

**Members are reminded that they must declare all relevant pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests relating to any items of business to be discussed at this meeting**

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

**EDUCATION AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, 20 APRIL 2016 AT 14:00 HOURS**  
**IN COMMITTEE ROOMS 3 & 4, COUNCIL HOUSE, VICTORIA SQUARE, BIRMINGHAM, B1 1BB**

**A G E N D A**

**1 NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST**

The Chairman to advise the meeting to note that this meeting will be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site ([www.birminghamnewsroom.com](http://www.birminghamnewsroom.com)) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs. The whole of the meeting will be filmed except where there are confidential or exempt items.

**2 APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies.

**3 - 18**

**3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING - 16 MARCH, 2016 AND 23 MARCH, 2016**

To confirm and sign the minutes of the last 2 meetings on 16 and 23 March, 2016

**19 - 20**

**4 DISTRICT CHAIRS (2.10 – 4.10)**

To discuss how their Community Plans are addressing Education and Vulnerable Children – to include Corporate Parenting responsibility; progress made on 'It takes a city to raise a child'; education and safeguarding issues:

Cllr Josh Jones, Erdington District

Cllr Ansar Ali khan, Hodge Hill District

Cllr Peter Griffiths, Northfield District

Cllr Karen McCarthy/Cllr Alex Buchanan/Karen Cheney, Selly Oak District

Cllr Anne Underwood, Sutton District

Cllr Sue Anderson, Yardley District

21 - 24

5 **PROGRESS ON THE CHILDREN MISSING FROM HOME AND CARE INQUIRY (4.10 - 4.40)**

Alastair Gibbons, Executive Director for Children Services to provide an update.

25 - 46

6 **TRACKING: CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (4.40 – 5.20)**

Alastair Gibbons, Executive Director for Children's Services, Birmingham City Council and Phillipa Cresswell, Solihull Borough Council will to be in attendance.

47 - 56

7 **WORK PROGRAMME**

To discuss the Work Programme

8 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

To agree a date and time.

9 **REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)**

To consider any request for call in/councillor call for action/petitions (if received).

10 **OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any items of business by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) that in the opinion of the Chairman are matters of urgency.

11 **AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS**

Chairman to move:-

'In an urgent situation between meetings, the Chair jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee'.

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

**EDUCATION AND VULNERABLE  
CHILDREN OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE  
16 MARCH, 2016**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EDUCATION AND VULNERABLE  
CHILDREN OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 16 MARCH, 2016 AT 1400 HOURS IN COMMITTEE ROOM 2,  
COUNCIL HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM B1 1BB**

**PRESENT:** - Councillor Susan Barnett in the Chair;

Councillors Sue Anderson, Matt Bennett, Barry Bowles Debbie Clancy, Barbara Dring, Martin Straker-Welds, Chauhdry Rashid and Alex Yip.

**IN ATTENDANCE:-**

Chris Atkinson – Assistant Director, Children with Complex Needs  
Richard Browne – Intelligence Manager  
Colin Diamond – Interim Executive Director for Education  
Seamus Gaynor – Link Officer  
Councillor Brigid Jones – Cabinet Member  
Pip Mayo – Head of Service – People Directorate  
Louisa Nisbett – Committee Manager  
Amanda Simcox – Scrutiny Research and Policy Officer  
Simon Wellman – Head of Special Educational Needs Assessment and Review  
Benita Wishart – Overview and Scrutiny Manager

There were 2 members of the public in attendance

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**APOLOGIES**

356 Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mick Brown, Chaudhry Rashid and Valerie Seabright, Samera Ali, Richard Potter and Sarah Smith for their inability to attend the meeting. Also Councillor Matt Bennett for lateness.

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**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

357 Page 7 - Diana Reeves was BSCV Vice-Chair and not Chair.  
Page 12, min 353 – Councillor Seabright and not Councillor Rashid.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10 February, 2016, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

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**CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES TO REPORT BACK ON THE OUTCOMES OF THE EARLY YEARS REVIEW CONSULTATION AND NEXT STEPS**

The following report was submitted:-

(See document no. 1)

Councillor Brigid Jones, Cabinet Member attended the meeting. Pip Mayo introduced the report giving a summary of the report advising that the 90 day consultation period had closed on 28 February, 2016. A report would be submitted to Cabinet in June 2016.

During the discussion the following points were made:-

1. There had been 3410 responses to the consultation, 42% from parents in the target group.
2. The consultation was on the Be Heard website. Councillor Susan Barnett declared a pecuniary interest as she was employed part time at a Children's Centre and asked for more details about the percentage of responses received to the consultation, how many were sent out, whether the percentage received was a large percent and who they were received from. Councillor Susan Barnett was disappointed at some of the questions asked.
3. In response to Councillor Susan Barnett's query a Lead organisation would be responsible for the Health and Well-Being component, Health Services and Services to support parents. This would be reviewed as the service expanded. The project team was comprised Health and Education Colleagues.
4. They had engaged people through briefing events, attended by approximately 600 persons and through the Be Heard Portal. Of the 73% responses by citizens the majority were parents and past parents. The other 27% were predominantly working in early years services. The point about the questions was taken on board.
5. In response to questions from Councillor Bowles and comments about the Cohort of children in the City under the age of 5 about 80,000 children were in the age range.
6. A commissioning specification will be developed as progress is made. There should be opportunities for the community and voluntary sector. It

had been ensured that responses were representative at the end of the consultation and visits had been made to get views where there were gaps.

7. Conversations would be started in the next few weeks with service providers about the proposals. A small parents group had been established. The statistics will be circulated to all groups and put on the website.
8. In reply to comments from Councillor Dring about the age range and that the 42% could be diluted owing to the wide consultation, the target group had been parents with children 0 – 5 years. They had worked hard to ensure a good number of people were captured in the target group. They had not come to a conclusion about the Health Work.
9. The Cabinet Member was pleased with the 6% of people under 19 who had responded. With regard to Academies BCC had not directly run schools since the 1990's. There were already private nurseries etc delivering early years. A statutory service under Health was offered up to 2 years and this would continue in the new model.
10. In reply to concerns from Councillor Sue Anderson about the inequalities and accessibility of the service, the Cabinet Member said that universal awareness was needed and also they needed to ensure that no one was excluded.
11. They would work with the parent run support services and work with the commissioners to ensure it was run in a sustained way. There was a range of specialist services. These would be complimented by providing mainstream services for children in community locations.
12. Councillor Yip was disappointed by the outcome of the consultation and found some of the questions confusing. He questioned how much money had been spent during the consultation period.
13. The consultation had been supported with a briefings and a lot of support had been provided to Children Centres and partners in the voluntary sector to understand the questions. They had also actively engaged with people not using the Early Year's Service by visiting supermarkets etc.
14. Councillor Debbie Clancy referred to page 18 and the proposals for the self-help services, also the high level of uncertainty. She expressed concerns that help was provided for the groups set up and that the right proposals and support were in place. Pip Mayo said that they had held discussions with parents and some were strongly in support while others were adverse to the plans. Councillor Yip did not agree with this.

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**RESOLVED:-**

That the outcomes of the consultation and the next steps for the Early Years Review be noted.

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**SCHOOL ATTAINMENT STATISTICS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

The following report was submitted:-

(See document no. 2)

Colin Diamond made a presentation with the use of the following slides:-

(See document no. 3)

During the discussion that ensued the following points were made:-

1. Councillor Clancy referred to Key Stage 4 and expected progress in Maths. The results on the website for a school in her Ward was high. She was concerned that the outcomes were being masked.
2. Colin Diamond replied that none of the data included college performance but included grammar schools. The data for indicated that grammar schools overall were making progress. He felt that maximum progress should be aimed at for all pupils. A lot of schools carried out their own assessments however the overall attainment needed to be reflected.
3. In reply to Councillor Bowles, the comparators for looked after children was not available until the end of March. Councillor Bowles asked that home addresses of pupils be broken down.
4. Councillor Dring commented on the map indicating that performance was low in a lot of areas. She felt that children were eager to learn and wanted to see the same standard across the piece.
5. Colin Diamond acknowledged there was work to do with secondary school performance. BEP was offering support to those schools that needed it. It was difficult to recruit good teachers for English, Maths and the Sciences however it could be done.
6. The Cabinet Member noted that the map of school results correlated with the map of house prices in the City and spoke about the expectation held for children in certain parts of the City by teachers etc. The events that had taken place in some schools during the last few years had also had an affect on performance. BEP had been commissioned for school improvement and she hoped there would be a turnaround.
7. Councillor Martin Straker-Welds felt that the report and map showing the picture of attainment was honest and questioned how the disadvantages could be countered. There was lack of a high esteem for children and an issue with teachers being in the right area to make an improvement. Councillor Martin Straker-Welds spoke about the benefit of BEP. He noted the 28% mobility of children from abroad at one school and asked that the mobility of children to schools be looked at as he believed that this could have an impact on attainment.
8. Colin Diamond referred to a letter from the Regional Director. They were mindful of pupil mobility when processing data.

9. Councillor Sue Anderson suggested a report on BEP activities stating that the link between BEP and schools was key. Colin Diamond was willing to give an update on the impact of BEP. He said that FE colleges made a contribution in the City.
10. In reply to a query from Councillor Matt Bennett about lack of information about children learning modern languages, Colin Diamond had not information to hand, however bilingual children enhanced Birmingham Diversity. Modern foreign languages did not include Latin.

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**RESOLVED:-**

That the report and presentation be noted.

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**SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (SEN) AND EDUCATION HEALTH AND CARE PLANS (EHC)**

The following report was submitted:-

(See document no. 3)

Chris Atkinson and Simon Wellman presented the report and gave an update and summary of the report. During the discussion the following points were made:-

1. The document was part of the consultation. The results were being published today and the framework was expected in April. The priorities for the following year were summarised at the end of the report.
2. In reply to concerns from Councillor Yip about a case in his Ward related to SENAR, Simon Wellman said they worked with families , schools and professionals to seek a resolution before a case was appealed and every family was offered mediation before an appeal.
3. Councillor Matt Bennett was not impressed with the performance. He felt that the 90 out of 206 transfers to the new education, health and care plans was a failure and 409 was still being done. He referred to a question to City Council from Councillor Brew and said that too many children were being statemented and a new process was needed.
4. Chris Atkinson reported that there were issues and challenges however progress had been made in some areas. There were issues with transfers in Birmingham owing to higher levels of SENs. People working in SENAR were committed to the children and families and provided fair access and support. Simon Wellman thanked the SENAR team for their hard work. There had been a change in personnel for the Tribunal role. Training had included workshops and learning on the job. Councillor Matt Bennett clarified that his comments were aimed at the way SENAR was managed and not the team.

5. Councillor Bowles spoke about the amount of appeals lodged and noted that in October none had been won. Simon Wellman did not have the information on the appeals to hand. Councillor Bowles asked whether the transfers to the new system would be completed by 2018.
6. Councillor Dring commented that the funding for people with SEN seemed to be spent on administration and not for the benefit of the individuals. In reply to Councillor Dring, the Committee was informed that there was an issue in finding special school places owing to increasing demands. There was an Autistic Team leading on a National training programme. The purpose of grant funding was to support the Local Authority in the delivery of a plan.

360

**RESOLVED:-**

That the report be noted.

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**EDUCATION AWARDS APPEALS (HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT)**

The following report was submitted:-

(See document no. 4)

The following presentation was handed out:-

(See document no. 5)

During the discussion the following points were made:-

1. Councillor Matt Bennett was not in favour of the proposals. He felt the name Travel Assist had been poorly thought. He expressed some concern that the independent oversight and challenge to the system was being removed.
2. Councillor Bridget Jones, Cabinet Member responded that staff numbers had been halved and they were required to deliver the service within budget. She said that the proposals would encourage the independence travel of young people and would empower parents and families. Reference was made to the recommendations including the suggestion that a Lawyer was present at the appeals hearing.
3. Best practice cross the country had been looked at and Birmingham had been benchmarked with other Local Authorities.
4. Councillor Bowles agreed with Councillor Matt Bennett. He said that at present a child could spend a long time in school transport on the way to school owing to other children being picked up on the way. He felt that whilst some young people could be trained to travel using public transport the proposals were not feasible in reality and therefore would not achieve savings. Councillor Brigid Jones referred to the timing of journeys and said that provision was moved where it was needed. The savings were

modest at present. The personal budget would be offered to anyone who wanted to be more flexible.

5. In reply to Councillor Debbie Clancy, Simon Wellman said that he was head of both SENAR and Travel Assist who worked together. The amount of multi-assessments would be reduced. A lot of work had been carried out around data regarding SEN places to forecast ahead and ensure there was sustainability for the future. Chris Atkinson added that the work done in School Improvement together with work done by BEP would have an effect on the amount of children that stayed in mainstream education. Schools would share resources and expertise.
6. Councillor Dring commented that action taken to make budget savings in the past had not been successful. Councillor Brigid Jones suggested a separate session with another Local Authority who had already been through the process.
7. Councillor Matt Bennett had no confidence in the proposals and that they would be delivered. He proposed that a private meeting of Members be arranged to look at the proposals in detail. The Chairman undertook to consider the matter.

359

**RESOLVED:-**

That the report be noted.

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**EDUCATION AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN O & S COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16**

The following work programme was received and noted:-

(See document No. 5)

360

**RESOLVED:-**

That the Work Programme be noted.

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**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

The Chairman reminded Members that there was still a Parent Governor vacancy on the Committee. Anyone interested should contact the Chairman.

The Committee wished Councillor Mick Brown a speedy recovery.

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The meeting was adjourned until 1400 hours, Wednesday, 23 March, 2016.

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The meeting ended at 1730 hours.

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CHAIRPERSON



**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

**EDUCATION AND VULNERABLE  
CHILDREN OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE  
23 MARCH, 2016**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EDUCATION AND VULNERABLE  
CHILDREN OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY, 23 MARCH, 2016 AT 1400 HOURS IN COMMITTEE ROOMS  
3 AND 4, COUNCIL HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM, B1 1BB**

**PRESENT:** - Councillor Susan Barnett in the Chair;

Councillors Sue Anderson, Matt Bennett, Barry Bowles, Debbie Clancy, Barbara Dring, Valerie Seabright, Martin Straker-Welds, and Alex Yip.

Samera Ali – Parent Governor  
Sarah Smith – Church Representative

**IN ATTENDANCE:-**

Lisa Carter – Head of Participation and Engagement  
Seamus Gaynor – Link Officer  
Councillor Brigid Jones – Cabinet Member  
Louisa Nisbett – Committee Manager  
Andy Pepper – Children in Care Provider Services  
Lorna Scarlett - PSS  
Amanda Simcox – Scrutiny Research and Policy Officer  
Benita Wishart – Overview and Scrutiny Manager

**Executive Members**

Councillor John Alden - Edgbaston  
Councillor Mahmood Hussain and Neil De-Costa - Perry Barr  
Councillor Ziaul Islam and Leslie Poulton – Ladywood  
Councillor Tony Kennedy – Hall Green

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**NOTICE OF RECORDING**

362

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**APOLOGIES**

- 363 Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillors Uzma Ahmed, Mick Brown, and Chaudhry Rashid also Richard Potter for their inability to attend the meeting.
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**DISTRICT CHAIRS**

- 364 The following District Chairmen were in attendance:-

Councillor John Alden - Edgbaston  
Councillor Mahmood Hussain and Neil De-Costa - Perry Barr  
Councillor Ziaul Islam and Leslie Poulton – Ladywood  
Councillor Tony Kennedy – Hall Green

Apologies had been received from Councillors Ansar Ali Khan and Josh Jones.

Following a request from Councillor Matt Bennett copies the questions sent to the District Chairmen were circulated.

**Councillor Ziaul Islam and Leslie Poulton – Ladywood**

During the presentation and in response to questions the following points were made:-

1. The Corporate Parent Champion was Councillor Sharon Thompson. There had been a presentation to the District Committee regarding Corporate Parenting. Local People including the Youth Service had been invited to the District Convention. The Youth Service had carried out presentations at District Committee meetings. Representatives from the Children's Centre had also attended. They had also discussed issues such as environmental issues.
2. Committee activities had been directed at children. Play activities had been organised for young people along with partners. Ladywood Health and Community Centre had provided signposting.
3. A few of the Councillors were Governors at Schools. Councillor Islam was a Governor at 3 schools in Aston. Councillor Kauser and himself attended schools assemblies at some schools including Sacred Heart. There were also activities such as Training and guidance, homework clubs, Be Active.
4. He was aware that many Muslim children attended lessons outside of mainstream school where some teachers were qualified from abroad and not aware of the British Education system.
5. Regulation 33 visits had been carried out by a colleague and the Chairman. Regulation 44 Visits were new.
6. With regard to developing a relationship between BEP and schools, Leslie Poulton advised they page 12 of 16 the Co-ordinator for BEP and Councillors

were concerned. They would welcome advice about how to get involved with schools. The role of the District Committee was seen as giving support and addressing things like poverty etc.

7. The Chairman could find out what training had been given to the Corporate Parent Champion.
8. Councillor Dring noted that the training for Corporate Parent Champion had not yet taken place. Councillor Valerie Seabright was the Chairman of the Corporate Parent Board and said that the Board had not met owing to her recent illness.

**Councillor Tony Kennedy – Hall Green**

During the presentation and in response to questions the following points were made:-

1. There was a lack of resources in the District. The deadline for the development of a District Community Plan had been delayed until June 2016 for this reason. Issues related to Children will be included. They had two Corporate Parent Champions for the District, Councillors Barry Bowles and Martin Straker-Welds.
2. The District had received a report from BEP. The BEP Co-ordinator had been asked to arrange meetings for the new year.
3. They were working with the Road Safety Team as an ongoing process. They were the first District to have a 20mph roll out. Road Safety was the main theme for the District Convention.
4. He had attended a meeting in London about the democratic ownership of public spaces working with young people.
5. Healthy Villages – He was meeting with the Leader about this.
6. It takes a whole City to raise a Child – They were considering a wraparound experience with the Health Sector, Faith, families etc.
7. The Corporate Parent Champion was Councillor Bowles. Councillor Burden had carried out Regulation 44 and 33 visits. He had attended PVE and CSE training and cascaded to other Members.
8. Not much progress had been made with BEP.
9. The Well Being Centre at Calthorpe had carried out an exercise for young people. Details were available of the briefing. There was a programme regarding how spaces were used by communities.
10. He had previously been a School Governor for 35 years. Governor vacancies were an issue. A discussion was needed about Governors on Academies and Free Schools. A toolkit and scheduling programme was suggested.

11. They were in discussions South and City College to develop activities for a Citizenship Programme aimed at children and families. They had a District Jobs and Skills Panel and were working with the DWP. There was a Jobs and Skills morning on 19 April, 2016.
12. Safeguarding issues would be incorporated in arrangements for the future.
13. Hall Green only had 3 establishments for young people in the District.
14. In response to a query about the extended deadline for the Community Plan, the deadline had been changed corporately. The Chairman undertook to follow up the issue of the deadlines being changed.
15. Councillor Martin Straker-Welds was Corporate Champion for Hall Green. His main job was to sustain a relationship with BEP. There had been no progress since a presentation in September. His Headteacher welcomed visits to the school. He would welcome a timescale and timetable Districts could embark on. The Chairman undertook to follow this up.
16. Councillor Seabright stressed the need for Councillors to receive training before engaging with young people. She felt that it was crucial to build a relationship with every school in the District prior to them being required to convert into an Academy. Councillor Sue Anderson agreed that there were difficulties in building relationships with schools and Councillor Clancy added that better communication was needed.
17. Councillors were encouraged to contact schools and email them etc to praise them when they had made an achievement.

**Councillor Mahmood Hussain and Neil De-Costa – Perry Barr District**

During the presentation and in response to questions the following points were made:-

1. Councillor Barbara Dring was the Corporate Parent Champion. She was concerned that she had not received support and training for her role. The Committee had received an update from Andy Pepper on Corporate Parenting.
2. The District had engaged with the Youth Service in the area. They had 610 Centre, Lozells Recreation Group and Oaklands Centre facilities for young people. They were aware that they needed to have a better linkage with schools and support groups and youth engagement was part of the Community District Plan. They worked with colleges and partners to identify and address issues and had a parks and open spaces programme.
3. Councillors had relationships with schools in the District and some were School Governors including himself. There were 45 Schools in the District. They had had meetings with schools and organisations to discuss issues. Schools also attended the District convention and took part in Youth Forum meetings. The appropriate Officer had made contact with the Corporate Parent Champion.

4. It would be useful to have more clarity about BEP and how it was linked to the District in the future.
5. The Neighbourhood Challenge was Jobs and Skills. There was limited resources in the District therefore a strategic approach would be useful. With regard to reducing crime rates and owing to budget cuts they now worked with partners to engage young people. Councillor Dring added that in Oscott Ward a project had taken place with all schools to discuss issues such as parking and the safety of pupils.
6. Details of youth clubs etc and the activities arranged were requested.
7. Training was essential in order for the Corporate Parent Champion to carry out their role efficiently. There were already Councillors carrying out Regulation 33 and Regulation 44 visits. It was noted that Regulation 44 visits could be now be carried out to private children's homes.
8. It requested that the list and details of children's homes be sent to Councillors.

**Councillor John Alden – Edgbaston District**

During the presentation and in response to questions the following points were made:-

1. Councillor Caroline Bradley was Corporate Parent Champion however she would not be standing for the next election.
2. The District had a successful Youth Club, the Stonehouse Gang set up in 1938. Some of their schools were involved with the community eg pupils working in the coffee shop etc at Hagley Road Retirement Village.
3. Councillor Matt Bennett said that there would not be the role in schools for Governors and questioned how academies would be held to account. Councillor Matt Bennett questioned how much value would be added by a Councillor visiting a school. He continued that a Tool Kit was needed to give a clear steer.
4. Councillor Alden reported that some schools allowed the facilities at the school eg. playing fields to be used by scouts etc. There was a degree of businesses coordinating with schools. Some of the District Councillors were school Governors. Councillor John Alden had previously been a Governor for 27 years.
5. Someone would be appointed as the Corporate Parent Champion following the elections.
6. With regard to Councillors visits and added value in Hodge Hill Ward Parent workshops were organised, parents spoke to Councillors and PTA's linked with other PTA's in the District.
7. The role and purpose of BEP was outlined. Councillor Martin Straker-Welds said that even though schools had been self-governed since 1997

Birmingham City Council was responsible for the welfare of children. The Council added value through road safety, family, family support, libraries and after school clubs etc.

8. Sarah Smith referred to ways of building relationships with schools eg through websites and events. BEP were appointed for the school improvement contract therefore they were accountable.
9. The Chairman and Councillor Bowles had found that they had always been welcomed in schools and it was suggested that the reason why some schools were responsive and others not be looked into.
10. Councillor John Alden informed the Committee of the background of the youth facility in his ward which had been supported by a grant from a business and fundraising.

The Chairman thanked the invitees for attending the meeting to give an update and welcomed the work experience pupils who had produced some statistics to support the Scrutiny office.

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The following reports were taken together.

**LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN (LAC) & CORPORATE PARENTING UPDATE  
(INCLUDING THE ROLE OF DISTRICTS)**

(See document no. 1)

**ENGAGING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN CARE WITHIN THE  
SCRUTINY PROCESS**

(See document no. 2)

Councillor Seabright asked that it be placed on record the hard work carried out by Andy Pepper, Lisa Carter and their team.

1. They were happy to provide more training if required. The Regulation 44 training had been attended by 18 Councillors during 4 sessions. Invites had been sent out for the Corporate Parent Champion meeting on 19 April, 2016. They planned to provide training to all Councillors in the future.
2. The list of Children's Homes would be resent. It was updated on a 6 week basis.
3. A summary of the report and progress made was given.
4. Councillor Bowles noted that only 18 out of 120 Councillors had turned up to the training which he felt was not satisfactory.
5. In reply to Councillor Yip, Andy Pepper informed that the training for CSE had been harrowing, however there had been positive feedback.

6. Closer working relationships with the police were being worked on to ensure everything was co-ordinated to ensure young people were protected. An email was sent each week to update on children missing.
7. Lisa Carter had spoken to a number of judges. There was ongoing dialogue with the judiciary regarding the issues.
8. Lisa Carter would pick up the issue of training for mentors and invited to Scrutiny meetings.
9. Councillor Dring said that there needed to be links between different Committees with regard to CSE. There had been a debate and conference on CSE at Licensing Committee. Councillor Dring welcomed the new appointment to the team. Andy Pepper undertook to follow up the link with Licensing related to the Corporate Parenting Board and CSE. Following the 19 April 2016 meeting of the board some more dates would be identified. It was suggested that training sessions be organised to take place before the Council meeting or District meeting.
10. In reply to Councillor Debbie Clancy a Pathway Plan should be put together for each child in care at 15 1/2 years old. At present this was being done when they were 17.
11. The net amount of foster carers had been reduced despite some being recruited owing to some not continuing. A new recruitment campaign was in place. Mentors were working close with virtual schools to raise achievements. The laptops had all been allocated to young people.
12. In reply to the Chairman they took the opportunity to meet young people through various events. The details of the meeting would be resent to Councillor Dring.
13. Lisa Carter was happy to meet Councillors after the meeting with regard to the Voice of Children. The Chairman felt that the 100 questions exercise had been useful. Councillor Dring suggested a session on CSE be held in the scrutiny meeting. The Chairman would consider fitting the item in the work program.
14. Elected Members were welcome to visit the Children in Care Council however the maximum should be 2 Councillors at a time who should make it clear why they were there and ensure it was a good experience for the young people.
15. Lorna Scarlett gave an update on the changes to the team. A third report had been prepared and it was requested that this be sent to Councillors so that they could email questions if they so wished.

(See document no. 3)

16. The Children in Care team had been reorganised on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 combining the previous specialist work of the area Court teams and Children in Care. In reply to Councillor Debbie Clancy the workload for a

Social Worker had reduced to 18 and it was hoped that it would further reduce to 15.

17. Andy Pepper informed that there were 1827 children in care. He undertook to check the amount of children in foster care as he did not have the information to hand.

365 **RESOLVED:-**

That the reports be noted.

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**DATES AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

366 It was noted that the next meeting was on Wednesday 20 April at 1400 hours in Committee Rooms 3 and 4 in the Council House.

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**REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)**

367 None were received.

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**OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

368 The Chairman reminded the Committee that there was still a Parent Governor vacancy on the Committee.

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**AUTHORITY TO CHAIR AND OFFICERS**

369 **RESOLVED:-**

That in an urgent situation between meetings, the Chair jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

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The meeting ended at 1732 hours.

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CHAIRPERSON



# District Chairs

## 1 Purpose

1.1 The ten District Chairs were invited to attend an Education and Vulnerable Children Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on either the 23<sup>rd</sup> March or the 20<sup>th</sup> April 2016, to discuss how their Community Plans are addressing education and vulnerable children. To assist with this discussion the following main areas are to be explored:

1. Have you got a corporate parent champion and what support/advice is given and what are they doing to fulfil their corporate parenting responsibility; and encourage other members in their District to step up?
2. What is your district doing to fulfil the recommendations within the Birmingham Commission for Children report '*It Takes a City to Raise a Child*'?<sup>1</sup> e.g:
  - Recommendation 1: Embed children and young people's voice into decision-making through the council's 10 district structure;
  - Recommendation 2: Bring people together at a neighbourhood level to improve children's access to, and their perception of safety in, local parks and open spaces;
  - Recommendation 5: Harness community resources to support the community's children and families.
3. What work are you doing in the District regarding education and strengthening links with schools; and how are you working with the Birmingham Education Partnership (BEP) to do this? For example a recommendation within the Strengthening the Birmingham Family of Schools – The Role of the City Council report recommended that 'Elected Members commit to developing relationships with all schools in their ward and to becoming local champions for education by:
  - i) Affirming their commitment to quality Education for all Birmingham Children at City Council;
  - ii) Affirming to parents and carers in their local area that they will endeavour to represent their interests in working with local "families" of schools;
  - iii) Considering applying to become a governor of at least one school governing body and undertaking governor training as appropriate;

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<sup>1</sup> Report:

<http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/sites/default/files/It%20takes%20a%20city%20to%20raise%20a%20child%20-%20Report%20of%20Birmingham%20Commission%20for%20Children.pdf>

Further information and reports: <http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what-we-do/helping-children/childrens-society-west-midlands/birmingham-commission-children>



# District Chairs

- iv) Visiting every school in their ward at least once a year to build relationships and support school activities in their role as councillors;
- v) Inviting Headteachers to present to Ward Committees on school progress in a rolling programme to raise awareness of local school safeguarding, standards and successes and;
- vi) Approaching local businesses to form links with schools for work experience placements and apprenticeships.'

- 4. Your views on addressing the LGA Peer Review's Recommendation 2: Provide training and development for all members involved in scrutinising education with clear line of sight from district level to the Council leadership

1.2 In addition to the substantive issues above there may be time to discuss:

- 5. Any relevant Neighbourhood Challenges that have been carried out.
- 6. Anything the district has done to progress safeguarding issues, or have you any concerns?

## 2 20<sup>th</sup> April 2016 Committee Meeting

2.1 At today's committee meeting the following should be in attendance:

- Cllr Josh Jones, Erdington District;
- Cllr Ansar Ali Khan, Hodge Hill District;
- Cllr Peter Griffiths, Northfield District;
- Cllr Karen McCarthy, Cllr Alex Buchanan or Karen Cheney, Selly Oak District;
- Cllr Anne Underwood, Sutton District;
- Cllr Sue Anderson, Yardley District.

## 3 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 Committee Meeting

3.1 The following attended the previous meeting:

- Cllr John Alden, Edgbaston District;
- Cllr Tony Kennedy, Hall Green District;
- Cllr Ziaul Islam and Lesley Poulton, Ladywood District;
- Cllr Mahmood Hussain and Neil De-Costa, Perry Barr District.

Contact Officers: [Benita.wishart@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:Benita.wishart@birmingham.gov.uk) or 0121 464 6871

[Amanda.j.simcox@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:Amanda.j.simcox@birmingham.gov.uk) or 0121 675 8444

**Report to: Education and Vulnerable Children Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**Date: 20 April 2016**

**Title: Update on Missing Children from Home or Care**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

To brief the Committee on progress made following the Scrutiny Committee review into children reported as missing from home and care (Children Missing from Home and Care Jan, 2016). Two recommendations were made in the final report, and this update addresses both. While largely on track, and good progress made, there are some systems issues that need resolving to ensure we have a rigorous system of tracking and responding to children reported as missing.

**2. Recommendation**

That Members note the information contained in this report

**3. Contact Officer Details**

Tony Stanley  
Chief Social Work Officer

Tel: 0121 675 5762

Email: [tony.stanley@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:tony.stanley@birmingham.gov.uk)

#### 4. Background

4.1 An overview enquiry was carried out by the Committee into children reported as missing from home and care; concluding in January, 2016. Two recommendations were tabled:

- 1) An overarching strategy is needed for clarity in responsibilities and risk management, especially for looked after children and persistent runaways. There is a need for information to be shared effectively and appropriate support offered.
- 2) Progress to be reported back April 2016.

4.2 This report updates the Education and Vulnerable Children Overview & Scrutiny Committee on progress to date, and outlines two areas still to be finalised. An overarching strategy is now in place, informed by the West Midlands Missing Protocol, and called **Birmingham's Missing from Home and Care Practice Guidance**. The guidance details how we are recording children reported as missing, and the response needed to offer help. It contains a range of resources to aid practitioners, and outlines the practice of return interview that the Children Society carries out for the city. The guidance was a shared task by the Missing Operational group (MOG), a monthly partnership meeting chaired by the Chief Social Work Officer.

4.3 The Missing Operational Group (MOG) has operated since autumn 2015, tasked with developing the local practice and operational guidance for the Birmingham partnership while ensuring that the systems of reporting and responding to missing children and young people are in place and rigorous. Partner agencies are represented as members, including children's social care, police, probation, third sector and education. There has been clear progress. The issue of missing children is high on the agenda across the partnership. However, developing the systems of data entry and reporting, and the practice guidance have taken longer than planned. The information sharing about particular children is occurring in the formal child in need and child protection processes, with the need to resume the intelligence aspects of information sharing to determine patterns of behaviours and risk areas for the city. The chief social worker will chair a panel in April where the city's most worrying missing young people will be discussed.

#### 4.4 Key Issues Still to be Addressed

- 1) The police data delivered electronically to Children Social Care are not vetted in terms of risk analysis, so this needs to be carried out by social workers inside the MASH. We are working on a consistent data entry system, and risk analysis to improve accuracy.

- 2) The number of children reported as missing in the children's electronic recording system (Carefirst) does not match the number of missing children that the foster care service report. This is being reviewed by foster care managers and data managers. An ongoing issue is variability in the way the electronic recorded system is used, so improving consistency will increase reliability in data. Ongoing training is in place to help resolve this.

## **5. Conclusions**

I propose to return to Committee in 6 months with another progress update. A clear aim is to have the outstanding issues managed.



<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member for Children's Services</b>
<b>To:</b>	<b>Education and Vulnerable Children Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> April 2016</b>

## **Progress Report on Implementation: We Need to Get It Right: A Health Check into the Council's Role in Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation**

### **Review Information**

Date approved at City Council:	2 December 2014
Member who led the original Inquiry	Cllr Anita Ward
Lead Officer for the Inquiry	Benita Wishart
Date progress last tracked:	General update received on 10 February 2016

1. In approving this Inquiry the City Council asked me, as the appropriate Cabinet Member for Children's Services, to report on progress towards these recommendations to this Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
2. Details of progress with the outstanding recommendations are shown in Appendix 2.
3. Members are asked to consider progress against the recommendations and give their view as to how progress is categorised for each.

### **4. Introduction**

A great deal of work has been undertaken in relation to improving the response of Birmingham City Council and its partners to the terrible crime of child sexual exploitation in the city since the ground-breaking overview and scrutiny report a year ago.

This work has been developed within the new West Midlands CSE framework but has been adapted to fit with the context and complexity of Birmingham. We have a CSE operational group chaired by West Midlands Police to share intelligence about victims and perpetrators, possible locations and patterns which might indicate groups of offending. For individual young people who might be at risk of sexual exploitation we have an agreed risk assessment tool and where young people are considered at risk they are subject to an assessment leading to a plan of support as appropriate. Support can be provided from a highly regarded Barnardo's voluntary sector project, through the Council's own family support service or through a child in need/child protection/child in care plan as relevant for each individual young person. In the quarter January 2016 – March 2016 248 (provisional figures – 34 boys and 214 girls) young people aged between 11-17 were identified/being worked with who were judged at risk of CSE.

Where young people are deemed at medium or high risk they are discussed at a multi-agency sexual exploitation (MASE) meeting chaired by a CSE co-ordinator in children's services. Each MASE meeting results in a plan which is followed up and reviewed. MASE meetings focus on the needs of individual young people and their families, but the intelligence from such meetings is aggregated and taken to the monthly CSE operational group.

This year we have built upon the success of the groundbreaking injunctions taken out last autumn by taking action around the licensing of premises which were a risk to vulnerable young people. We have also developed innovative work with young people in both family support and social work, including a CSE resource tool kit, to build resilience and help young people make positive choices about their behaviour and relationships.

The CSE partnership is a sub-group of the Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board and one achievement this year has been the production of a film, BAIT, designed with a learning pack for teenagers in secondary school to support their personal health and social education.

It is in this context of considerable progress in establishing multi-agency systems and processes and identifying many more potential victims and perpetrators that the actions below from the Overview and Scrutiny CSE Report have been taken forward.

We have now appointed three CSE co-ordinators and launched new CSE practice guidance to be implemented in May. We are also talking to Barnardo's about how we can develop a stronger service to support vulnerable young people and build their resilience.

## Appendices

<b>1</b>	<b>Scrutiny Office guidance on the tracking process</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Recommendations you are tracking today</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Recommendations tracked previously and concluded</b>

## For more information about this report, please contact

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E-Mail:	Alastair.gibbons@birmingham.gov.uk

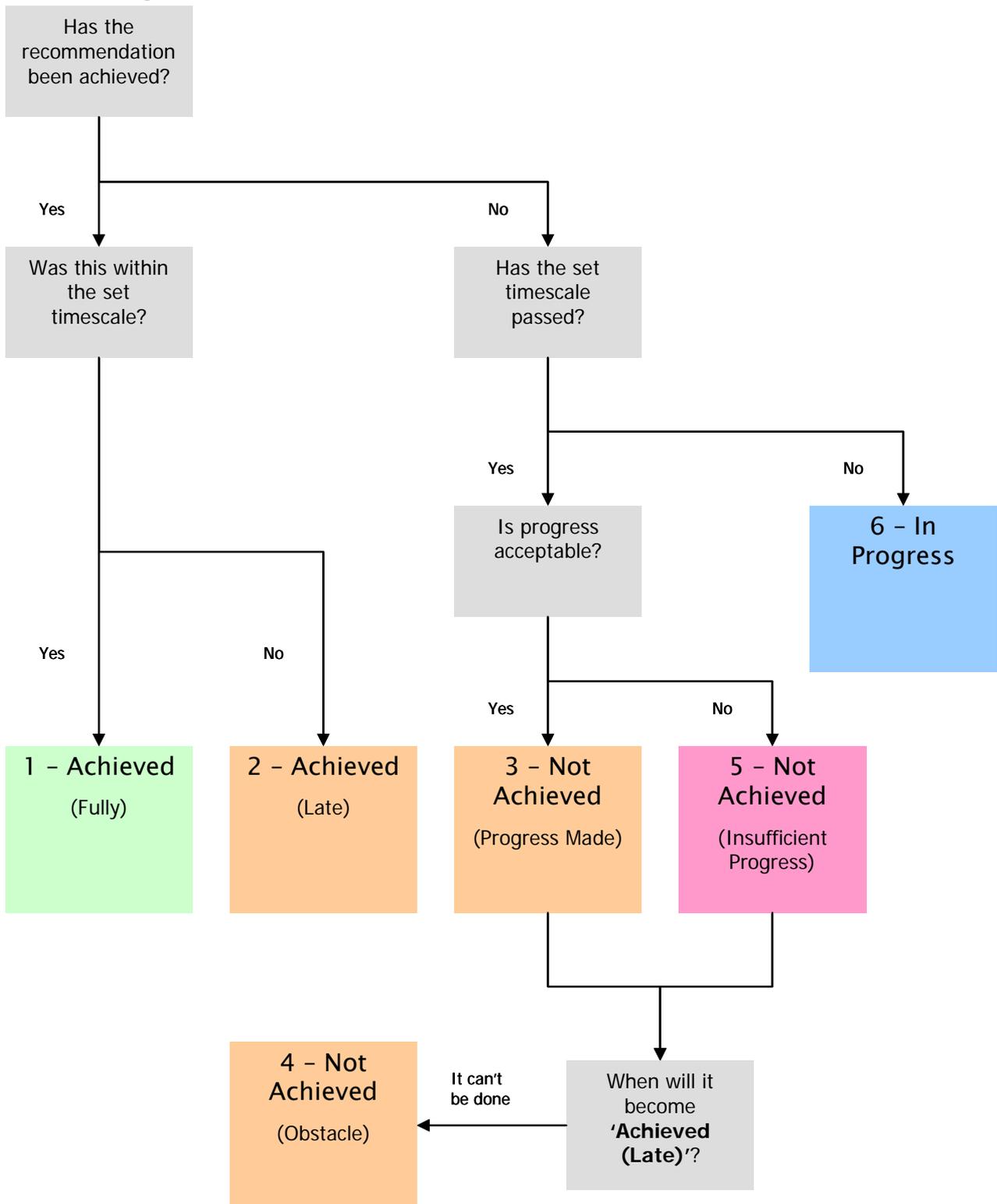
## Appendix 1: The Tracking Process

In making its assessment, the Committee may wish to consider:

- What progress/ key actions have been made against each recommendation?
- Are these actions pertinent to the measures required in the recommendation?
- Have the actions been undertaken within the time scale allocated?
- Are there any matters in the recommendation where progress is outstanding?
- Is the Committee satisfied that sufficient progress has been made and that the recommendation has been achieved?

Category	Criteria
<b>1: Achieved (Fully)</b>	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has been fully implemented within the timescale specified.
<b>2: Achieved (Late)</b>	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has been fully implemented but not within the timescale specified.
<b>3: Not Achieved (Progress Made)</b>	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has not been fully achieved, but there has been significant progress made towards full achievement. <b>An anticipated date by which the recommendation is expected to become achieved must be advised.</b>
<b>4: Not Achieved (Obstacle)</b>	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has not been fully achieved, but all possible action has been taken. Outstanding actions are prevented by obstacles beyond the control of the Council (such as passage of enabling legislation).
<b>5: Not Achieved (Insufficient Progress)</b>	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has not been fully achieved and there has been insufficient progress made towards full achievement. <b>An anticipated date by which the recommendation is expected to become achieved must be advised.</b>
<b>6: In Progress</b>	It is not appropriate to monitor achievement of the recommendation at this time because the timescale specified has not yet expired.

## The Tracking Process



## Appendix 2: Progress with Recommendations

A	Delivery of training and awareness raising on Child Sexual Exploitation			
No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R04	<p>That:</p> <p>a) All frontline staff and managers of caseloads in Children's Social Care including agency staff attend training on CSE. This should include definitions, the grooming line, symptoms and action including what can be done to disrupt / bring charges against and prosecute perpetrators. Particular barriers to disclosure of CSE by black and minority victims should be included in this.</p> <p>b) There is mandatory training on missing children and the escalation system.</p>	Cabinet Member for Children Services	July 2015	2 – Achieved (Late)
Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')				
<p>Training delivered by Children's Learning &amp; Development Team.</p> <p>A specific CSE one day programme has been delivered over the last year, covering the above criteria to frontline Children's Social Care (CSC) staff. Staff have also participated in multi-agency Safeguarding Children Board CSE training.</p> <p>CSE is included in all safeguarding programmes at a high level. The programmes include Child Protection, Safeguarding and Child Protection Decision Making.</p> <p>We are currently developing a missing children programme to be delivered from April 2016.</p> <p>Also training has been made available to CSC staff via online training and via the BSCB which commissioned Barnardo's to deliver that training. BSCB training around CSE remains a priority in 2016/17 with 18 courses scheduled, delivering 540 training places. Training for staff and partners is iterative and on-going.</p> <p>New CSE guidance has been issued to all children's social care staff from February 2016. This will be followed up with Area briefings.</p> <p>Staff who are working with children and young people in the Place Directorate access CSE training through the BSCB website.</p> <p><u>Further information following the 10 February 2016 meeting</u></p> <p>New CSE and Missing practice guidance is in place and has been shared with staff. We have a Head of Service CSE lead. We are confident that staff have access to training as well as briefings through the line management structure in each area.</p>				

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R05	That: a) BSCB continues to provide and promote training to its partners including health organisations in the city, the West Midlands Fire Service and West Midlands Police; b) Partner organisations include CSE training within Level 1 and Level 2 safeguarding training.	Chair Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board	July 2015	2 – Achieved (Late)

**Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')**

The BSCB is responsible for ensuring multi-agency training takes place as well as monitoring the effectiveness of single agency training. The BSCB delivers a comprehensive programme of multi-agency CSE training to complement each organisation's own in-house training. As CSE is a key element of the Board's strategic priorities considerable work has been undertaken to ensure that all agencies incorporate CSE within Level 1 and 2 training. The new Level 1 and 2 module developed by the BSCB includes a specific case study on CSE.

The degree to which agencies are responding to and delivering on the Board's expectations is monitored through the s175 Annual Self-Assessment and Audit in schools and FE Colleges, and the Annual s11 Audit across all statutory partner agencies.

Evidence of what an organisation is doing to address CSE is an integral part of the Self-Assessment programme.

Awareness of CSE as an issue for anyone involved with children and young people or in contact with them has improved significantly over the last year. The quality of CSE awareness training and the extent to which staff can access that training is now much better and awareness is higher through more staff from agencies undertaking training and accessing resources such as the 'See me, hear me' website.

All staff within the Place Directorate have undertaken mandatory safeguarding awareness training (level 1) during 2015. This is a competency-based training package and all staff are required to complete and achieve the 90% pass rate. This package raises awareness on the signs and indications of CSE and the appropriate reporting mechanisms.

Further information following the 10 February 2016 meeting

This action has been completed. CSE training is available to all partners through the BSCB. A continued programme of CSE awareness raising for staff in all agencies remains an on-going priority in the BSCB CSE action plan for 2016/17.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R06	That business forums and networks are identified to work with to ensure broader understanding of CSE and to support the roll out of the "Say Something if You See Something" campaign and guidelines with particular focus on the hospitality industry and taxis in order to increase awareness and reporting.	Cabinet Member for Children's Services  Chair BSCB	July 2015	3 - Not Achieved (Progress made)
<b>Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')</b>				
<p>See Me Hear Me postcards have been distributed to each Hackney carriage and Private Hire Driver and to Private Hire Operators. An article concerning CSE was included in the latest newsletter which was sent to all of the aforementioned licence holders. The article included information about the website. A copy was shared with the Committee in November 2015. Training is being arranged with taxi drivers to spot signs of possible CSE in relation to both victims and perpetrators. The Council has committed to supporting Barnardo's with their nightwatch campaign.</p> <p><u>Further information following the 25 November 2015 meeting</u> The awareness raising plan will include coverage of the matters in this recommendation.</p> <p><u>Further information following the 10 February 2016 meeting</u></p> <p>Information about CSE, awareness raising, signs and how to report them, is being sent out to all 3000 licensed premises in the City.</p>				

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R07	That: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CSE awareness features as part of induction training for all new councillors;</li> <li>For all current councillors there is compulsory awareness training on safeguarding including CSE;</li> <li>Regular training updates are also made available.</li> </ul>	Leader	Initial feedback April 2015 and completion Dec 2015	2 – Achieved (Late)
<b>Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')</b>				
<p><u>SHORT TERM – By mid-December</u></p> <p>1. Relevant reference material will be added to the Member portal and this will be communicated to all Members via the Councillor Bulletin and weekly member communications. This information will also be referenced in subsequent new Member induction programmes.</p> <p>CSE at a glance – NSPCC BCC works closely with NSPCC  <a href="https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/child-sexual-exploitation/">https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/child-sexual-exploitation/</a>  Child Exploitation and online protection centre – CSE arm of the national crime agency main website  <a href="https://www.ceop.police.uk/">https://www.ceop.police.uk/</a></p> <p>2. A 'market place' event by BSCB Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Board in February 2016 Council.</p>				

### MEDIUM TERM – By March 2016

1. We will review (and amend as appropriate) the current one day officer Introduction to CSE programme and make it available to Members. This could be part of a broader programme of Safeguarding learning and development – this is being investigated further
2. We are looking to upload an e-learning module on 'Child Sexual Exploitation' onto the iLearn site on the Learning Centre, People Solutions. The objectives of this e-learning module are to:
  - understand what is meant by CSE;
  - understand how to identify that CSE is taking place;
  - understand how to recognise that a young person is being groomed;
  - understand how the framework is used when assessing for CSE;
  - understand what practitioners and agencies do if a child is a victim of CSE;
  - understand how practitioners can effectively support victims of CSE.
3. The OD and Learning team HR are currently working in partnership with Place Directorate to build an e-learning module entitled Safeguarding Awareness – Children and Adults at risk. There is some content within this on CSE – a definition and the common signs and indicators. The timescale for the module is envisaged to be Spring 2016 and will be reviewed at this point to see if appropriate for Members.

### LONGER TERM – during 2016

1. Various councils and public bodies have commissioned an applied theatre production to raise awareness of the issues surrounding CSE entitled 'Chelsea's Choice' by Alter Ego. This will be explored in terms of a joined up approach to awareness raising. Analysis of the costs/benefits would initially be required.  
  
<http://www.alteregocreativesolutions.co.uk/chelseas-choice/>
2. BCC has a video learning package produced by BCC and used in schools. This BAIT programme and its relevance for Member development will be explored further as a possible alternative to the above.

### Further information following the 10 February 2016 meeting

Three briefing sessions for Members were arranged in March 2016 and delivered by Barnardo's. 24 Members attended. Another is being arranged.

<b>B Policies and Procedures</b>				
<b>No.</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Original Date For Completion</b>	<b>Cabinet Member's Assessment</b>
R08	<p>That the policies and procedures across the City Council ensure CSE is properly dealt with by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Adopting and working to the West Midlands Regional CSE protocol;</li> <li>b) Making better use of CareFirst (the council's system for case management) to record and analyse and share CSE cases ensuring it is dynamic and reports can be pulled out;</li> <li>c) Improving feedback from Children's Social Care referrals. (Feedback is meant to be provided in specified timescales which does not always happen);</li> <li>d) Establishing CSE champions in key teams including each of the Safeguarding and Family Support hubs who have more in-depth training (and can cascade training to the team) and can act as advisor to the team;</li> <li>e) Reviewing policies and procedures to ensure that parents are seen as equal partners in dealing with CSE and to consider implementing the relational model developed by PACE;</li> <li>f) Reviewing the council's response to young runaways to ensure it meets the requirements of the new statutory guidance on missing children<sup>1</sup>; and</li> <li>g) Developing and embedding a robust missing strategy with clear accountabilities, reporting to the BSCB and an escalation system that is fully understood and effectively implemented; and to investigate the protocol for information sharing when children are classified as absent by the police; and address missing from school as a significant safeguarding risk.</li> </ul>	Cabinet Member for Children Services	Initial Feedback April 2015 & completion November 2015	2 – Achieved (Late)

<sup>1</sup> [www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-who-run-away-or-go-missing-from-home-or-care](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-who-run-away-or-go-missing-from-home-or-care)

**Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')**

The regional framework was adopted by BSCB in April 2015 and updated regionally with the current framework agreed in September 2015.

We are now able to report a consistent CSE data set quarterly as part of the regional framework. The data comes from CareFirst and we are able to track individual cases, though CareFirst is not a good system. MASH is undertaking review of its systems and processes and one important aim is to improve feedback to referrers

We have not gone down the CSE champion in every team route. Rather we have one CSE co-ordinator post per area to advise and support staff and support team managers in MASE meetings. Staff in Area offices and hubs have the latest CSE guidance and briefings about CSE. There is significant innovative work in some areas between family support, social work, Police and Barnardo's in relation to responding to the needs of young people and disrupting perpetrators. We are developing ways to spread best practice to all parts of the City, building a cycle of reflection and learning. We have completed a 'Thinking workshop with Barnardo's and are now developing a more joined up partnership approach to meet young people's needs.

The new CSE guidance emphasises the importance of keeping parents fully involved, as well as listening to the young person carefully.

We have new guidance for children missing from home and care and the Council has signed up to the 'Runaway's charter'. The Missing from Education policy is being reviewed. The Police are in the process of acquiring a new system and policy that includes reporting 'Absent' as well as 'Missing'.

The Chief Social Worker Officer has recently agreed to Chair the Missing Operational Group. The multi-agency group are tasked with developing and embedding a robust missing children strategy and procedures. The MOG will have clear lines of accountability and reporting for progress through the Strategic CES Sub-Group to the BSCB.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R09	<p>That the City Council, West Midlands Police and Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board make greater use of licensing to tackle exploitation by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Strengthening the BSCB's role in supporting agencies including licensing and trading standards and West Midlands Police to use the resources and capacity to best effect; and</li> <li>b) Licensing Committee reviewing the statement of licensing and use of powers to assess if it is possible to be more proactive in achieving the objective of: "the protection of children from harm" [e.g. in use of licensing conditions / provision of training /ensuring a clear process for reporting and developing a whistle blowing process to empower license holders and taxi drivers etc. to be proactive in reporting concerns.]</li> </ul>	<p>Chair of Licensing Committee &amp; Chair BSCB</p>	<p>July 2015</p>	<p>2 – Achieved (Late)</p>

**Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')**

- a) Since this recommendation was made, the BSCB decided it would no longer be considered as a responsible authority under the licensing arrangement.
- b) The Licensing and Public Protection Committee carried out a full review of the Statement of Licensing Policy in 2015. The Policy was strengthened, not only in terms of its approach to the protection of children from harm, but also the other Licensing Objectives. The document is now clearer to read and easier to understand, with the aim of assisting applicants when applying for licence and also those who may wish to object to a licence. The Policy came into effect 7 July 2015.

Further information following the 10 February 2016 meeting

BCC Licencing and Children's Services officers met in March 2016 to review this and agreed that:

- A dedicated officer in Children's Services will examine and raise queries as appropriate on all premises licensing requests. This officer will also raise licensing review requests whenever they are made aware of concerns for children or young people in relation to licensed premises. We will also have some support for that officer when she is on leave.
- Licensing will offer induction and support to that officer so they become very familiar with the process and expectations.
- We have appointed a new Assistant Director – Child Protection, Performance and Partnership. This person will be responsible for overseeing the staff of the safeguarding children board and the safeguarding service area. This person will ensure that the licensing safeguarding function is carried out effectively.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R10	<p>That it is demonstrated that this area of work (including children's services, third sector commissioning and other key departments such as Legal Services and Licensing) is adequately resourced including that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) It is mainstream funded not reliant on annual funding agreements and that third sector contracts abide by the compact;</li> <li>b) Commissioning of services specifically for dealing with victims of CSE, in particular, is improved so that they are in place in good time, prior to the beginning of the financial year;</li> <li>c) The level of resource for return interviews, plus the intensive support required to prevent reoccurrences has been risk assessed;</li> <li>d) A review of the level of administrative support in social work teams and for the CSE Co-ordinators is undertaken to ensure this is not affecting ability to manage caseloads;</li> </ul>	<p>Cabinet Member for Children Services; Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Commissioning, Contracting and Improvement.</p>	<p>April 2015</p>	<p>2 – Achieved (Late)</p>

- |  |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e) A review of the staffing and caseloads of the multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH) team is undertaken;</li> <li>f) Partners review how to resource a Child Safeguarding Licensing Officer post/role.</li> </ul> |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|

**Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')**

Examples of how this area of work (including children's services, third sector commissioning and other key departments such as Legal Services and Licensing) is adequately resourced include:

- a) It is mainstream funded not reliant on annual funding agreements and that third sector contracts abide by the compact.

BCC People Directorate services are funded from the mainstream Children's Commissioning Budget (total £2.95m) as part of the Commissioning Centre of Excellence budget. Barnardo's and RSVP are the provider organisations and have been awarded a contract until June 2016 with a total annual contract value of £227k. Barnardo's currently also contributes an equal amount (match funding) from its own reserves. In addition, the Children's Society provide a return interviews service when children have gone missing with a £467k BCC funding commitment over a three year period (not solely for the provision of CSE services). The Community Safety Partnership currently makes an annual £66k financial contribution towards the funding of these services.

- b) Commissioning of services specifically for dealing with victims of CSE, in particular, is improved so that they are in place in good time, prior to the beginning of the financial year.

The current commissioned services have been in place for seven years having undergone a robust selection process. Contract extensions are in place until July 2016 to allow for the development of a strategic commissioning plan for the future procurement of responses to CSE. Three year contracting arrangements will then be put in place.

- c) The level of resource for return interviews, plus the intensive support required to prevent reoccurrences has been risk assessed as sufficient.
- d) A review of the level of administrative support in social work teams and for the CSE Co-ordinators is undertaken to ensure this is not affecting ability to manage caseloads.

A recent review determined that the current level of administrative support is adequate for both social workers and CSE coordinators following a review which showed a need to remodel the support. We have now created a CSE team manager within MASH and three CSE co-ordinator posts – one per area. These are permanently funded and are being recruited to. This is double the existing resource available until now.

- e) A review of the staffing and caseloads of the multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH) team is undertaken.

As part of the Early Help and Children's social care improvement plan a new operating model was launched in August 2015. This has resulted in the reshaping of the MASH to ensure that all functions are adequately resourced. From February 2016 there will be forty five council-funded posts, including those of the CSE team, in the MASH. We are continuing to review and refine the systems and processes in MASH to improve call-handling, minimise referrals being delayed in the system and improve feedback to referrers. In addition the new CSE team in MASH will improve our response to any CSE concern in MASH or in the areas, and improve feedback.

- f) Partners review how to resource a Child Safeguarding Licensing Officer post/role.

A review has concluded that a specific post is not required as the collaborative efforts of the respective licensing and child protection unit have the necessary expertise and capacity to address this issue.

Further information following the 10 February 2016 meeting

Recruitment of CSE area coordinators now completed.

See above R09 – it has now been agreed that a named person in children’s services will consider all licensing applications in relation to children’s safeguarding.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member’s Assessment
R12	<p>That in order to manage the specific risks of <b>looked after children</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The corporate parenting strategy is reviewed to ensure it includes proper reference to CSE;</li> <li>b) The Corporate Parenting Board provides clear demonstrable actions that CSE is a priority and that the vulnerability of looked after children to CSE is understood;</li> <li>c) Appropriate risk assessments continue to be carried out when placing children in residential care and that decisions are needs based and not resource based; and</li> <li>d) That there are appropriate policies and procedures (in both internal and external homes) and that staff have the confidence and tools to ensure day to day vigilance and action relating to CSE; and to ensure that these issues are considered in the children’s home redesign.</li> </ul>	Cabinet Member Children Services	April 2015 – Initial Feedback and completion November 2015	2 – Achieved (Late)

**Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if ‘Not Achieved’)**

The new corporate parenting strategy was presented to Corporate Parenting Board in March 2015 and included a focus on vulnerabilities and risks to children in care including CSE.

CSE will be a theme for a specific Corporate Parenting Board in early 2016.

A new placement process has been developed, with the emphasis on each child’s needs. Costs are not an issue, rather finding the best safe and therapeutic setting that can take forward the child’s tailored care plan.

All homes are Ofsted inspected against a set of standards that now include resource, skills and design to manage vulnerable young people who are at risk of CSE and other vulnerabilities. BCC does not place children where homes are deemed ‘inadequate’. Five BCC internal homes are now being transferred to the Priory group from April. The Priory group have a high awareness of CSE and therapeutic needs of young people and demonstrated their quality in the procurement process. Our contract with all providers covers their ability to meet the needs of young people in relation to CSE and other risks.

Further information following the 10 February 2016 meeting

CSE is a main topic on the next Corporate Parenting Panel on June 8<sup>th</sup> 2016.

<b>C Multi-Agency Working</b>				
<b>No.</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Original Date For Completion</b>	<b>Cabinet Member's Assessment</b>
R14	That the Chair of Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Takes further steps to embed the CSE strategy and implementation of the action plan by holding partners to account and ensuring they take appropriate action;</li> <li>b) Continues to provide challenge as required to schools following the analysis of the annual section 175 audits; and</li> <li>c) Evaluates the effectiveness of multi-agency working including the Strategic CSE Sub-Group, CMOG, Multi-Agency Sexual Exploitation meetings etc. (Not MASH – see Recommendation 16).</li> </ul>	Chair of Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board	April 2015  July 2015 – Changes sustained	2 – Achieved (Late)

*Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')*

The BSCB published its CSE strategy, in line with the West Midlands regional framework, in Summer 2015. It was highlighted in the BSCB annual report which was presented to Scrutiny Committee in November. The CSE sub-group continues to develop and embed CSE work across all agencies and promote collaboration. A recent example is the CSE legal protocol endorsed in the High Court.

All schools completed their Section 175 audits this year. The audit included several questions about CSE awareness and prevention.

A programme of multi-agency case audits of cases involving CSE is underway. This is part of an evaluation of multi-agency systems and processes.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Original Date For Completion</b>	<b>Cabinet Member's Assessment</b>
R15	That all Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board partners improve the shared understanding of CSE cases by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Ensuring there is consistency and all officers and partners are working to the soon to be agreed West Midlands Regional CSE operating protocol;</li> <li>b) Developing systems to ensure sharing information across the region to enable a full multi-agency problem profile can be updated and shared to ensure patterns and associations relating to victims, offenders and locations can be examined;</li> </ul>	Regional CSE Co-ordinator & Chair BSCB	April 2015 – Initial Feedback and completion July 2015	2 – Achieved (Late)

	<p>c) Using intelligence and analysis to improve understanding of what tactics and approaches work best; and</p> <p>d) Ensuring those providing intelligence and evidence receive appropriate feedback.</p>			
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*Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')*

Since Summer 2015 there has been a regional CSE co-ordinator in post who collates information and data across all 7 WM LAs on CSE each quarter. We now have nine months of data and can begin to see trends, including how multi-agency actions are helping young people so that the risk level is diminished. The West Midlands regional framework was reviewed in summer 2016 and is well embedded.

As a result of intelligence and analysis, there is now a review of the risk tool to ensure it considers young people and family strengths as well as dangers.

There is a quarterly data and intelligence report that goes to all partners.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Original Date For Completion</b>	<b>Cabinet Member's Assessment</b>
R16	<p>That reports be provided on:</p> <p>a) The operation of the MASH: workloads, impacts, lessons learnt, and funding (after 6 and 12 months of operation);</p> <p>b) Membership of and participation within MASH, including the role of health, the third sector and family support workers; and</p> <p>c) Data sharing between the MASH partners.</p>	Cabinet Member Children's Services and Chair BSCB	April 2015 & September 2015	2 – Achieved (Late)

*Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')*

The development and improvement of MASH is an on-going process. There has been substantial BCC, Police and Health investment in MASH. It remains the gateway and front door for all children's referrals including CSE. Within MASH the CSE co-ordinators and Police with a CSE focus are located. Recent changes have moved the child protection assessment function to the area assessment teams. The CSE co-ordination function remains in MASH and we are now building a strong Missing Children Intelligence function. Voluntary sector staff are also located in MASH.

CSE data and intelligence sharing occurs within the monthly CSE Operational group meetings chaired by WM Police. MASH provides Birmingham's data for the regional quarterly CSE data collection.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R17	That after six months of operation (March 2015) there is a review to consider if a dedicated multi-agency child sexual exploitation hub should be developed alongside MASH that could provide end to end (case identification through to prosecution) support and action.	Cabinet Member Children's Services and Chair BSCB	April 2015	2 – Achieved (Late)

*Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')*

It has been agreed that a multi-agency CSE team be located in MASH comprising CSE co-ordinators (BCC), and specialist Police, health and voluntary sector staff. Such an arrangement has been in place for some time, but will be strengthened by a third co-ordinator and a MASH team manager with a CSE lead. The CSE team co-ordinates intelligence about CSE young people at risk with intelligence on perpetrators and locations, so that co-ordinated action is undertaken through the CSE Operational Group.

<b>D Tracking</b>				
No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R18	That the Quartet regularly tracks improvements in this area as it relates to the City Council.	Quartet: [Leader, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Chief Executive and Strategic Director for People]	On-going	1 – Achieved (Fully)

*Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')*

The Quartet meets each fortnight to consider over-arching progress in children's services, including child protection, CSE and other risks to young people. Since January 2016 a new children's commissioner, Andrew Christie DCS of 'Tri-Borough', appointed by DfE has been in post providing challenge to BCC and the Quartet around service development including CSE.

<b>D</b>		<b>Tracking</b>		
<b>No.</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Original Date For Completion</b>	<b>Cabinet Member's Assessment</b>
R19	That an assessment of progress against the recommendations made in this report be presented to the Education and Vulnerable Children Overview and Scrutiny Committee in March 2015. The Committee will schedule regular progress reports until all agreed recommendations are implemented.	Cabinet Member Children's Services	April 2015	1 – Achieved (Fully)
<i>Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')</i>				
This report is that assessment of progress.				

## Appendix ③: Concluded Recommendations

These recommendations have been tracked previously and concluded.

They are presented here for information only.

**Concluded**

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Date Concluded by Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Tracking Assessment
R01	<p>That:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The “see me hear me” web site<sup>2</sup> be further developed and a concerted awareness and empowerment campaign for action is delivered for the public (communities, families and children);</li> <li>b) The City Council and partners work with and build the capacity of a broad range of the city’s communities to encourage identification and reporting of CSE;</li> <li>c) Resources and sign-posting to online awareness for parents are promoted<sup>3</sup>;</li> <li>d) Awareness includes online risks of grooming, the role of the Child Exploitation and the Child OnLine Protection Centre (CEOP)<sup>4</sup> and how to locate and use the report abuse button.</li> <li>e) The Cabinet Member Children Services explores how this can be delivered and funded jointly with partners</li> </ul>	Cabinet Member for Children Services	10 Feb 2016	2 – Achieved (Late). Work will be ongoing.

### Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if ‘Not Achieved’)

The website ‘See Me Hear Me’ is hosted by Dudley Council as part of a West Midlands regional framework, e.g. there is now a West Midlands regional CSE co-ordinator in post. Dudley have confirmed that the website was reviewed and updated in June/July 2015 as part of the relaunch of the framework. The website has information for parents, young people and other organisations including a report it button.

<http://www.seeme-hearme.org.uk/>

The site now contains bespoke topical themes and areas and includes new channels to communicate key messages. These new channels include a video with a short pause to answer a specific question on that piece of video footage.

The link to the website has been shared with all Directorate for People staff as a reminder and it already features on birmingham.gov.

A film called BAIT has been made with young people in Birmingham and distributed to all secondary schools with a resource pack to use with teenagers as part of structured PHSE programme.

Place Directorate contributes to raising awareness of CSE to parents and communities. Four specialist Think

<sup>2</sup> [www.seeme-hearme.org.uk/](http://www.seeme-hearme.org.uk/)

<sup>3</sup> [www.paceuk.info/support-for-parents/](http://www.paceuk.info/support-for-parents/)

<sup>4</sup> CEOP is a National Crime Agency Command at [ceop.police.uk/](http://ceop.police.uk/)

Family Workers within Housing Services have been trained to deliver CSE awareness briefings to community groups, parents and schools.

Further information following the 25 November 2015 meeting

The BAIT resource pack has been distributed to all Secondary Schools and FE Colleges in Birmingham. The programme has also been shared with LSCBs across the region. During the Summer 2015 briefings were held for Headteachers. Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) and School Governors across the city to promote use of the BAIT resource. The resource pack incorporates evaluation tools to capture feedback from teachers and most importantly the views of students who have completed the learning module. At the end of the academic year the BSCB will complete an evaluation of the BAIT programme to assess the impact on young people's attitudes and behaviour towards CSE. The finding will be disseminated to Headteachers and School Governors in due course.

The BSCB Strategic CSE Sub-Group have commissioned a tiered approach to the delivery of CSE training in Birmingham:

1. At an entry level – all practitioners complete an introduction to CSE via e-learning provided before completing face to face sessions.
2. CSE Safeguarding Children Sexual Exploitation course that builds on the e-learning introduction to CSE and delivered face to face.
3. Specialist training – developing skills for practice, targeted at practitioners who are required to attend COG, MOG and MASE meetings.
4. Regional Investigative training is being developed targeted at practitioners who are involved in joint investigations of CSE i.e. Police Officers, Social Workers and Paediatricians.

In 2014/15 the BSCB provided specialist multi-agency CSE training for 296 professionals. In 2015/16 fifteen courses were commissioned, training 50 professionals. This will be increased to 540 training places in 2016/17.

There has been a recent awareness and training programme for taxi drivers that achieved good publicity.

We have not yet developed awareness-raising in other areas, such as hotels, but this is part of the BSCB programme for 2016/17. Raising awareness is a continual process. This is jointly funded work with partners.

MASH no longer have an active twitter account as this is not a good way to receive confidential information. The Council uses blogs and other means through the press office to convey public messages.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Date Concluded by Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Tracking Assessment
R02	<p>That the Cabinet Member and BSCB encourage schools to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) CSE is integrated into Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) from year 6 upwards into ALL schools in the city and to encourage best practice in understanding and dealing with CSE in schools;</li> <li>b) Healthy relationships and girl's empowerment (e.g. by using the "free being me" resources Girl Guiding campaign) is integrated into PSHE teaching in all years;</li> <li>c) All teaching includes appropriate provision for boys;</li> </ul>	Cabinet Member for Children Services	10 Feb 2016	2- Achieved (Late)

	<p>d) All schools promote safety online including smartphone tracking; and</p> <p>e) All school Head Teachers and recognised Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) are written to, raising the issue, asking for a collaborative approach in tackling CSE and for key staff to attend training; and they adapt and agree the new model safeguarding policy from the BSCB.</p>			
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**Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')**

Each school in Birmingham is required to complete the section 175 school safeguarding audit released by the BSCB. The 2014/15 audit report specifically asked schools what training the Safeguarding Lead had received in CSE, what training is delivered to the school staff, if the school safeguarding policy covered CSE as a topic and if CSE was included in the curriculum. Analysis of the audit identified that only 3% of responders across the city had not received CSE training in some shape, and it was covered in degrees within the curriculum.

CSE is included in the model safeguarding policy offered to schools as a template for their use. 82% of schools reported recently using this model. In the rollout of Right Service Right Time to schools which reached 78.6% of schools across the city CSE was presented as a case study to identify the thresholds issue and services available to support vulnerable children, and CSE has been included in the training received by schools on the multi-agency fCAF training for the past 3 years.

The model safeguarding policy was reviewed and updated in November 2015 and is available to schools to download.

CSE has a key topic delivered on 4, 12 and 17 November 2015 at the Schools Area Safeguarding Conferences. Within this presentation the issue of CSE integration into the PSHE curriculum of health relationships and empowerment is being covered.

The October District Safeguarding Networks (DSN) held for designated safeguarding leads within schools covered the topic of sexting (as only 10% of schools reported they had had training on this topic) and as part of the presentation the grooming of a teenage boy was used as an illustration to show that CSE is a cross-gender issue.

E-safety was discussed at the June DSN meetings and the school based tracking system Policy Central and Policy Central Monitor were discussed. This system allows schools to monitor IT use across the school and notifies through a 'screen shot' where an issue of concern is identified; words associated with exploitative practice form part of the trigger response. Work is still required to support Policy Central's roll out across the city and, with schools which elect not to buy the system, around the need to address school responsibilities around monitoring IT usage. To date no work has been undertaken promoting smart phone tracking with school pupils.

Further information following the 25 November 2015 meeting

The Chair and Deputy Chair of the Committee have written a piece for the School Noticeboard on raising awareness and encouraging schools to engage in CSE tracking.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Date Concluded by Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Tracking Assessment
R03	That Governor Support Team reviews safeguarding training provided in the light of this report. <sup>5</sup>	Cabinet Member for Children Services	10 Feb 2016	2 – Achieved (Late)
<b>Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')</b>				
<p>School and Governor Support (S&amp;GS) commissions Services for Education (S4E) as subject experts to deliver the majority of the safeguarding training that is available to governors through the Governor Training Programme.</p> <p>S&amp;GS consulted with S4E over the recommendations of the scrutiny report and agreed changes required to the content and key messages given in governor training in order to reflect the Council's role in tackling CSE (and also covering FGM, domestic abuse and the Prevent duty).</p> <p>CSE is also planned as a topic item in the spring term agenda briefing sent to Chairs of Governors, Head Teachers and Clerks of Governing Bodies to ensure that the issue is raised at governing body level. This briefing was sent out in early November 2015, in advance, to help schools plan their spring and/or summer term agendas. (Members have since been emailed the termly agenda).</p>				

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Date Concluded by Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Tracking Assessment
R11	That when the City Council commissions services, safeguarding, including CSE, be built into the service specification and monitoring by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Ensuring that any contract which will involve direct working with children and young people, families and homes and transport services includes an appropriate level of requirement around CSE (e.g. information and training, procedures, and active involvement in multi-agency strategy and Family Common Assessment Framework meetings); and</li> <li>b) Providing reassurance that the school nurse contract due to be re-commissioned by Public Health will include these provisions.</li> </ul>	Deputy Leader; Cabinet Member for Commissioning, Contracting and Improvement & Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care	10 Feb 2016	1- Achieved (Fully)
<b>Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')</b>				
<p>It is a requirement of all contracted organisations to have the necessary safeguarding policies and procedures in place and it is the responsibility of the commissioning body to ensure that they are effectively operationalised. Prior to this, during the procurement selection process, organisations are evaluated against their ability to respond effectively to the issue of CSE. The use of the Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board – Safeguarding Section 11 Audit tool provides a self-assessment framework for organisations and includes sections regarding CSE.</p>				

<sup>5</sup> [www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/1407/independent\\_inquiry\\_cse\\_in\\_rotherham](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/1407/independent_inquiry_cse_in_rotherham)

The school health advisory service (formerly school nursing) specification, contract compliance and monitoring requirements all include these provisions.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Date Concluded by Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Tracking Assessment
R13	<p>That Legal Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Review and assess what can be done to: strengthen the disruption of suspected perpetrators in the Civil Courts; support victims through to prosecution; and increase conviction rates and successful use of warning letters and civil orders, in association with WMP and CPS; and</li> <li>b) Review the powers available to disrupt suspected perpetrators and develop a planning tool for disruption for Birmingham, building on the tool kit developed in Derbyshire. This needs to then be used and embedded in Children's Social Care.</li> </ul>	Deputy Leader	10 Feb 2016	1 - Achieved (Fully)

**Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')**

Birmingham was the first LA in November 2014 to take out injunctions against alleged perpetrators. These were Civil actions prepared with the co-operation of West Midlands Police. Subsequently the Midlands Circuit judge, Justice Keehan, requested that BCC and WM Police agreed a legal Protocol to ensure we share and agree accurate information when bringing such matters before the Court. This is a new area for the law. The protocol has been put to Justice Keehan recently and other new case law is shaping this area. Perpetrators can be disrupted by Police actions working alongside licensing when appropriate. Children's social care focus is on the safety and wellbeing of the young person including trying to rebuild family relationships wherever possible. The civil injunctions are a good example where social care and Police can work together to jointly achieve our objectives.



## Education and Vulnerable Children O&S Committee: Work Programme 2015/16

**Chair:** Cllr Susan Barnett

**Committee Members:** Cllrs: Uzma Ahmed, Sue Anderson, Matt Bennett, Barry Bowles, Mick Brown, Debbie Clancy, Barbara Dring, Chauhdry Rashid, Valerie Seabright, Martin Straker Welds and Alex Yip

Representatives: Samera Ali, Parent Governor; Richard Potter, Roman Catholic Diocese; and Sarah Smith, Church of England Diocese

**Officer Support:** Scrutiny Team: Benita Wishart (464 6871) & Amanda Simcox (675 8444)  
Committee Manager: Louisa Nisbett (303 9844)

### 1 Meeting Schedule

Date / Location All at 2 pm	Session / Outcome	Officers / Attendees
10 June 2015 Committee Rooms 3 & 4 Starts at 3.30pm	<p>Cabinet Member for Children's Services to discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children Social Care and Safeguarding and Education – Position May 2015</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There will be regular updates/involvement on the single plan with the Committee (Members requested that the narrative was more user friendly).</li> <li>The single plan needs to be discussed at Districts and the data and narratives need to be District specific.</li> <li>The Committee invited the Birmingham Education Partnership (BEP) to attend December's committee meeting. Discussion to include the contract with the City Council (Members invited to the 18<sup>th</sup> June 2015 event).</li> <li>Members were offered details of the City Council's whistle blowing policy (discussed at July's meeting) and outcomes to-date &amp; details of the Education Data Dashboard.</li> </ul>	<p>Colin Diamond, Interim Executive Director for Education &amp; Alastair Gibbons, Executive Director for Children's Services</p> <p>Scrutiny office to programme</p> <p>Colin Diamond</p> <p>Scrutiny Office to programme</p> <p>Seamus Gaynor</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early Years Review Consultation Proposal</li> </ul>	<p>Lindsey Trivett, Interim Head of Early Years, Childcare and Children's Centres</p>



Date / Location All at 2 pm	Session / Outcome	Officers / Attendees
	<p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members were e-mailed the consultation on 3 Dec 2015.</li> <li>The Cabinet Member for Children's Services to attend a Committee meeting to discuss the outcomes of the consultation in March 2016.</li> </ul>	<p>Scrutiny Office</p> <p>Cllr Brigid Jones / Pat Kilarney</p>
<p>15 July 2015 Committee Rooms 3 &amp; 4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To discuss Looked After Children (LAC):               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Corporate Parenting</li> <li>Adoption and Fostering Update</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exploring ways in which children's voices can be heard with Cllr Jenkins.</li> <li>Training will be provided to Cllrs at District Committees and will come back and report on how Districts are fulfilling their duty.</li> </ul>	<p>Andy Pepper, AD, Children in Care Provider Services &amp; Nicky Hale, Fostering and Adoption Improvement Manager</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permanent School Exclusions</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide figures for the numbers excluded broken down for academies etc.</li> <li>To report back on School Exclusions including the level of teaching, progress made and qualifications at COBS in December.</li> </ul>	<p>Andrew Wright &amp; Chris Atkinson</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whistle Blowing Policy</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members were updated on the Whistle Blowing Policy.</li> </ul>	<p>Michael Day, Solicitor</p>
<p>16 September 2015 Committee Rooms 3 &amp; 4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educational Development Plan update: Sufficiency of school places and school admissions</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide information and data on Special Educational Needs Provision in schools.</li> <li>To provide information on LAC and whether they are placed in good or outstanding schools; and if not is this due to the locality of the school being more important for the Child etc.</li> <li>The proposed Birmingham admission arrangements will be subject to a formal consultation from 23 Nov until 8 Jan 2016. Procedures for 'summer born' children will be included in this. Members were e-mailed the links to the proposals and the survey.</li> </ul>	<p>Emma Leaman, AD Education and Infrastructure, Education &amp; Commissioning,</p> <p>Julie Newbold, Head of School Admissions and Pupil Placements</p> <p>Lucy Dumbleton, School Organisation Officer</p>



Date / Location All at 2 pm	Session / Outcome	Officers / Attendees
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cabinet Member for Children Services to discuss Curriculum Entitlement and Equality</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members to be updated on the rollout of 'no outsiders' and the information/literature to be housed on BEPs website.</li> </ul>	Cllr Brigid Jones, Colin Diamond & Razia Butt
21 October 2015 Committee Rooms 3 & 4 at 9.30am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Missing Children from Home and Care Short Inquiry – Evidence Gathering</li> </ul>	Scrutiny Office
21 October 2015 Committee Rooms 3 & 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chairs Update – to include: visits to the Adoption and Fostering team and two Children's homes.</li> </ul>	Cllr Susan Barnett
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cabinet Member for Children Services to update the Committee on the budget position for the portfolio (included progress on Children Services).</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To report back on whether there are children from parents in the armed forces who are suffering from Post Traumatic Stress (PTS) in Birmingham.</li> </ul>	Cllr Brigid Jones
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tracking: Work Experience for School Age Children – the role of the City Council Inquiry</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cllr support for work experience: Members to be provided with a draft letter/e-mail they can use to send to schools/businesses in their area (to be added to portal).</li> <li>Scrutiny to assist with capturing what Members do in relation to work experience.</li> <li>To report back on progress of the recommendations on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016.</li> </ul>	Cllr Penny Holbrook, Cabinet Member for Skills, learning & Culture, Kathryn Cook, Interim Head of OD & Julie M Harrison, HR Project Lead
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Education, Health and Care plans (EHC). To include reasons for the delay in the mobilisation of the £3 1/2m grant.</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members to e-mail requests for information between meetings.</li> <li>Members to be updated on the work that is being done regarding the pupil premium.</li> <li>Members were e-mailed the amended New Assessments table.</li> </ul>	Cllr Brigid Jones, Colin Diamond, Chris Atkinson, Simon Wellman & Joan Adams
30 October 2015 Committee Room 6 at 9.30am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Missing Children from Home and Care Short Inquiry – Evidence Gathering</li> </ul>	Scrutiny Office



Date / Location All at 2 pm	Session / Outcome	Officers / Attendees
25 November 2015 Committee Rooms 3 & 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress on the Education and Schools Strategy and Improvement Plan. Sir Mike Tomlinson, Education Commissioner in attendance</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update on the LGA Peer Review and next steps to be discussed in March.</li> <li>Members were concerned about the schools who were not returning their financial returns and /or their 175 audits. How BEP can support schools and what action can be taken when schools continue to fail to complete their returns can be discussed in December.</li> </ul>	Peter Hay / Colin Diamond / Seamus Gaynor
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tracking: Strengthening the Birmingham Family of Schools</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was agreed to conclude the recommendations and pick up these in the work programme: R07 – Cllrs relationships with Schools, R08 – Traded services to Schools &amp; R09 the Council working with BEP to develop information on a range of models for school organisations for school governors / governance. A joint workshop with BEP, schools and Districts was suggested.</li> </ul>	Peter Hay / Colin Diamond / Seamus Gaynor
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) Annual report</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The executive summary of the Annual Report, Getting to Great 2015/16 and the most recent monitoring report was circulated to Members.</li> <li>Members requested progress reports on the work on how 'children voices' are listened to'.</li> </ul>	Jane Held, Chair of BSCB / Simon Cross, Business Manager
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tracking: Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) - Delivery of training and awareness raising on CSE recommendations 1 - 7</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All 7 recommendations assessed as 3 – not achieved (progress made). Updates to be provided in February and an impact measure to be included.</li> </ul>	Peter Hay / Alastair Gibbons & Jane Held, Chair of BSCB
9 December 2015 Committee Rooms 3 & 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permanent School Exclusions</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The tables provided were described as North, N. West, Central, South, S. West and East. Members were given the areas these descriptions covered.</li> <li>Members requested how many children were waiting over 6 days.</li> </ul>	Andrew Wright



Date / Location All at 2 pm	Session / Outcome	Officers / Attendees
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City of Birmingham School (COBS)</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members were given the percentage of pupils that had a diagnosis of autism.</li> </ul>	Fiona Wallace, Head Teacher & Steve Howell, Deputy Head, COBS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Attainment Headline Statistics</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members were updated and a more detailed report was given in February 2016.</li> </ul>	Colin Diamond
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birmingham Education Partnership (BEP) and School Improvement. Discussion to include R07 and R08 of the Strengthening the Birmingham Family of Schools Inquiry. Also what assistance can be given to schools who fail to provide their financial returns and / or there 175 audits.</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members requested that BEP provide a further update to the Committee in September 2016.</li> </ul>	Tim Boyes, BEP
20 January 2016 Committee Rooms 3 & 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tracking: Work Experience for School Age Children – the role of the City Council Inquiry</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Work Experience Dashboard was updated and circulated to Members. The Dashboard is then to be presented to Members every 6 months (July 2016).</li> </ul>	Kathryn Cook & Andrea Burns
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children Missing from Education</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A detailed analysis report was provided.</li> <li>Colin discussed unregistered schools at February's meeting.</li> <li>The Education Awards Appeals (Home to School Transport) will be discussed in March 2016.</li> </ul>	Tony Stanley, Chief Social Worker & Chair, Missing Operational Group, Steve Nyakatawa, AD, Education & Skills, Julie Newbold, Head of School Admissions and Pupil Placements and Mike Innocenti, Head of Pupil Connect
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elective Home Education (Home Schooled)</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A report on data and examples of outcomes for children who are home schooled was provided.</li> <li>An analysis of reasons why parents choose to home school was provided.</li> </ul>	Cllr Brigid Jones
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cabinet Member for Children Services Update</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members were updated.</li> </ul>	Cllr Brigid Jones



Date / Location All at 2 pm	Session / Outcome	Officers / Attendees
10 February 2016 Committee Rooms 3 & 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tracking: Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A further tracking report and an extra meeting to discuss R9 &amp; R10 (Licensing) to be arranged.</li> </ul>	Alastair Gibbons / Peter Hay
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Attainment Statistics for Primary Schools (detail)</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BEPs District information / priorities to be shared with Members.</li> </ul>	Colin Diamond / Richard Browne, Commissioning Manager
	Unregistered Schools <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members were updated.</li> </ul>	Colin Diamond
	LGA Peer Review Findings for the Education and Schools Strategy and Improvement Plan and Next Steps <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members to be involved in the refreshed improvement plan for education.</li> </ul>	Cllr Brigid Jones / Peter Hay
16 March 2016 Committee Room 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cabinet Member for Children's Services to report back on the outcomes of the Early Years Review Consultation and Next Steps</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members to be provided with the report once finalised.</li> </ul>	Cllr Brigid Jones & Pip Mayo / Suman McCartney
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Attainment Statistics for Secondary Schools (detail)</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members were updated.</li> </ul>	Colin Diamond / Richard Browne
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Education, Health and Care plans (EHC)</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members were updated.</li> </ul>	Chris Atkinson and Simon Wellman
	Education Awards Appeals (Home to School Transport) <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members to investigate best practice in other Local Authorities.</li> </ul>	Chris Atkinson and Simon Wellman





## 2 Further Priorities to be Discussed and Agreed

Safeguarding	Education	Other
Early Help and children's Social Care Plan (to include workforce planning)	Education and Schools Improvement Plan 11 themes: 1) Safeguarding in Schools: Jon Needham 2) Strengthening School Governance: Steve Edmonds 3) Our Leadership in Education: John Sidebottom 4) Improving our Schools: Helen Miles 5) Local Leadership and Accountability: Chris Glynn 6) Alternative Delivery Models: Nimmi Patel 7) SEND: Chris Atkinson 8) Educational Infrastructure: Emma Leaman 9) Early Years provision: Lindsey Trivett 10) Recruitment & Retention: Samantha Hulson 11) Communication 12) Equality and Community Cohesion: Mashuq Ally	Committee agreed to address the Children and Family Services Commissioning Plan as part of the three priorities: early years, early help and targeted intervention and Looked After Children (LAC)
BSCB updates on listening to children voices	Educational attainment and ethnicity (to include education outcomes for white working class boys)	Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs)
Licensing & Safeguarding (June 2016)	Local Authority appointments to governing bodies	Trafficked children into the UK
Lessons learned from serious case reviews	Sixth Form College Review	Transforming Care in Birmingham for people with Learning Disabilities with or without Autism who display behaviour that challenges (Sept or Dec 2016)
	Traded Services to schools (recommendation 8)	Radicalisation Agenda (Oct 2016)
	To invite Pank Patel, West Midlands Regional Schools Commissioner	

## 3 Outstanding Tracking

Inquiry	Outstanding Recommendations	Date of Tracking
Strengthening the Birmingham Family of Schools	7 (elected Members), 8 (traded services) and 9 (governing bodies & academies)	Last tracked 25 November 2015 Recs 7, 8, 9 included in the work programme
We need to get it right: A health check into the Council's role in tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	Training and Awareness: R4, 5, 6 and R7 Policies and Procedures: R8, (R9 & R10 Licensing) & R12 Multi-agency working: R14 – R18	Tracked 25 November 2015, 10 February 2016 & 20 April 2016
Work Experience for School Age Children – the role of the City Council (January 2014)		Last tracked 21 October 2015 & 20 January 2016. The Work Experience Dashboard is to be presented to Members every 6 months



## 4 Inquiry Schedule

### Short Inquiry – Children Missing from Home and Care

Date	Item
October / November 2015	Evidence gathering & Committee agree the draft report
December 2015	Draft report to the Executive & Committee agree final report
12 January 2016	City Council

## 5 Useful Acronyms

AD = Assistant Director APA = Annual Performance Assessment BEP = Birmingham Education Partnership BESD = Behavioural, Emotional, Social Difficulties BSCB = Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board BSWA = Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid BSWA = Birmingham Social Work Academy CAF = Common Assessment Framework CAF/CASS = Child & Family Court Advisory Support Service CAMHS = Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services CEOP = Child Exploitation and Online Protection CBB = Community Based Budget CC = Children's Centre CHIPS = Challenging Homophobia in Primary Schools CIC = Children in Care CICC = Children in Care Council CIN = Child In Need COBS = City of Birmingham School CPD = Continuing Professional Development CPR = Child Protection Register	CRB = Criminal Records Bureau CSE = Child sexual Exploitation CTB = Children's Trust Board CYPF = Children, Young People and Families DFE = Department for Education DLT = Directorate Leadership Team DCSC = Disabled Children's Social Care DSP = Designated Senior Person DV = Domestic Violence EDT = Emergency Duty Team EFA = Education Funding Agency EHC = Education, Health and Care plan (to replace SEN statements from Sept 2014) EHE = Elective Home Education EWS = Education Welfare Service EYFS = Early Years Foundation stage FCAF = Family Common Assessment Framework F&A = Fostering and Adoption FGM = Female Genital Mutilation FNP = Family Nurse Partnership FSM = Free School Meals FSW = Family Support Worker IA = Initial Assessment IAT = Integrated Access Team IRO = Independent Reviewing Officer Key Stage 1 (Ages 5-7) Years 1 and 2 Key Stage 2 (Ages 7-11) Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 Key Stage 3 (Ages 11-14) Years 7, 8 and 9 Key Stage 4 (Ages 14-16) Years 10 and 11 LAC = Looked After Children LACES = Looked After Children Education Service	LADO = Local Authority Designated Officer LSCB = Local Safeguarding Children Board MASH = Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub NASS = National Asylum Support Service NEET = Not in Education, Employment or Training NQSW = Newly Qualified Social Worker NQT = Newly qualified teacher NRPF = No Recourse to Public Funds Ofsted = Office for Standards in Education PCT = Primary Care Trust PDR = Personal Development Review PEP = Pupil Education Plan PEX = Permanent Exclusions PGCE = Post Graduate Certificate of Education PIE = Pride in Education PPS = Parent Partnership Services PRU = Pupil Referral Unit RAG = Red, Amber, Green SCR = Serious Case Review SEN = Special Educational Needs SENAR = SEN Assessment and Review SENDIASS = SEND Information, Advice and Support Service SENCO = Special Educational Needs Coordinator SEND = Special Educational Needs and Disability SEDP = Special Education Development Plan TA = Teaching Assistant TAF = Team Around the Family TM = Team Manager UASC = Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children YDC = Young Disabled Champions YOS = Youth Offenders Service YOT = Youth Offending Team
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## 6 Forward Plan for Cabinet Decisions

The following decisions, extracted from the Cabinet Office Forward Plan of Decisions, are likely to be relevant to the Education and Vulnerable Children remit.

<b>ID Number</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Proposed Date of Decision</b>
000232/2015	School Organisation Issues which may include Closures, Amalgamations, Opening of a new school – Standing Item	Children's Services	03 Mar 16
000732/2015	Provision of Additional Places at Harborne Primary School (Lordswood Academy Annexe) to meet Immediate Need and Demographic Growth for September 2016 Onwards – FBC	Children's Services	19 Apr 16
000949/2015	Provision of Permanent Accommodation to meet additional Primary Pupil Places required for September 16 onwards / Full Business Case (FBC) / Contract Award	Children's Services	19 Apr 16
001294/2016	Changes to the Full-Time (30 hours) Early Education Place Policy and Nursery Schools Admissions	Children's Services	19 Apr 16
001644/2016	Early Years Review & Consultation	Children's Services	17 May 16
000661/2015	Cityserve - Alternative Delivery Model	Children's Services	17 May 16