

TRAFFORD COUNCIL – CHILDREN’S SERVICES

Report to: Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Committee
Date: 21.11.23
Report for: Information
Report of: Tracey Staines, Head of Vulnerable Adolescent Service
Report Title Complex Safeguarding – SHINE Annual Report 2022 -2023

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the SHINE, complex safeguarding service Annual Report which is being presented to Children and Young People’s Scrutiny.

SHINE is Trafford’s specialist Exploitation team which works collaboratively with partner agencies to support young people at risk of or experiencing exploitation. This is the first year the service has produced an Annual Report and reflects the strengthened governance arrangements that are in place.

The report details the changes that have been made to the service as well as performance information and the areas that will continue to be strengthened over the next two years.

The SHINE service operates to an agreed model and aligned with Trafford’s EPIC values and those of Greater Manchester Complex Safeguarding approach.

In addition, the work with our partners has led to the adoption of a 4 P approach – to prevent, protect, pursue, and prosecute.

This very much engenders the need to:

- **Prevent** exploitation through early intervention and strength-based approaches identification acknowledging that young people are victims first – even when they are engaged in criminal activity. Focus on working collaborative to disrupt criminal activity.
- Have effective multi-agency plans that **Protect** our young people from extra familial harm.
- Tackle exploitation by **Pursuing** the adults who are causing harm and exploiting our children and young people.
- To support in the **Prosecution** of perpetrators of exploitation.

Inherent in all our exploitation work is the need to work in collaboration and our co-located service with Greater Manchester Police is strong in this regard.

Key highlights for this year have included:

- Continued investment and stabilisation of the specialist team – notable the development of the Vulnerable Adolescent Service – that sees our Youth Engagement Service (YES), Youth Justice Service, SHINE service and Missing from Care and Home team under a single Head of Service
- The strengthening of our governance and audit processes to ensure there is a clear line of sight to practice – at all levels.
- To invest in training and development opportunities across the collective work force
- The strength of the multi-agency allocation panel to ensure that children and young people at risk of exploitation receive the help and support they need.
- The introduction of the Greater Manchester wide strength base assessment tool – the WISE tool
- The introduction of a pictorial strength and risk-based map that includes known association that we can work with Police colleagues to disrupt activity.
- The increased identification of Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) and the broadening of the service remit to tackle this.

It is important to note that risk is inherent within the work of exploitation and inevitably there will be areas of concern and the need to continually strengthen our practice in line with the emerging research and evidence base.

Recommendations

- For Scrutiny to note the contents of the Annual Report and offer challenge to the service.
- To note the progress to date in respect of strengthening practice in respect of exploitation.
- To note the areas of focus within the Service development plan.
- To agree to receive subsequent Annual Reports and updates as appropriate.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

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