

CABINET RESPONSE TO CHILREN AND EDUCATION SELECT COMMITTEE**SCHOOLS AND SAFEGUARDING UPDATE**
(considered by C&ESC on 27 November 2014)**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning, the Cabinet Member for Children and Families and the Cabinet Associate for Children, Schools and Families re-develop the Council's policy on safeguarding in all Surrey schools. It is suggested the Section 11 audits for schools are used to identify key themes in this regard.

RESPONSE:

The Assistant Director for Schools and Learning and his Education Safeguarding Team are working with all schools to identify safeguarding best practice. The Audit of Statutory Duties and Safeguarding Responsibilities which is based on the section 11 model will be used to support schools with their policies and procedures around safeguarding their pupils. This audit is directly aligned to the Department of Education's statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. This audit has also been sent to Independent Schools, in Surrey.

The Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning, the Cabinet Member for Children and Families and the Cabinet Associate for Children, Schools and Families, will review the findings of these audits and ensure that the statutory duties of the local authority around the safeguarding of children are met.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) continues to be a key safeguarding issue in schools. The play 'Chelsea's Choice' which ran for 3 months this year and was presented in 42 secondary schools, highlighted the dangers of grooming behaviours and CSE with young people. We will continue to alert children and young people of the risks related to CSE by continuing with raising awareness.

Linda Kemeny
Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning
16 December 2014

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