

# Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Wolverhampton.

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CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL

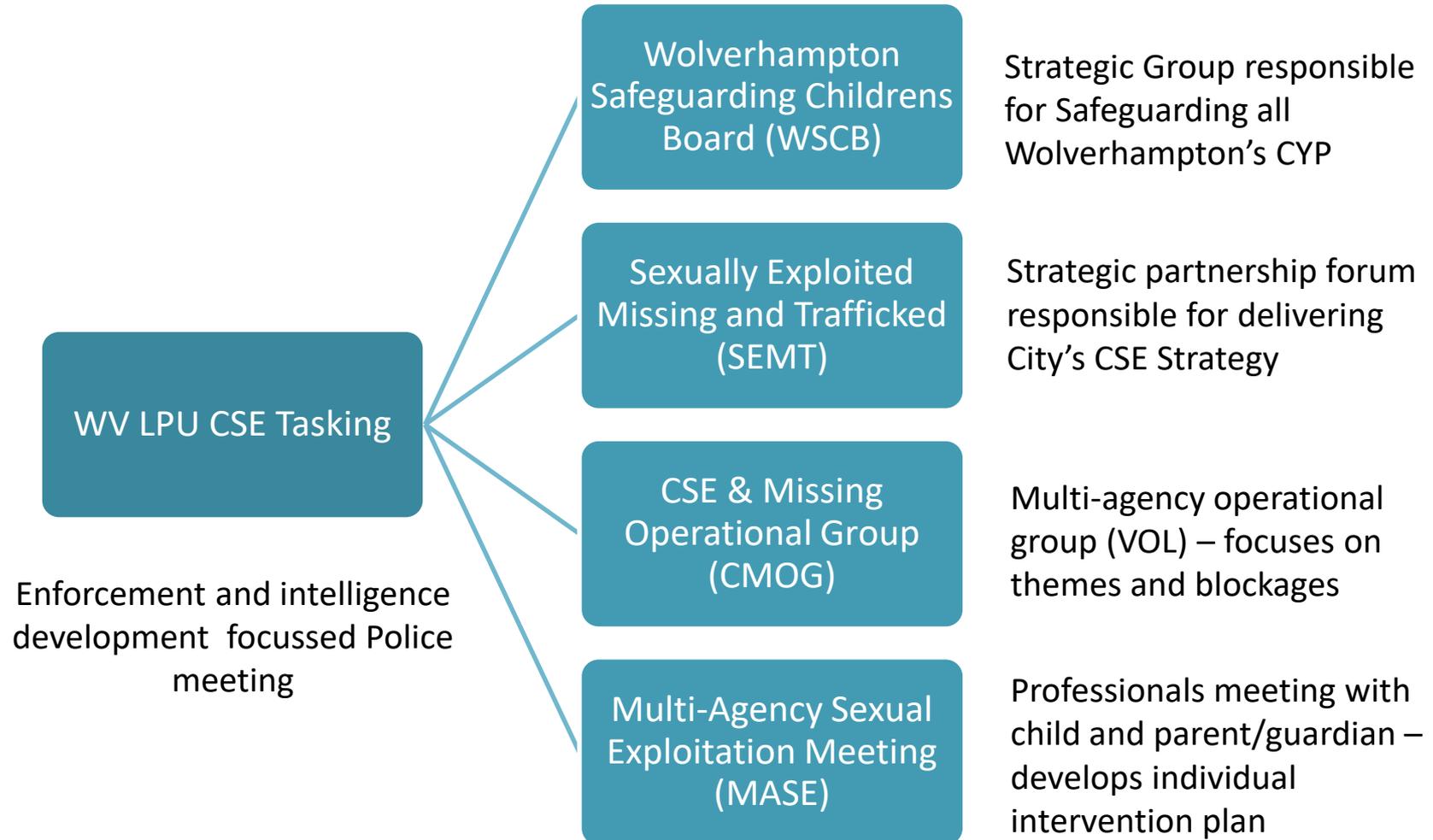
Our mission:  
Working as one to  
serve our city



# ***West Midlands CSE Strategy***

- Regional Approach
- 7 Local Authorities
- **Prevention, Protection, Prosecution**
- Consistent approach
- Cross Border working
- Joint awareness raising
- Effective support for YP

# Governance and Meetings



# ***Home Office Consultation on a new child sexual exploitation definition - First published: 15 February 2016***



- **The proposed definition is:**
- ‘Child sexual exploitation is a form of child abuse.
- It occurs where anyone under the age of 18 is persuaded, coerced or forced into sexual activity in exchange for, amongst other things, money, drugs/alcohol, gifts, affection or status.
- Consent is irrelevant, even where a child may believe they are voluntarily engaging in sexual activity with the person who is exploiting them. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact and may occur online.’



## ***CSE and Sexual Abuse.***

“Sexual abuse involves **forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities**. The activities may involve physical contact, including penetrative or non- penetrative acts. They may include non-contact activities such as involving children in looking at, or the production of, pornographic material or watching sexual activities, or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways” *(DHSPSS, May 2003)*

“Child Sexual exploitation is a form of sexual abuse in which a person(s) exploits, coerces and/or manipulates a child or young person into engaging in some form of **sexual activity in return for something the child needs or desires and/or for the gain of the person(s) perpetrating or facilitating the abuse**” *(SBNI 2014, adopted from CSE Knowledge Transfer Partnership NI)*



***When assessing whether a young person is experiencing or at risk of sexual exploitation, consider the issue of consent:***

- **Under 13:** not legally capable of consenting to sex (statutory rape) or any other type of sexual touching
- Sexual activity **under 16** is an offence
- Offence for a person holding a **position of trust or authority** in relation to a 16 or 17 year old to have a sexual relationship
- Non consensual sex is rape whatever the age of the victim
- **Incapacitated** victims (alcohol, drugs, victim or family that has been threatened/experienced violence, cannot give true consent (offences may have been committed)
- CSE is potentially a child protection issue for anyone under 18.



## ***Vulnerability factors:***

- Living in a chaotic or dysfunctional household
- History of abuse
- Living in residential care, hostel, B&B or being homeless
- Gang association either through relatives, peers, intimate relationships or neighbourhood
- Lacking friends from the same age group
- Attending school or are friends with young people who are sexually exploited
- Not engaging in education/training or employment
- Unsure about their sexual orientation or unable to disclose sexual orientation to their families
- Learning disabilities
- Young carer
- Recent bereavement or loss
- Low self-esteem or self-confidence
- Mental health



## ***Behaviour and Risk Indicators:***

- Older 'boyfriend'
- Gang-involvement/association
- Missing from home or care
- Physical injuries.
- Drug or alcohol misuse
- Involvement in offending
- Repeat sexually-transmitted infections, pregnancy and terminations
- Evidence of sexual bullying and/or vulnerability through the internet and/or social networking sites
- Disclosures made then withdrawn
- Unexplained money or gifts and unexplained mobiles
- Absent from school
- Bullying in or out of school
- Change in physical appearance
- Recruiting others into exploitative situations
- Family involvement in sexual exploitation
- Poor mental health
- Self-harm or thoughts of/or attempts at suicide

# *Models of CSE*

- **The ‘boyfriend/pimp’ model.**
- **The ‘Party’ model.**
- Exploitation through befriending and grooming.
- **Peer on peer exploitation.**
- Inappropriate relationship model.
- Organise/Network model, Trafficking model.
- Gangs model.
- **Online – all the models can begin online.**



# ***Criminal Offences***

There is no specific offence of Child Sexual Exploitation, so Police use existing legislation such as:

- Rape
- Sexual activity with a child under 16
- Sexual offences involving the internet
- Grooming
- Trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation (NRM)
- Prostitution
- Pornography
- Distribution of indecent images

***CSE is child abuse and recognised and managed in accordance with West Midlands Police child abuse and child protection processes***



## *Operation Semper Update:*

- Since April 2016 Operation Semper have proactively targeted CSE within Wolverhampton and adjoining areas through building strong relationships with colleagues, partner agencies, local business and the public within our diverse communities. Officers have been able to engage reluctant victims, families and others gaining their trust and respect. This providing evidence to move forward to increase intelligence and target offenders. The team have created and implemented clear strategies around intervention/prevention measures and safeguarding including reviewing trigger plans.
- **CSE risk missing episodes have fallen to sporadic reports,**
- **Disclosures of previously 'hidden' crimes have increased with on going investigations,**
- **Enhanced safeguarding is in place around victims, locations and suspects,**
- **Examples of positive action taken:**



## ***Operation Safenet.***

- As part of our commitment to keeping children safe we are developing how we target people who commit online sexual exploitation (CSE). In the summer the 'Online Child Sexual Exploitation Team' (OCSET) grew by 9 members of staff, this has assisted in our on-going efforts to deal with, manage and reduce the threat, risk and harm posed by online child sexual exploitation.
- The Force has recently launched 'Operation Safenet' which is a regional campaign that aims to send clear messaging out to communities and offenders that we are proactively policing the internet and abuse of children will not be tolerated. We want offenders to be clear that online activity will not go unchecked and our priority to protect children and keep them safe means we will transcend the real and virtual worlds. 'Operation Safenet' aims to raise awareness and provide the public with important information about how to keep children safe from online abuse.



## ***Wolverhampton Locations/Hot Spots:***

- Children's Homes
- Residential
- Hotels
- Open spaces/parks
- Takeaways
- Bus Station
- City Centre
- Schools and colleges.
- Taxis.



## ***If this was a Wolverhampton child, what would we do? Process...***

- Referral via screening tool accompanied with a MARF
- Look at risk factors – Alcohol/drugs/social factors.
- If the cases is assessed at Significant – Serious risk of CSE - Open to Social Care and allocated a social worker.
- Social worker to complete the NWG assessment within 10 days and send to the police.
- Police Strategy discussion will decide if the case meets the threshold for MASE. if the case does not meet the threshold and will be supported through early help or referred to another agency social worker must contact CSE Coordinator before closing the case (so the Bedfordhsire dataset can be updated).
- MASE – Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation, within 10 days - risk assessed, reviewed and plan in place.
- CMOG – CSE & Missing Operational Group
- All overseen by SEMT



## ***Current situation.***

Reviewed our data to capture low level risk cases as well as significant and serious.

- Providing training for agencies around Wolverhampton providing therapeutic support to young people at risk of CSE.
- Direct work with Hoteliers and licensed premises.
- Work with schools is a priority for this month 2016.
- Wolverhampton has established a Wolverhampton Children Home Provider Forum which learning is being shared with the Black Country Borough's.
- Working to support effective transition across children's and adult services.



## *Schools.*

- Train the trainer package of support for safeguarding leads within each school.
- Train the trainer package for wider agencies to deliver to parents, children and young people.
- CSE coordinator to support schools in delivering training and updating materials.
- Schools with victims of CSE.
- Early intervention -screening tool.
- CSE coordinator is available to provide support when required.



# ***Statistics for Wolverhampton – break down.***

## **(Q1):**

53 Young people at risk in total.

40 Females.

13 Males.

33 At risk.

11 At significant risk.

9 At serious risk.

28 Awaiting NWG assessments.

## **(Q2):**

71 Young people at risk in total.

56 Females.

15 Males.

54 At risk.

11 At medium risk.

3 At significant risk.

14 Awaiting NWG assessments.



## *Next steps...*

### What we aim to do next:

- Wolverhampton to spot purchase boys therapeutic input by November 2016 along with support for serious risk victims.
- Roll out training package for school staff, pupils and parents.
- Work with Black Minority Ethnic groups through school locations – communication with the local Sikh community through Gurdwara’s has started; and work with other faith communities/organisations is underway.
- Create problem profile by December 2016.
- Black Country Local Authorities to create E –Safety training package.
- Create pathway to ensure Cross boundary working with police and other services is clear and does not pose as a barrier to safeguarding young people.
- Continue with Business as Usual Activity



## *Continue to...*

As a team we will continue to:

- Share information.
- Communicate.
- Raise awareness.
- Gather intelligence, support criminal investigations.
- Continue to encourage professionals to complete the CSE screening tool.
- Encourage completion of NWG risk assessment tool.
- PROTECT Young People at Risk.



## ***Consequences.***

*Sexual exploitation results in children and young people suffering harm, and causes significant damage to their physical and mental health. Some young people may be supported to recover, whilst others may suffer serious life-long impairments, which may, on occasion lead to their death, for example through suicide or murder.*

*Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation DCSF 2009*