

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (RUNNYMEDE)

DATE: 30 NOVEMBER 2015

LEAD OFFICER: JULIAN GORDON-WALKER

SUBJECT: CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

DIVISION: ALL DIVISIONS



SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Runnymede) is asked to:

- (i) Note the report for information.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

Child sexual exploitation has been highlighted nationally as a significant risk to young people, and it is important that Surrey County Council and its partners are fully alert to this and vigilant in safeguarding children and young people in the county.

ITEM 8

1. RUNNYMEDE – LOCAL CONTEXT

- 1.1 The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) for Runnymede considered a presentation on child sexual exploitation from the Youth Support Service manager at its meeting in June 2015.
- 1.2 Runnymede Borough Council staff from a range of relevant departments including Environmental Protection completed training in Child Safeguarding, including child sexual exploitation, in November 2015. In total 23 borough staff attended.
- 1.3 The Family Support Team, which covers Surrey Heath and Runnymede, is in the process of training all its staff on the risk of child sexual exploitation and how to identify those who may be most vulnerable.
- 1.4 Where concerns are raised about an individual young person, a referral would be made to consider their circumstances at the Community Incidents Action Group which meets monthly and offers a multi-agency setting for consideration of individuals of concern. If there were intelligence or evidence of organised child sexual exploitation affecting more than one individual, this would be considered at the Joint Action Group, a sub-group of the CSP, by partners.
- 1.5 At present there is no formal monitoring of this issue at borough level, but this is being kept under review. No reports of actual exploitation within Runnymede have been brought to partners' attention to date.

2. SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL SAFEGUARDING BOARD

- 2.1 The presentation attached as **Annex 1** outlines the nature of the issue and actions undertaken by the Safeguarding Board.

Contact Officers:

Julian Gordon-Walker: Head of Safeguarding, Surrey County Council

Chris Hunt: Head of Community Development, Runnymede Borough Council