

DATE

MAIN REPORT TITLE

C3: Exposing Hidden Harm, Safeguarding Vulnerable People

Child Sexual Exploitation

The Sexual Exploitation Investigation Unit (SEIU) utilise the CAROSE (Children At Risk of Sexual Exploitation) data base to help identify and risk grade victims, or potential victims of sexual exploitation. This information is shared with partners and with neighbourhood teams to ensure that all are aware of the most at-risk children in the community. The database is managed and reviewed by the Detective Inspector and also provides the subjects for the Multi-Agency Sexual Exploitation group (MASE). The MASE provides scrutiny and rationalisation of referred subjects. This has resulted in the most high-risk cases being discussed allowing for an improved Multi-Agency response.

Subjects are risk graded and are regularly assessed against approved criteria. This helps effective management of risk and supports the team in recognising emerging concerns. All staff within the SEIU (Sexual Exploitation Investigation Unit) are accredited or working towards being accredited Child Abuse investigators in the SCAIDP module (Specialist Child Abuse Investigation Development Programme). Elements within this course also cover Trauma Informed Practice allowing for enhanced skills to aid the investigation abilities within complex child abuse. The team also participate in Continuous Professional Development ensuring that they are equipped with the most recent updates in good practice, legislation and training techniques.

The Concerns Network facilitates community partners, statutory and non-statutory, to refer potential at risk children. This allows a greater ability to identify vulnerability and applies a community aspect to the referrals.

The recent opening of the Paediatric SARC has enabled the teams to deliver the best care when dealing with victims of trauma. The suite is located in a medical setting, with trained medical staff on site with the most up to date facilities. This includes the ability to interview vulnerable victims whilst having access to medical professionals. Such an approach ensures that victims are placed at the centre and are given the support when they need it the most.

In addition to the SEIU investigating offences the Tackling Organised Exploitation Programme (TOEX) has been commissioned to contribute to a whole systems approach to improve the response to the 'exploitation of the vulnerable' This model supports an enhanced intelligence picture to inform activity; operational tasking and coordination; and capability development. Nottinghamshire police is currently working closely with TOEX to tackle organised exploitation locally.