

Birmingham City Council

Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 17 May 2023



Subject: Inquiry Evidence Gathering: Youth Service
Report of: Birmingham Youth Service
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1 Purpose

- 1.1 This report/presentation provides the Youth Service response to the Child Criminal Exploitation Inquiry.
- 1.2 The key question for this inquiry is: how are the Council and Partners working together to reduce the risks of criminal exploitation for young people?
- 1.3 The overall outcome is to:
 - 1.3.1 Reduce the number of children and young people becoming at risk of Child Criminal Exploitation
 - 1.3.2 Improve the effectiveness of partnership working to reduce the risk of Child Criminal Exploitation
- 1.4 The Inquiry has identified key areas to explore to support its evidence gathering for this Inquiry. The key lines for this Inquiry are:
 - 1.4.1 What is the definition of Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) being used in the city? If different definitions are being applied by partners, how does this impact upon the effectiveness of joint working?
 - 1.4.2 What is the current scale and nature of CCE in Birmingham? How has this picture changed over the past four years? What are the projected risks and threats for the future?
 - 1.4.3 How are organisations informed by evidence-based practice? How do organisations capture 'what works' and 'what doesn't work', and how has this information changed their services? How is Birmingham learning from other areas, and how is this learning being implemented to make a difference?
 - 1.4.4 What is the current partnership strategy in place to address CCE in the city? How is this strategy being supported and delivered through partners? What are the partnership mechanisms for collaboration, and how effective are they? How effective is its governance structure?

- 1.4.5 Who are the key statutory organisations and what are their respective roles in addressing CCE? What investment is provided to these organisations, and has this changed over the past four years? What are the current plans for investment to meet future demands?
- 1.4.6 What is the role of third sector and community-based organisations involved in tackling CCE? What are the key challenges they face, and what are the solutions they have identified to tackle these challenges? How effective is the cross sector working?
- 1.4.7 How does the Council and Partners identify and assess risk for children and young people together for CCE? How are they responding to the challenge in identifying girls and young women as victims? How are the Council and Partners working together to deliver effective interventions when children and young people are likely to be both victims and involved with committing offences at the same time?
- 1.4.8 How are the Council and Partners working with families to support children and young people at risk, or involved with CCE? How are schools and partners working together to reduce the risk of school exclusion?

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the appendix attached is noted and the information provided to the Committee is used to inform the Inquiry on reducing the risks of criminal exploitation for young people

3 Any Finance Implications

- 3.1 None

4 Any Legal Implications

- 4.1 None

5 Any Equalities Implications

- 5.1 None

6 Appendices

- 6.1 Evidence Gathering – The Youth Service – Appendix 1