

Appendix 2

Specific Activity to Address CSE issues in the Keighley Area

Update December 2015

The main report above gives details of action that is being taken across Bradford District to address issues around Child Sexual Exploitation and therefore these responses and actions cover the Keighley Area.

Below is a summary of actions, that the Council is aware of, which are specific to the Keighley Area. There may of course be other groups and activities happening which have not yet come to the attention of Bradford Council.

1. Keighley Area Partnership

This is an Area-wide partnership of officers from the Council, Police, Incommunities, Schools, the Voluntary Sector and other partner agencies who have a Keighley Constituency-wide remit. The group meets quarterly to discuss issues that affect the whole Area and which require a partnership response.

The Partnership has discussed CSE on several occasions and Paul Hill, BSCB Manager has presented information, along with a number of police officers and others involved in the District's CSE Hub. These discussions have furthered people's knowledge on this issue, facilitated better sharing of local information and helped co-ordinate agencies' responses.

The partnership works with the BSCB CSE Sub-Group to ensure that work is co-ordinated around the 9 Point Strategic Response between the District and Area levels.

2. Community-based response group

Penny Wangari-Jones, Equalities and Inclusion worker at KIVCA and Arwa Almari, West Yorkshire Racial Justice Network Coordinator with support from Amria Khatun of Bradford Council's Strategic Support (Stronger Communities) have set up an open group of community-based workers, organisations and residents to discuss and plan action that communities themselves can take to address the issues raised by CSE.

They have developed an Action Plan which includes a diverse range of work including: United Keighley, Conversation Café's, inter-faith meetings, schools work, work with woman and mothers, and youth work with young men.

3. United Keighley

This is a grassroots community-based campaign led by Rev Jonathan Pritchard, Keighley Town Chaplain, and a multi-faith advisory group. The campaign is aiming to get as many people as possible from all walks of life in Keighley to sign up to the following statement:

"Grooming children for sex is wrong: any sexual abuse of children is wrong. Whoever does it, whenever, wherever. It is morally, legally and spiritually wrong. It harms our children, it harms all of us. There is no place for it in Keighley or anywhere else. And we utterly condemn it.

We want to live in a town where all children are safe from sexual predators. We want our children to be safe from abuse. We want to be safe from abuse. We, the many different peoples of Keighley, commit ourselves to work together to make this happen."

The campaign is also asking organisations and businesses to display this banner on their building to show their support for the campaign:

All our young people matter

We support the *United Keighley* statement, do you?



It is hoped that this will demonstrate the unity of the people of Keighley standing together to condemn any abuse of children and working together for a safer community for Keighley's children and young people.

4. Hand in Hand

The Hand in Hand Project is part of the Children's Society and works with and supports children and young people (boys and girls) involved in and/or vulnerable to sexual exploitation. It supports young people who are wishing to exit abusive and exploitation relationships/situations they find themselves involved/forced into. It also works preventatively with children and young people in a variety of settings across Keighley as well as offering training and information sessions to groups of professionals regarding child sexual exploitation across the Keighley Area and Bradford District.

Over the past year preventative work in Keighley by the Hand in Hand project was boosted by the BCSB to provide more skilled volunteers to deliver preventative work for young people and to train young people as peer mentors.

5. Women and Mothers

Keighley Association Women And Children's Centre (KAWACC) has been delivering CSE awareness sessions for women and young people. The workshops have been designed to provide knowledge to mothers about safeguarding children, CSE and other issues relating to young people. Mothers have been urged to familiarise themselves with the signs of CSE and to monitor their children's activities especially around social media. There has been intensive work carried out with young girls who live in the Lawkholme area raising awareness about CSE, personal safety, and social media. We have also provided support to perpetrators parents and immediate family members.

KAWACC has also been working with the United Keighley campaign and has encouraged women and young people to sign up to the statement. We have also been working closely with the community based-response group to share good practice and support them with the Action Plan.

6. Youth Service

Through its weekly youth work provision the Youth Service engages young people in activities that are designed to both empower them to take control of their own lives and make informed choices, as well as challenge their stereotypes and prejudices.

Informal education work with young people around issues such as CSE is framed in the context of both healthy relationships and personal safety. These are key themes in the delivery of youth work sessions in the Keighley Area and are programmed to take place all year round.

7. Awareness Raising Day

On 6 October 2015 the CSE Hub held an awareness raising day outside the Airedale Shopping Centre in Keighley which involved a number of agencies including the Council, Police, Education, Health, Youth Service, voluntary agencies, Barnardos, Hand-in-Hand, and Blast colleagues.

The event provided an opportunity to raise awareness of CSE and to enable young people and members of the public to be educated on spotting the signs and to know how to report any concerns. Partner agencies handed out leaflets to young people and members of the public which promoted services and gave advice. The police media van was used at the event and this allowed for colleagues from the police cyber-safety team to undertake cyber/online education.

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