness and ensure that CSE is a priority for
- Parents/carers
- Local communities
- Night time and other business economies

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<tr>
<td>CPC decided to wait for Scottish Government materials prior to doing a publicity event. An SBConnect article was done as soon as materials were available.</td>
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<td>The <a href="#">CPC website</a> is available to the public and contains a range of information including the dates of all CSE training courses and how to book a place, the National CSE action plan (March 2016) and CPC newsletters, one of which was dedicated to CSE.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CP awareness raising training is open to all and covers CSE. A high percentage of our staff are parents of children in the Borders CSE is included in the training of a wider audience including taxi drivers, Borders College, Superstores, hotels, and we also include reference to CSE in our Public Protection briefing session which is available to the public.</td>
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<td>All licenses premises in the Borders have been contacted and offered training. We are in the process of sending written material to B &amp; B’s and licence premises and shops to cover these who don’t choose to access training.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Safer Communities have hosted numerous Internet safety sessions across the SB library network, with sessions in all the towns and with separate sessions aimed at young people or adults. This was further supported by us hosting an Internet awareness session for professional staff, facilitated by a national project that updates people on the most recent trends in this subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police provide internet safety sessions with parents, foster carers and Resources staff</td>
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2. Strategy & Governance

2.1 Robust governance arrangements are in place to ensure that child sexual exploitation is a key priority for chief officers, elected members, senior managers across all partner agencies and services

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Chief Officers and Elected Members receive clear written statements and information with regard to CSE and are regularly briefed on other local strategic partnerships work in relation to CSE.

**What is the structure for this**

The Chief Officers Group received a written child protection update on a quarterly basis. This includes training and information on all CSE training courses and events including any briefings eg to elected members.

A report on the activity of CSE was presented to the Chief Officers group in February 2015, it included information on policy and procedures, training, and raising awareness with young people. They were also advised that the CSE training had been updated to reflect the impact of the Rotherham case.

The Chief Officers are kept informed on the introduction of new protocols eg the Vulnerable Young Persons (VYP) protocol, the joint Police and CPC CSE protocol.

The Chief Officers group review and sign off the CPC annual report which contains information on CSE training.

The CPC annual report is presented to Elected Members. The report contains information on CSE training.

A CSE day is being planned to update and get a view on where staff think we are needing to strengthen activities – Elected Members and Chief Officers are invited to participate.
The child protection committee has a CSE work plan which is regularly monitored and updated to reflect practice and identified areas of priority.

Can you provide a copy of your work plan?
When was the plan last reviewed and updated?

CPC discussed developing a local CSE action plan in February 2015 but because there was further National work announced quickly after this it was agreed to await the final plan.

The National Plan became available in March 2016 and CPC met in April where it was agreed to hold a workshop to develop a CSE strategy.

The workshop will take place in October 2016.

2.2 Management information systems provide the CPC and other child and family forums with robust information with regard to CSE

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<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>CPC has been regularly updated about the work undertaken and will be included in the session to produce a strategy.</td>
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The CPC receives regular management information in relation to:
- Number and profile of CSE victims
- Number of CSE victims being considered under CP procedures

If Yes how often is this information reported to CPC? If No what work is underway to allow regular reporting?

We have not had any children who have been subject to the CSE protocol; the statistics are collated and CPC would be notified.

If CPC procedures not initiated what processes are in place to manage risk and the child’s plan?

Young people who are presenting with concerning behaviour which could put them at risk of CSE are subject to our VYP protocol which ensures an inter-agency plan is in place and it is overseen by our reviewing officers as CPCC’s area.

3. Children and young people at risk of or experiencing CSE and their families receive appropriate and high quality support

3.1 Services are in place to support children and young people who go missing or are at risk of/or are victims of trafficking

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<td>Does your CPC have a missing person protocol?</td>
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<td>❌</td>
<td>Can you provide a copy of your protocol?</td>
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<td>We are satisfied that residential</td>
<td>❌</td>
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<td>We are currently using an old Lothian &amp; Borders Police/Social Work Protocol which although out of date provides good joint working and decision making.</td>
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<td>We are currently working on developing this but are awaiting the new Police</td>
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and family placement staff who support foster carers to follow with young people are fully aware and alert to CSE

| Does your CPC collate statistical information on the number of young people missing from - a) home b) LAAC three times or more in a quarter | X | I | I |
| --- | --- | --- |
| However they all followed up through Social Work business meetings |

| Does your CPC have a trafficking protocol |  |  | X |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Can you provide a copy of your protocol? What is your experience of working with child victims of trafficking? See over re protocols |

| Does your CPC have experience of working with child victims of trafficking (internal & international) and have you used the NRM |  |  | X |
| --- | --- | --- |
| No |
### 3.2 Children and young people and their families have access to appropriate recovery services within their local area

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<td>Can you provide details in relation to referral pathways whether services are gender/age specific and waiting lists</td>
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<td>Not specific but we do have a trauma recovery service commissioned from Children 1st.</td>
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Does your local area have abuse recovery services for victims of CSA/CSE

### 4. Diversity, equality and accessibility of services

#### 4.1 Cultural barriers to preventing and tackling CSE are reduced

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<td>Can you give examples of actions/activities that have been undertaken</td>
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<td>As over we are in the process of developing CSE plan</td>
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Does your CPC CSE work plan incorporate diversity issues such as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and intersex, Learning Disability, Boys and Black and minority Ethnic

Do you have any education programmes focusing on gender inequality and issues around consent
5. Listening to voices of children and young people in the development of services

5.1 CPC’s are committed to meaningful engagement with Children & Young People

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<td>Can you give examples of how you have consulted with C&amp;YP</td>
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<td>This will be part of the strategy</td>
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Does your CPC have existing forums or mechanisms to engage/consult children and young people in the development of services for victims of CSE and CSA

6. Perpetrators are stopped, brought to justice and are less likely to re-offend

6.1 Perpetrators are identified early and their activities disrupted

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<td>Does this process allow you to capture the number of offenders prosecuted for CSE related offences / number of CSE Police operations/investigations</td>
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<td>Police do and this information is stored through our Joint Child Protection Unit</td>
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