## Child B

Learning identified at a multi agency event 31st July 2024



## Theme: Education

### What is working well?

- Education Inclusion Project (EIP) is in place for children at risk of exclusion
- Good practice from new receiving school meeting Child B outside of school in McDonalds, this was child focussed to help engagement

#### What are we worried about?

- Permanent Exclusion, without any referral to EIP
- Alternative provision working with a young person who just 'turned up'
- Low attendance at education provision
- Parental decision to electively home educate to prevent exclusion
- Soft intelligence and concerns are lost on transfer between school placements

## What needs to happen?

- Schools being curious and recognising early indicators worrying signs that didn't get passed on or identified as indicators of exploitation
- Education settings need to attend exploitation and SYV training
- Clear information sharing of known risks, soft intelligence and incidents when there is a transfer between provision
- Future security of EIP as this does not have permanent funding
- Providing transport became a significant delay in beginning school – facilitating children back into school should be a priority for all professionals when there is a risk of exploitation



VRP: Violence Reduction Partnership PIMM: Partnership Intelligence Management Meeting YPS: Young People's Service EIP: Education Inclusion Project EIT: Exploitation Identification Tool SYV: Serious Youth Violence

Peer Mapping Guidance now available click here

## Theme: Relationship Based Practice

### What is working well?

- YPS work, cornerstone of practice is tapping into the child's interests and building a relationship. The YPS worker was persistent and a real strength in work with Child B
- VRP Early Intervention Police co-locate one day a week, able to see bigger picture and
  use disruption. Good relationship with Child B
- Key principle in Social Care that children have the least changes in social worker possible

#### What are we worried about?

- Lack of history about Child B as moved from a neighbouring authority
- Missing information about Child B's father
- Negativity towards mum in a multi agency meeting, pre-held negativity by an organisation after a complaint

#### What needs to happen?

- Cross boundary working when a child moves into/out of the area to ensure key
  information is shared. This mirrors findings from CSPR: Children exposed to Serious Youth
  Violence
- Inclusion of fathers when working with children, only social care included Child B's dad.

## Theme: Child Exploitation

## What is Working Well?

- Professionals engagement with PIMM
- Flag in police records for PIMM

#### What are we worried about?

- Lack of mapping of a child and their peers, especially across borders
- Carrying a weapon
- No use of Exploitation Identification Tool in schools despite worries about vulnerability to exploitation
- Recognising a child as a victim when they are committing crime while being exploited
- Police response to a child when under arrest focus is evidence based and forensic, but need to have some balance with needs of a child, not trauma informed

## What needs to happen?

- Difference between specialist police officers understanding child victims of exploitation and rest of the force is evident. Police need to consider ways to upskill response officers
- Children in custody Review of guidance for police needed to support working with children when arrested for a serious crime
- Peer mapping when there are risks outside the home

# Theme: Multi agency working What is Working Well?

- Communication and liaison between VRP and YPS
- Multi agency engagement with PIMM

## What are we worried about?

- Child B met criteria and was keen to have a specialist mentor but the service didn't provide one
- Family 'invisible' to health agencies
- No report from police after serious incident, social care received a third party report.
- Delays in information sharing
- Delay in strategy discussion taking place

## What needs to happen?

- Professionals from all organisations must escalate when things do not happen as they should
- There should be evidence of respectful challenge in future multi agency audits and reviews

## For Child B Escalation opportunities were:

- Strategy discussion delay
- Transport provision failures
- Mentoring provision
- Lack of police report for a child who witnessed a serious incident

Resolution of Professional Differences