

## **Council – 10 April 2017**

### **Recommendation from Education and Children's Services to propose that Child Sexual Exploitation training be mandatory for all employees of the council**

**Service:** Children services

**Wards:** All

#### **1. Summary**

At its meeting held on 26 January, 2017 the Education and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommended that child sexual exploitation (CSE) training is made mandatory for all employees of the Council. This report provides detail as to how CSE training could be delivered together with the resource implications of making the training compulsory for all employees.

#### **2. Recommendation**

That Council considers the recommendation of the Education and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee to make child sexual exploitation training mandatory for all employees of the council.

#### **3. Background**

- 3.1 A key element of the Council's strategy in tackling CSE is to enhance and extend the training delivered so that as many people as possible:-
  - a] Understand what CSE is; and
  - b] Are able to spot and act upon early warning signs and symptoms so vulnerable children receive timely and effective intervention.
- 3.2 Currently a range of social care professionals who work with vulnerable children are required to undertake CSE training. These include social workers, practitioners from the Early Help and Youth Justice services, staff who work in our Children's Homes and foster carers.
- 3.3 In addition, all council employees and practitioners from partner agencies are able to access CSE training administered by the local children's safeguarding board. This is a voluntary CSE training package for employees to use.
- 3.4 The Council also delivers training to young people, parents, carers, religious organisations, schools, hotels and businesses.
- 3.5 The strategy to tackle CSE through training has had a significant effect as people are increasingly reporting issues of concern. This in turn ensures that

appropriate intervention and support can be given to safeguard children and young people at risk of CSE.

#### 4. Report Detail

4.1 Should the recommendation from the Scrutiny Committee be confirmed, CSE training would become mandatory for all employees of the council. The training proposal (detailed in 4.2 below) would ensure that all staff regardless of role and responsibility would be able to play a crucial role in spotting and reporting issues of concern.

4.2 This training could be delivered through the following model:-

- **All new employees of the council** [as part of their induction] would receive key messages about CSE including expectations the local authority has in relation to their role in recognising and tackling CSE;
- Building on these initial messages, **all council staff** would be required to undertake CSE online training.
- **Specialist council staff** [including foster carers and social care staff] will continue to be required to attend and participate in CSE 'face to face' training which is endorsed by the local safeguarding board. Evidence from evaluations taken of this training show this training is well received.
- **Specialised council staff** [and those with principal responsibility for delivering and managing direct work with children at risk of CSE] will also be required to attend and participate in Advanced CSE Training from April, 2017. Specialised staff will include social workers, social work managers, Independent Reviewing Officers, Early help staff, and Youth Justice workers.
- **All staff** will be able to continue to build on their understanding of CSE by attending voluntary CSE training sessions through the LCSB

4.3 All elements of the training model will be validated by the council's CSE officer to ensure that the material is quality driven and is underpinned by appropriate national, regional and local messages about CSE.

4.4 All elements of the training would be evaluated to capture relevant performance data including numbers completed and recording the impact the training will have on practice.

#### 5. Financial Implications

The online element of the CSE training package will need to be designed and built which will incur officer time and costs.

## Background papers

### Author

Imran Suddle

CSE and Missing officer

☎ 652569

✉ [Imran.Suddle@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:Imran.Suddle@walsall.gov.uk)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Haley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'D' and 'H'.

David Haley  
Executive Director  
31 March 2017