



National Child Sexual Exploitation Workshops

Evaluation Report

Prepared by

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Chair National CSE Work Group

October 2017

1. Learning Objectives

The aim of the workshops were to provide an opportunity for child protection committees to share key learning in relation to local area approaches to the care and protection of young people experiencing sexual abuse / exploitation or at risk of sexual abuse / exploitation.

The workshops

- provided an overview of the national developments and encouraged areas to discuss implementation at a local level
- shared key learning points in relation to local area approaches to the care and protection of young people experiencing sexual abuse/exploitation or at risk of sexual abuse/exploitation
- facilitated discussion around what action is/or can be delivered locally to improve responses to children and young people at risk of harm through sexual abuse and exploitation

The workshops were attended by colleagues from a range of organisations and disciplines including

- Police Scotland
- NHS
- Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA)
- Children's Hearing Scotland
- Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS)
- Local Authorities
- Third sector

2. The Programme

The workshops were rolled out nationally between March and May 2017 and sessions were held in -

- Aberdeen (Aberdeen, Aberdeen City and Moray)
- Stirling (Fife, Dundee, Perth & Kinross, Forth Valley, Angus)
- Edinburgh (2 sessions - to cover the CPC's in the East - Edinburgh, East Lothian, West Lothian and Borders joined these sessions)
- West of Scotland (3 sessions - Glasgow, Hamilton and Ayr – to cover Glasgow, North, East & South Ayrshire, North & South Lanarkshire, West Dunbartonshire, East Dunbartonshire, Inverclyde, Argyll & Bute and Dumfries, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire)
- Shetland (2 sessions)

All workshops followed a similar programme. Following the Aberdeen workshop the legal presentation was incorporated in to the Police Scotland presentation. The individual presentations form an appendix to this report.

The Programme

- Registration and Coffee
- Opening Remarks from CPC Chair
- Overview of Work of CSE National Working Group and background to Workshop - Chair National CSE Working Group
- Police Scotland - Our learning so far from large scale CSE Investigations - National CP Unit along with local CP officer presenting local experience
- Questions – led by Chair for the session

Coffee

- Findings from the National Self Evaluation Mapping - Barnados
- Table Top Discussions – Across CPC Areas - Set of questions with final question “What Are We Taking Away From Today”
- Overview of morning - Chair

Table Top Discussion (1) Sharing Practice and Learning

Participants were mixed in small groups with spread across the CPC areas to enable cross fertilisation of information and ideas. Groups were asked to consider the following questions -

- What are your initial thoughts on hearing the overview of findings from the exercise
- What are the challenges for you in taking forward the Reds (as identified in the CPC self-evaluation exercise and audit report)
- How have some of these challenges been overcome

Table Top Discussion (2)

The groups were rearranged so that participants worked together with colleagues from their own CPC areas and asked to consider the following question –

- What are we taking away from today

This allowed reflective learning and consideration of the implications in taking forward identified actions within their own locality.

3. Emerging Themes

There were a number of themes that arose from the 2nd table top discussion and these are captured briefly below -

- Interface between trafficking and CSE
- How “soft intelligence” is shared and how this can inform planning and practice
- Engaging the wider community – raising awareness and supporting community partners to disseminate messages within their own communities
- Creative ways of asking C&YP what they want – thinking about how we engage with YP using technology
- Gaining greater awareness around the use of technologies in the sexual abuse of C&YP – especially in cases of peer to peer abuse
- Thinking about how we reach out to, and respond to LGBT groups
- Targeting most disengaged C&YP and their families – there is a danger that some of our most vulnerable C&YP miss out on education around this area
- Linking night time economy work with community safety in local areas
- Better understanding and response to C&YP who go missing
- Improving data quality – trying to gain a more robust data set
- Continued training and raising awareness across statutory and 3rd sector organisations
- The need to embed CSE as a priority for decision makers within locality partnerships

- Add the CSE lens when undertaking assessment and in the consideration of risk
- Importance of focusing on the perpetrator – two strand approach to investigation and intervention - the victim and the perpetrator
- Improving our responses to YP 16 – 18 yr old - review transitional arrangements and the role of adult services in supporting those YP at risk of CSA/CSE
- The importance of chronologies in this work and how we work together to develop multi agency chronologies

4. Evaluation

Each workshop prepared a written evaluation of the event and CPC’s can use this to inform future discussion and activity.

Overall evaluations would indicate that the workshops were well received with participants generally indicating that their general knowledge had increased and they found the sessions useful and informative. Participants indicated that they came away from the events with improved knowledge and understanding and this will help to inform and take forward local initiatives and responses.

It was noted that it had been helpful to structure the workshops across CPC consortium areas as this allowed for the bringing together of key staff, including those with a functional responsibility across organisations such as NHS and Police Scotland, that cover more than one CPC area.

Below are some comments taken from participant evaluations -



Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation & Abuse – A National Perspective

Practitioner's Seminar

Moira McKinnon
Chair National CSE Group

Outline of Session

- Overview of National CSE Action Plan and work of the National CSE Group
- Learning from joint CSE operations

Child Sexual Exploitation

Political, media and professional contexts have been shaped by a series of high profile allegations against "celebrities", alongside reports of young women being sexually abused in major cities in the UK

Rochdale, Missing from care, Rotherham, Oxford

"...Despite increased awareness and a heightened state of alert regarding CSE, children are still slipping through the net and falling prey to sexual predators. Serious gaps remain in the knowledge, practice and services required to tackle this problem...."
(Berelowitz, 2013)

Defining CSE (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.**

getting
it right
for every child

Scottish Context

Child Protection Committees are responsible for the co-ordination of agencies in localities

Full scope of CSE in Scotland is unknown

- 2011 work was undertaken by SCCYP
- 2012 Scottish Government commissioned University of Bedfordshire to review the scale and nature of CSE in Scotland
- 2012 Social Care & Social Work Improvement Scotland identified low level awareness of CSE amongst professionals
- 2013 Short life Ministerial Working Group reported - Building capacity, legislation, prevention
- 2013 CPC Lead officers established CSE working group
- 2014 National CP guidance was updated – specific CSE section
- 2014 Public Petitions Committee – nature and scope of CSE – called for national strategy

Public Petitions Committee

Remit

"to examine the nature and extent of CSE in Scotland; in conjunction with relevant agencies and stakeholders, to determine the most pertinent issues that need to be addressed; to examine the effectiveness of current measures aimed at tackling CSE; and to make recommendations on what needs to be done to improve the effectiveness of those measures"

Nature & Extent of CSE in Scotland

Committee was not able to make any definitive findings on then nature and extent of CSE in Scotland Problems in estimating numbers..... Hard to separate sexually abused children/YP in general from those who have been sexually exploited

● ● ● National CSE Group



● ● ● Work Plan.....



● ● ● Awareness / Prevention

- Locality CSE Workshops
- Working definition of CSE
- CSE Minimum standards – CPC's to benchmark self against
- CSE training pathway
- Associated training materials for range of professionals - With Scotland website
- CSE practice guidance
- National CSE Campaign (January 2016)

● ● ● Intervention

- Review of existing Joint Investigative Guidance with regard to CSE
- Assessment tools
- Learning from practice experience – large scale investigations
- Stop to Listen Pilots (4 areas in Scotland)
- National Missing Person's Strategy (Scottish Government, Police Scotland)
- Development of core data set

● ● ● Recovery

- Stop to Listen - Challenging how we do things / how can we do things differently
- Engage young people in discussion to seek their views about what works and what does not
- Review how existing services are delivered at a local level

● ● ● Legal Measures / Disruption

- Review of existing legal measures to disrupt and prosecute
- Shifting focus away from victim to perpetrator
- Central system to co-ordinate and collate intelligence regarding persons of concern
- Raising awareness in judiciary / panel members



Learning from Complex Child Sexual Exploitation Investigations

T/Detective Chief Inspector Sarah Taylor
Police Scotland

Aims

- Role of the Police
- Remit of the National Child Abuse Investigation Unit
- Complex CSE Investigations
- Investigative Approach/Structure
- Multi Agency Groups
- Victim Strategy
- Suspect Strategy
- Partnership Working to Tackle Offenders/Disruption Tactics
- Legislation to Consider in CSE
- Learning



Role of the Police

- **Police and Fire Reform Act 2012**
Section 32

1. The main purpose of policing is to improve the safety and wellbeing of persons, localities and communities in Scotland
2. The police service, working in collaboration with others where appropriate, should seek to achieve that main purpose by policing in a way which is accessible to and engages with local communities and promotes measures to prevent crime, harm and disorder

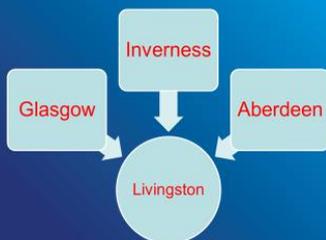
Section 2

It is the duty of a constable to prevent and detect crime



National Child Abuse Investigation Unit

- Established in January 2015
- Links to the National Action Plan on Child Sexual Exploitation and Scottish Government's commitment to improve the protection of children
- Based on a hub and spoke model with the national hub at Livingston, spokes in North at Inverness, North East in Aberdeen and in the West at Dalmarnock



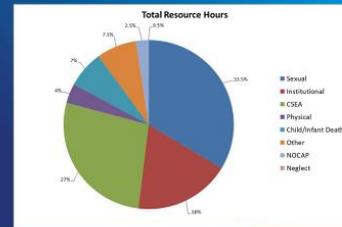
Remit of National Child Abuse Investigation Unit

- Large scale, complex, protracted and/or cross border investigations
- Investigation into unexplained child death
- High profile investigations likely to generate significant public, media and/or political interest
- Sensitive investigations involving high profile individuals or individuals who work in positions of trust



- In addition the unit aims to:
- Develop strong working relationships with divisional Public Protection Units, the National Rape and Domestic Abuse Task Forces and Major Investigation Teams
- Provide enhanced capacity in terms of intelligence, research and information capture
- Drive continual improvement in the area of complex child abuse investigation

Resource Hours Per Investigation Type



CSE Investigations

- Complex abuse is defined as
 - "Abuse involving one or more abusers and a number of related or non-related abused children or young people. The abusers may be acting in concert to abuse children or acting in isolation"
- (Guidance on Investigating Child Abuse, National Policing Improvement Agency)
- NCAIU have had investigative ownership of 5 large scale complex CSE investigations.

Investigative Structure CSE Investigations

- Gold Group – function of the group is to set policy and strategy for the investigation. Members can include Senior Police management e.g. ACC, the Senior Investigating Officer, Local Policing Division, Safer Communities, Local Authority, Health, COPFS and Media.
- Silver Group – function of the group is to implement the policies and strategies of Gold and give practitioner focus and perspective. The group may comprise of multi-agency representation including Social Work, Health, Education and Third Sector agencies and the SIO, DSIO.

Key Themes

Prevention

- To work with key partners to develop processes across Scotland to identify children at risk of harm and ensure there is consistency in child protection procedures
- To mitigate the risk posed to communities by child abuse predators

Protection

- Work with partners to identify where children may be at risk and prevent crimes occurring
- Co-ordinated and committed approach where children who may be at risk are identified, protected and supported

Key Themes

Intervention

- Through partnership working we can improve our response to Child Protection and increase opportunities for early and effective interventions in respect of children and perpetrators
- Risk and Concern project allows information to be shared with partners across the country, to identify the early signs which may mean someone is at risk and enables action to protect and support
- Prevent further harm by using civil measures (ROSHOs)

Key Themes

Detection

- All encompassing investigative response to enhance our approach to supporting victims and bring offenders to justice
- Bring specialist expertise to better respond to complex and challenging issues which can arise around CSE investigation
- Work with statutory partners and third sector groups to ensure that survivors are supported through the investigation and criminal justice process

Investigative Approach



Multi Agency & Partnership Working : Victims and Suspects

- Operational Group is a Secure Information Sharing platform across agencies
- Share, review and risk assess information held by partner agencies regarding victims/perpetrators of crimes
- Complete risk assessments where there is minimal interaction with agencies
- Agree strategies in relation to victims and suspects

Victim Strategy

VICTIM CENTRED APPROACH IS KEY TO ANY CSE INVESTIGATION

- **Method of Approach:**
 - Initial contact - all personal visits either by Police only or Joint Visit
 - Corporate message to victims – letter from SIO
 - Named SOLO Trained SPOCS for each victim
- Bespoke Contact Logs created for each victim, recording every contact and rationale for contact, includes contact with support agencies
- Victim Strategy submitted with each Police Report
- Personal Visit by SIO at conclusion of enquiry

Suspect Strategy

It is useful to consider the suspect strategy in two elements

Reactive – the specific reports

Proactive – identify what they are doing now and what did they do in the intervening period

This assists in producing a risk assessment regarding any current risk posed by the suspect

Where multiple suspects are involved, consider a matrix to prioritise the suspects based upon:

- Current risk
- Intelligence/evidence of Involvement in current/other criminality
- Gravity of offence
- Those who feature in previous CSE investigations

Perpetrator Activity

- Identify all investigative opportunities to pursue all known offenders including involvement in other criminality
- Identify opportunities to apply grooming legislation
- Identify opportunities to apply preventative orders
- Identify opportunities to apply trafficking legislation
- Employ where possible disruption tactics in relation to suspects
- Consider utilising all available assets

Partnership Working To Tackle Offending Behaviour

- Partnership working – Key
 - Criminal Justice
 - Licensing
 - Housing
 - Social Work
 - Health
 - HMRC
 - Barnardos and 3rd Sector Agencies
 - SEPA
 - UKBA



MAIN OFFENCES RELEVANT TO CSE

There is no crime of "child sexual exploitation". The main offences we use are: Offences under the Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009, including

- rape (section 1)
- having intercourse with an older child (section 28),
- sexual assaults (sections 2, 3, 19 & 20)

Offences of violence such as assault can be labelled

Offences under the Protection of Children and Prevention of Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2005 Principally Section 1: Grooming (including grooming on the internet)

Offences under the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015



RAPE

Section 1 of the Sexual Offences (S) Act 2009 contains the offence of rape, which is defined as follows:

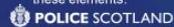
- (1) if a person ("A"), with A's penis—
(a) without another person ("B") consenting, and
(b) without any reasonable belief that B consents,

penetrates to any extent, either intending to do so or reckless as to whether there is penetration, the vagina, anus or mouth of B then A commits an offence, to be known as the offence of rape.

The Crown must prove three essential facts using corroborated evidence:

1. Penetration- challenges in securing sufficient evidence
2. Lack of consent- challenges
3. The accused had no reasonable belief that the complainer consented- challenges

Accordingly this offence, usually committed in private, is a challenge to prove in CSE cases given the requirement to corroborate each of these elements.



INTERCOURSE WITH AN OLDER CHILD

Under section 28 of the Sexual Offences (S) Act 2009:

If a person ("A"), who has attained the age of 16 years, with A's penis, penetrates to any extent, either intending to do so or reckless as to whether there is penetration, the vagina, anus or mouth of a child ("B"), who—

- (a) has attained the age of 13 years, but
(b) has not attained the age of 16 years,

then A commits an offence, to be known as the offence of having intercourse with an older child.

Lack of consent is not required. However penetration still requires to be proved (as well as the ages of the accused and complainer).

It is a defence that the accused reasonably believed that the complainer had attained the age of 16 years. If the accused leads evidence in support of this defence, it is for the Crown to overcome the defence beyond reasonable doubt. This brings challenges.



GROOMING

Meeting a child following certain preliminary contact

- (1) A person ("A") commits an offence if—
(a) having met or communicated with another person ("B") on at least one earlier occasion, A—
(i) intentionally meets B;
(ii) travels, in any part of the world, with the intention of meeting B in any part of the world; or
(iii) makes arrangements, in any part of the world, with the intention of meeting B in any part of the world, for B to travel in any part of the world;
(b) at the time, A intends to engage in unlawful sexual activity involving B or in the presence of B—
(i) during or after the meeting; and
(ii) in any part of the world;
(c) B is—
(i) aged under 16; or
(ii) a constable;
(d) A does not reasonably believe that B is 16 or over; and
(e) at least one of the following is the case—
(i) the meeting or communication on an earlier occasion referred to in paragraph (a) (or, if there is more than one, one of them) has a relevant Scottish connection;
(ii) the meeting referred to in sub-paragraph (i) of that paragraph or, as the case may be, the travelling referred to in sub-paragraph (i) of that paragraph or the making of arrangements referred to in sub-paragraph (ii) of that paragraph, has a relevant Scottish connection;
(f) A is a British citizen or resident in the United Kingdom.



HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Attempts have been made to use trafficking legislation in CSE cases, which can be done but which is not straightforward in terms of securing sufficient evidence.

Section 1 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act contains an offence of human trafficking. The Crown must prove using corroborated evidence that the accused took a "relevant action" AND that he did so with a view to the victim being exploited.

The relevant action can include recruiting, harbouring, or transferring another person.

"Exploitation" includes sexual exploitation, which means, very broadly speaking, that the person is a victim of a serious sexual offence or is being used for the purposes of prostitution.

In proving that the accused took the relevant action with a view to the victim being exploited, the Crown must prove that the accused intended to exploit the victim or knew or ought to have known that the victim was likely to be exploited.



SUFFICIENCY OF EVIDENCE IN CSE CASES

- CSE is a type of child sexual abuse. A hurdle in CSE cases, as with all types of sexual offences and child sexual abuse, is securing sufficient evidence to proceed:
 - Offences often take place in private, which means it can be difficult to find a second source of evidence;
 - Complainers may not report offences until some time after they occur, which reduces the opportunity to secure forensic evidence;
 - Moorov Doctrine (mutual corroboration) offers potential for corroboration;
 - Evidence from computers and telephones is becoming increasingly relevant to the prosecution of these types of offences.



BARRIERS TO THE SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTION OF CSE CASES

- Sufficiency of evidence
- Victims of CSE are very vulnerable, which can sometimes mean it is difficult to secure and maintain their engagement throughout the criminal justice process
 - Timescales for the criminal justice process can be a contributor to disengagement
 - Fear of giving evidence in court and in particular of cross examination
- Victims not seeing themselves as victims- they may appear happy with the arrangement they have with their abuser and often have romantic feelings towards them
- Delayed and/or staged disclosure- can be used by the defence to discredit their evidence
- Quality of Joint Investigative Interviews



SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS BY COPFS

- COPFS has a Victim Information and Advice (VIA) service, whose role is to provide information and advice to child and vulnerable witnesses. VIA will keep the victim informed about the progress of the case and will arrange for special measures to be in place for when the victims give evidence.
- Since the Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Act 2014, children and victims of certain offences including sexual offences and human trafficking offences are entitled to certain special measures (screen/ supporter/ TV Link or a combination).
- Other special measures can be applied for (including evidence in the form of a prior statement or taking evidence by a commissioner). The use of those measures by a child or deemed vulnerable witness must be justified to the court in the circumstances of the case.



Case Study 1

14 year old male: creates a public profile online, highlights his age and seeks adult males to have sex with. He meets various adult males and engages in sexual activity.



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CSE?



Case Study 1

14 year old male: creates a public profile online, highlights his age and seeks adult males to have sex with. He meets various adult males and engages in sexual activity.

CSE?

YES, he is a child. Regardless of the willing participation, adults have been prepared to sexually exploit him.



Case Study 2

14 year old female: absconds from her children's home and has nowhere to reside. She approaches an older male in the city centre and returns to his home for the evening. She knows that she will be required to have sexual intercourse with the male in order to stay the night

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CSE?

Case Study 2

14 year old female: absconds from her children's home and has nowhere to reside. She approaches an older male in the city centre and returns to his home for the evening. She knows that she will be required to have sexual intercourse with the male in order to stay the night

CSE?

YES – although she appears to be going willingly, she is being sexually exploited.

Learning

- Clear investigative parameters
- Victim Centred
- Perpetrator Focus
- Multi Agency Information Sharing
- Importance of intelligence capture across agencies
- Early liaison with COPFS
- Legislation

Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation & Abuse – A National Perspective

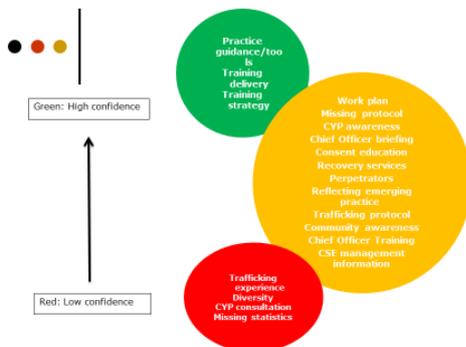
CPC Self Evaluation Overview of Findings

Moira McKinnon
Chair National CSE Group

Daljeet Dagon
Barnardos

What did we set out to achieve

- Greater understanding of what CPC's had in place to manage and support victims of CSE across Scotland
- Share learning and good practice nationally
- Identify what is working well and areas that require additional focus and activity



Headlines ... The Green's

- Practice guidance/tools consistent across all consortium areas
- Training delivery
- Training strategy

Headlines ... The Ambers

- Work plan
- Missing P protocol
- C&YP awareness
- Chief Officer briefing/training
- Consent education
- Recovery services
- Perpetrators
- Reflecting emerging practice
- Trafficking protocol
- Community awareness
- CSE management information

Emerging Themes – The Reds

- Missing Person – future developments
- Trafficking and CSE
- Community Engagement in its widest sense
- Engaging C&YP in discussions about what they want and what works for them
- Diversity

