

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

**Venue: Town Hall, Moorgate
Street, Rotherham. S60
2TH**

Date: Thursday, 11th September, 2014

Time: 11.00 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
3. Apologies for Absence.
4. Questions from Members of the Public.
5. The implications of the recent report by Prof Alexis Jay OBE into CSE in Rotherham, for the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner (report herewith) (Pages 1 - 21)

SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1. Meeting:	South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel
2. Date:	11 th September 2014
3. Title:	The implications of the recent report by Professor Alexis Jay OBE into CSE in Rotherham, for the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner.
4. Organisation:	RMBC – Host Authority

5. Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide Panel members with access to the report recently published by Professor Alexis Jay OBE on Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham. The discussion at the meeting will focus on the Police and Crime Commissioner's response to this report and will provide an opportunity for Panel members to seek reassurances from the Commissioner that he is still in a position to carry out his duties effectively as a result of its publication.

6. Recommendations

That the Panel:

- **Considers the Police and Crime Commissioner's response to Professor Jay's report**
- **Determines any further action in light of this response.**

7. Proposals and details

The Police and Crime Commissioner has been required to attend the meeting to provide the Panel with his response to the report by Professor Jay. It should be noted that it has not been possible to provide the Commissioner with the standard notice period to respond, however, given the pressing nature of the report and high level of public interest, a 15 day notice period was deemed by the Chair to represent an unacceptable delay. Nevertheless reasonable notice has been given to the Commissioner

In terms of considering the course of action to be taken by the Panel, Members are reminded that they have limited powers in respect of the Commissioner. The Panel handles complaints in respect of the Commissioner's conduct, which it has the power to informally resolve. However the Panel does not have any power to impose any sanctions or penalties upon the Commissioner.

In addition if the Commissioner is charged with a criminal offence which carries a maximum penalty in excess of two years imprisonment, the Panel has the power to suspend him.

It is recommended therefore, that Panel members consider whether they feel sufficiently reassured by the Commissioner's response as articulated at the meeting.

8. Finance

None

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The Panel will need to consider the risks that are associated with the Commissioner's position and seek reassurances about the continued delivery of the Police and Crime Plan

10. Background Papers and Consultation

http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/1407/independent_inquiry_cse_in_rotherham

11. Contact

Deborah Fellowes,
Scrutiny Manager
Legal and Democratic Services
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
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REPORT TO SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

1.	Meeting:	South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel
2.	Date:	11th September 2014
3.	Title:	The implications of the recent report by Professor Alexis Jay OBE into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham, for the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner
4.	Organisation:	The South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner

5. Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide Panel members with a summary of my position on the issues for discussion at the meeting of the Police and Crime Panel on the 11th September 2014, namely:-

Reassurance on my response to the recent report by Professor Alexis Jay OBE into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham and pursuance of my duties as Police and Crime Commissioner.

6. Recommendations

That the Panel consider my report, together with any reassurance I provide at the meeting.

7. Proposals and details

Reassurance on my response to the recent report by Professor Alexis Jay OBE into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham

- a) On Tuesday 26 August 2014, a report was published on Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council's website ('The Report') following an Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham between 1997 and 2009, and between 2009 and 2013. The author of this report was Professor Alexis Jay, and the report was commissioned by Rotherham MBC.
- b) Following the publication of the Report on Rotherham MBC's website, I chaired my monthly Governance and Assurance Board meeting at my office premises, at which I made an announcement at the beginning of the meeting, which is recorded in the draft minutes, as follows:

“ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Commissioner made reference to the publication of the Independent Inquiry into historical cases of child sexual exploitation in Rotherham (1997 – 2013) carried out by Ms Alexis Jay OBE, the former Chief Social Work Adviser to the Scottish Government, who was commissioned to lead this work by the Chief Executive of Rotherham Council. He requested the Chief Constable consider the findings of the report and identify any additional “lessons learnt”, over and above those identified by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of the Constabulary in their bespoke inspection commissioned last year by the Commissioner.

ACTION:-

The Chief Constable to urgently provide a report to the Commissioner setting out any further actions to be taken in light of the findings of the Independent Inquiry into historical cases of child sexual exploitation in Rotherham (1997 – 2013).”

(Draft Governance and Assurance Board minutes, 26 August 2014)

- c) I then approved a media release for publication on the Police and Crime Commissioner’s website, and for release to the media. A copy of this press release appears at **Appendix 1**.
- d) On 5 September 2014, I wrote to chairs of the four Safeguarding Children Boards in South Yorkshire – Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield – asking for certain information to allow me to assess gaps in ways of working and resources to inform later decision-making in response to Professor Jay’s report. I also wrote to Mr Martin Goldman, Chief Crown Prosecutor, with the same aim. A copy of the letters can be found at **Appendix 2**.
- e) My office meets regularly with the Chief Officer from South Yorkshire’s Victim Support, the latest meeting being 8th September 2014. These aim to consider existing services, to identify gaps and to develop future services to be delivered in South Yorkshire. In addition to this I have written to various other established third sector organisations which deliver supportive services to victims of crime to seek their views on any gaps in existing services or resources which could be addressed to aid historic or current victims of child sexual exploitation cope and recover from their experience
- f) On becoming Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire in November 2012, Panel members will recall that they approved my Police and Crime Plan priorities on 13th March 2013. One of the three Strategic Priorities I set out in my Police and Crime Plan (2013/17) was Protecting Vulnerable People. ‘*Child Abuse/Sexual Exploitation*’ featured first under this heading in my Plan (page 14), with a commitment to doing the following:-

- Supporting the Force and partners in work involving CSE by investing £0.5 million to fund additional Public Protection Unit officers & specialist training for staff
- Bringing together key partners to improve communication, develop joint protocols and share good practice around CSE
- Ensure the Government's 'Child Sexual Exploitation National Action Plan', the recommendations made by the National Children's Commissioner and Barnardos recommendations in their 'Cut them Free' campaign are implemented and embedded within the Force
- Working with key partners to increase the number of successful outcomes for violence against women and girls, domestic abuse, sexual assault, rape, stalking and harassment
- Investing in providing enhanced services for young victims of crime
- Work with key partners to ensure the Government Action Plan for Violence Against Women and Girls is delivered
- Support active monitoring and management of serial perpetrators of domestic and sexual violence, and stalking
- Establish a countywide CSE Forum
- Develop more effective working with the CPS to secure more successful outcomes for victims

(Police and Crime Plan (2013/17, p.15)

g) I have thus prioritised the tackling of child sexual exploitation in the strategic objectives I have set for the force and its work with partners, and in the grants of funding I have made to partners and other agencies involved in this area of protection. South Yorkshire Police spending on resources to combat this crime were originally in the bottom quartile, and the resources committed to deliver the Platinum Model will take the South Yorkshire Police into the top quartile of all forces in England and Wales. I have also launched a county-wide campaign with other partners. The number of officers in post to deal with this type of horrendous crime has been increased from 8 to 62. In particular, I have done the following:-

Date	Issue
January 2013	Established a Countywide Child Sexual Exploitation Forum made up of Local Authority Lead Members, Directors of Children's Services, Local Children Safeguarding Board Chairs, Police Commanders, the National Health Service, and the Crown Prosecution Service. So far we have agreed a joint risk assessment tool, a joint information sharing protocol and a joint awareness campaign 'Say Something if You See Something'.
February 2013	Invested £0.5 million into South Yorkshire Police's Child Sexual Exploitation team.
April 2013	Developed a voluntary and community sector grant scheme £208,100 to date on 7 projects specific to child sexual exploitation £1.5 million to date on projects relating to domestic violence, sexual violence (including child sexual exploitation) e.g.

	<p>GROW £21,200</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with families dealing with potential/actual Child Sexual Exploitation • Worked with 8 families and 30 young people <p>Golddigger Trust £10,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention and intervention support around issues of self-esteem and child sexual exploitation • Supported 75 young women aged 11 to 20 years
April 2013	<p>Commissioned Victim Support to form a Young Witness Service – £300k (3 year)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched 15 August 2013 • From August 13 to 31 March 14 454 individual services to 277 individual referrals
August 2013	<p>Commissioned the Chief Constable to establish an historic investigation team and consult with the Crown Prosecution Service to review all historic allegations of Child Sexual Exploitation and make sure that past allegations were dealt with appropriately in order to address any injustices.</p>
September 2013	<p>Commissioned HMIC report on effectiveness of South Yorkshire Police approach to tackling Child Sexual Exploitation.</p>
October 2013	<p>Became a member of the Home Office National Taskforce on Sexual Violence against Children and Vulnerable Adults</p>
November 2013	<p>Supported the introduction of police polygraph testing for those on the sex offenders register (only the second force in the country to do so).</p>
February 2014	<p>Launched the multi-agency 'Know the Signs' Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Campaign</p>
February 2014	<p>Committed to £5 million investment over 2014 – 2016 in a 'Platinum Model'. Increasing from 13 dedicated Child Sexual Exploitation officers to 62 in 2014/15. By the end of 2016 there will be 102 officers in public protection units dealing with Child Sexual Exploitation, Domestic Violence, Hate Crime, Female Genital Mutilation, Honour-based Violence and Forced Marriage. The investment made will take South Yorkshire Police from the bottom quarter of police forces spend in terms of spending on this area of crime to the top quarter.</p>
May 2014	<p>Invited HMIC back to further review the implementation of previous recommendations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMIC revisited SYP in June 2014 to assess progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conclusions were that SYP reacted well to the recommendations, but there is a journey to be had and the force acknowledges this ○ SYP need to construct a robust and accountable implementation plan
May 2014	<p>Took a report to Police and Crime Panel on tackling Child Sexual Exploitation and the findings of the HMIC Inspection. Appendix 3</p>
June 2014	<p>Requested a comprehensive report from the Chief Constable on the implementation of the platinum model, recommendations from HMIC,</p>

	numbers of investigations, convictions and barriers to improvement. This report is due to be presented in October.
July 2014	Commissioned Women's Aid to conduct focus groups - To discuss service received from police and victims of domestic and sexual violence need in the form of supportive services. Report due imminently
July 2014	The above interventions have resulted in a huge amount of work being undertaken by South Yorkshire Police. From January 2013 to July 2014 there has been: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 68 persons charged or summoned for Child Sexual Exploitation offences (26 of those in Rotherham) • 40 offenders are on bail • 179 live Child Sexual Exploitation investigations (60 in Rotherham) (7 significant investigations involving multiple perpetrators and victims – 2 of these in Rotherham) • 37 convictions • 62 staff/officers deployed on Child Sexual Exploitation work

- h) Panel members will recall the report that I brought to the Panel meeting on the 2nd May 2014 – 'HMIC Report – South Yorkshire Police's Response to Child Sexual Exploitation'. The Panel also approved my Annual Report at its last meeting on 30th July 2014, which included performance against the strategic objectives contained in the Police and Crime Plan.

Reassurance of my work as Police and Crime Commissioner going forwards.

- a) I remain committed to the public, and to delivering their priorities through the Police and Crime Plan. I will continue to engage at every opportunity, to keep the public and Panel Members fully informed of my work and progress towards the Police and Crime Plan priorities and to continue to work professionally and proactively with all partners who are committed to taking this agenda forward. My planned governance framework revision will further ensure that OPCC activity is delivered.
- b) Local public views are fundamentally important to me. The people of South Yorkshire are the reason I have dedicated the last 20 years to public life. Recent polls in the media and online/social media show a variety of opinions. I am the same person now as I was at the 2012 election; the same values, the same priorities and the same commitment to drive improvements in the areas most important to those I serve; in this respect, nothing has changed.
- c) My record as Police and Crime Commissioner in tackling Child Sexual Exploitation speaks for itself and I am therefore best placed to take the issue of Child Sexual Exploitation forward. The public can trust that I will drive forward that agenda.

- d) I am also sure that all partners involved in tackling this issue, will work with the OPCC to do just that for the sake of past victims and for the sake of safeguarding potential future victims.

8. Contact

PA to Commissioner Shaun Wright
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Barnsley
DTindall@southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk Tel: 01226 775737

PCC RESPONSE TO ALEXIS JAY'S INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN ROTHERHAM (1997 TO 2013)

A spokesperson for the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Shaun Wright said:

“The Commissioner is pleased that the inquiry conducted by Alexis Jay finally shines a light on the errors made in relation to safeguarding children in Rotherham and that constructive action can be taken to protect young people as a result of the report and recommendations.

“The Commissioner has previously apologised for the failure of Rotherham Council while he was in its cabinet from 2005 to 2010. He repeats that apology today and he fully accepts that there was more that everyone at Rotherham Council should have done to tackle this terrible crime.

“Since becoming Police and Crime Commissioner he has repeatedly publicly made tackling child sexual exploitation his number one priority.

“He asked HMIC to conduct a review into South Yorkshire Police’s handling of CSE cases. The report they produced was very critical of the force and subsequently Mr Wright asked the Force to implement its recommendations in full. At his request, HMIC returned to monitor progress and reported that good progress had been made.

“He is expecting a response imminently to a request he made to the Chief Constable for a report into progress being made with historic sexual abuse cases in Rotherham and across the county.

“And working with Victim Support, he has set up South Yorkshire Victims Support Service to help young people and their families better deal with giving evidence in court – an innovation that is now set to be rolled out nationally.

“Professor Jay’s report makes recommendations for improvements in the way South Yorkshire Police deal with these crimes, and Mr Wright will be meeting with the Chief Constable to ensure these are implemented in full.

“He is more determined than ever to lead a Police Force that effectively roots out the evil criminals who carry out such disgraceful abuse to South Yorkshire children and brings them to justice.”

Posted on Tuesday 26th August 2014



**South
Yorkshire
Police and Crime
Commissioner**

Your Voice

Our Ref: PCC / dnt
Tel: 01226 774600

Date: 5th September 2014
Fax: 01226 772899

Mr. Bob Dyson
Barnsley Safeguarding Children Board
PO Box 634,
Barnsley
S70 9GG

Dear Mr. Dyson,

I write in relation to the publication of Professor Jay's report last Tuesday, and I would be grateful if you could provide me with the following information please:-

- We have Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs and their work but, in your opinion, is this sufficient?
- In your opinion, is South Yorkshire Police doing enough?
- If there are any gaps you have identified, what additional resources do you believe are required?

I would be grateful for an early reply.

Yours faithfully,

Shaun Wright
South Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner

CC: Ms. D. Terris, Chief Executive, Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Shaun Wright
18 Regent Street Barnsley S70 2HG
Tel: 01226 774600
Email: thepcc@southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk
www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk



**South
Yorkshire
Police and Crime
Commissioner**

Your Voice



Our Ref: PCC / dnt
Tel: 01226 774600

Date: 5th September 2014
Fax: 01226 772899

Mr. R. Thompson
Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board
Mary Woollett Centre
Danum Road
Doncaster
DN4 5HF

Dear Mr. Thompson,

I write in relation to the publication of Professor Jay's report last Tuesday, and I would be grateful if you could provide me with the following information please:-

- We have Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs and their work but, in your opinion, is this sufficient?
- In your opinion, is South Yorkshire Police doing enough?
- If there are any gaps you have identified, what additional resources do you believe are required?

I would be grateful for an early reply.

Yours faithfully,

Shaun Wright
South Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner

CC: Ms. J. Miller, Chief Executive, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council

South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Shaun Wright
18 Regent Street Barnsley S70 2HG
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**South
Yorkshire
Police and Crime
Commissioner**

Your Voice



Our Ref: PCC / dnt
Tel: 01226 774600

Date: 5th September 2014
Fax: 01226 772899

Mr. S. Ashley
Chair
Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board
1st Floor, Wing A
Riverside House
Main Street
Rotherham S60 1AE

Dear Mr. Ashley,

I write in relation to the publication of Professor Jay's report last Tuesday, and I would be grateful if you could provide me with the following information please:-

- We have Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs and their work but, in your opinion, is this sufficient?
- In your opinion, is South Yorkshire Police doing enough?
- If there are any gaps you have identified, what additional resources do you believe are required?

I would be grateful for an early reply.

Yours sincerely,

Shaun Wright
South Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner

CC: Mr. M. Kimber, Chief Executive, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Shaun Wright
18 Regent Street Barnsley S70 2HG
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Our Ref: PCC / dnt
Tel: 01226 774600

Date: 5th September 2014
Fax: 01226 772899

Ms. S. Fiennes
Chair
Sheffield Safeguarding Children Board
Floor 2, Redvers House
Union Street
Sheffield S1 2JQ

Dear Ms. Fiennes,

I write in relation to the publication of Professor Jay's report last Tuesday, and I would be grateful if you could provide me with the following information please:-

- We have Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs and their work but, in your opinion, is this sufficient?
- In your opinion, is South Yorkshire Police doing enough?
- If there are any gaps you have identified, what additional resources do you believe are required?

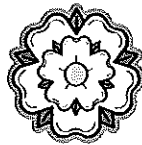
I would be grateful for an early reply.

Yours sincerely

Shaun Wright
South Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner

CC: Mr. J. Mothersole, Chief Executive, Sheffield City Council

South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Shaun Wright
18 Regent Street Barnsley S70 2HG
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**South
Yorkshire
Police and Crime
Commissioner**

Your Voice



Our Ref: PCC / dnt
Tel: 01226 774600

Date: 5th September 2014
Fax: 01226 772899

M. Goldman Esq.,
CPS South Yorkshire
Greenfield House
32 Scotland Street
Sheffield
S3 9DQ

Dear Mr. Goldman,

Your will recall at our previous meetings my priorities around protecting vulnerable people and my request for you to consider how the CPD may be able to improve the prosecution rate in South Yorkshire for these crimes affecting, particularly young victims and those who suffer domestic violence.

I now write in relation to the publication of Professor Jay's report last Tuesday, and I would be grateful if you could provide me with the following information please:-

- The conversion rate in relation to prosecutions for Child Sexual Exploitation (the last 5 years data would be preferable, but figures for the last 12 months will be of particular interest in relation to current issues);
- Number of prosecutions for Child Sexual Exploitation in South Yorkshire, compared to all other areas in England and Wales;
- Your view on areas for improvement in relation to the conviction rate in this area.

I would be grateful for an early reply.

Yours sincerely,

Shaun Wright
South Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner

South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Shaun Wright
18 Regent Street Barnsley S70 2HG
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REPORT TO SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

1.	Meeting:	South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel
2.	Date:	2 May 2014
3.	Title:	HMIC Report – South Yorkshire Police’s Response to Child Sexual Exploitation
4.	Organisation:	Police and Crime Commissioner

5. Summary

This report provides members of the Panel with information in relation to the Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) report South Yorkshire Police’s Response to Child Sexual Exploitation and the response by the Police and Crime Commissioner to this report.

6. Recommendations

That the Panel note the contents of the report and comment on any matters arising.

7. Proposals and details

The Commissioner's overriding aim is to keep the people of South Yorkshire safe. Vulnerable people from a diverse range of demographic groups are potentially more at risk of being a victim of crime, and may therefore need additional support from the police and partners.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is a national problem and the exact scale is difficult to determine, due to a lack of reporting and identification of risk factors. Though seemingly small in comparison to other recorded crimes, this heinous crime is evident throughout South Yorkshire. As such, the Commissioner decided that protecting vulnerable children - particularly those at risk from CSE should be an immediate priority.

In 2013/14 the Commissioner made a significant financial investment to help tackle CSE by providing extra resources to the Force and increasing the number of District-based officers by five. The officers are co-located with multi-agency Protection Units, to ensure the best use of resources, and are supplemented by a central team of officers that undertake specific investigations across the county.

He also set up a strategic Child Sexual Exploitation Forum which brings together a number of key organisations from across the county. It was at this Forum it was agreed to launch a countywide CSE awareness raising campaign in February 2014.

In addition the Commissioner has commissioned Victim Support to provide dedicated support to victims of child sexual exploitation to help them through the difficult process of going to court and has agreed to becoming a member of the National Taskforce on Sexual Violence against Children and Vulnerable People (SCACV) which gives him an opportunity to shape national thinking and policy making.

In August 2013, the Commissioner also commissioned HMIC to provide:

- an independent assessment of the effectiveness and resilience of the current arrangements in place within South Yorkshire Police to protect children from sexual exploitation; and
- recommendations for improvement.

The report was published on 11 November 2013 and can be obtained from both the Commissioner's and HMIC's website (www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk and www.hmic.gov.uk) respectively.

The report concluded that South Yorkshire Police had made considerable efforts to improve its child sexual exploitation response. However, HMIC considered that the force-led focus and commitment to this was not truly and consistently replicated in all districts. Whilst there were pockets of good and effective practice (most notably in Sheffield), the approach taken to tackling this kind of offending varied significantly across the force's four districts.

The report went on to say that this situation must not be allowed to continue and that it was unarguably of paramount importance that all children in South Yorkshire receive the same high levels of protection, irrespective of the policing district in which they live.

HMIC therefore made the following recommendations:

Immediate

1. *The force should review the management of cases by staff in the dedicated child sexual exploitation teams, and ensure this always complies with statutory child protection guidance.*
2. *The force should communicate and explain to the PCC, staff and other interested parties the delay in deploying the ten additional child sexual exploitation officers to the districts.*
3. *Failure to fill a vacancy in the Rotherham team that manages sex offenders means that the remaining officers face an unmanageable workload. The force should review the team to ensure that it has sufficient staff to manage sex offenders in line with national guidance.*
4. *The force should audit its response to child sexual exploitation, to assess whether the changes it is making are having the desired effect (ie improving outcomes for children), and to identify any further work that is required.*

Within three months

5. *The force should review its internal communication regarding child sexual exploitation and ensure that clear, consistent messages are passed to all officers and staff. The messages should ensure that everyone knows which chief officer is the lead on tackling child sexual exploitation.*
6. *The force should review the tool used to assess the risk of child sexual exploitation to ensure it provides the best possible reflection of the level of risk faced by victims. This could involve additional training for those using the tool, or a change to the scoring mechanism used to calculate the level of risk.*
7. *The force should translate the PCC's strategic priorities into operational delivery on the ground.*
8. *The force should review the workloads of all staff within public protection units to ensure they have the capacity to manage effectively the cases they are allocated.*

Within six months

9. *The force should review its training plan to ensure all staff develop and sustain a good understanding of child sexual exploitation.*

10. *The force should review the processes in place to respond to child sexual exploitation in all four districts, with a view to creating greater uniformity, and ensuring all areas attain the high standards achieved in the Sheffield district.*
11. *The force should review the operation of its local intelligence units to ensure child sexual exploitation is thoroughly supported by an intelligence approach.*
12. *The force should review how it monitors the internet for evidence of child sexual exploitation to ensure intelligence opportunities are not being overlooked.*
13. *The force and its partners should examine how it can more efficiently manage the handling of child sexual exploitation information and intelligence. In particular, the difficulty in sharing information with the multi-agency teams at Doncaster and Rotherham (because of incompatible information and intelligence IT systems) should be resolved.*

Attached at Appendix A is Commissioner Wright's response to the HMIC report.

The findings of the HMIC review were subject to an action plan and regular updates provided to the Commissioner at his monthly Governance Advisory Board and to the Countywide CSE Forum.

The Commissioner is pleased to report that the recommendations have now been implemented and that tackling this heinous crime has been greatly strengthened over the last year.

The force will be re-inspected against the report findings in spring 2014. This will be undertaken as part of the national HMIC inspection of Child Protection.

8. Finance

The Commissioner allocated £0.5 million additional funding for 2013/14 to increase the number of Public Protection officers and specialist training for staff.

As part of the Commissioner's budget setting process for 2014/15 the Commissioner has provided an additional £2.26 million to the Force to deliver a full Platinum model which will offer a significant increase in the services provided to the public of South Yorkshire. This model provides additional resources to create CSE and Domestic Violence Investigations Teams. These teams will be capable of managing CSE locally and at a force level as well as managing all offenders relating to high-risk victims of domestic abuse and some medium risk cases. This model will also provide additional resources on the Public Protection Unit investigation teams, adult and child safeguarding and VISOR (the management of sex offenders) providing greater resilience and capacity in relation to adult and child abuse management and investigations.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

To ensure children within South Yorkshire are able to achieve the outcomes identified in Every Child Matters (2003), the force must work consistently with key partners to increase the number of successful outcomes for violence against women and girls in sexual assault, rape, stalking and harassment.

10. Background Papers and Consultation

HMIC South Yorkshire Police's Response to Child Sexual Exploitation

11. Contact

Sally Parkin

Principal Policy Officer

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Email: sparkin@southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk Telephone: 01226 772925

Appendix A

COMMISSIONER SAYS CHIEF CONSTABLE MUST 'ACT IMMEDIATELY' TO IMPROVE RESPONSE TO CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

HMIC Report commissioned by PCC praises commitment of front line officers and staff but says it has 'serious concern' about the quality of protection children receive

South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Shaun Wright says today that the Chief Constable must 'act immediately' to improve the response of the force to child sexual exploitation in the wake of a report raising serious concern about the quality of protection it provides for children across the region.

Having set CSE as a force priority, Mr Wright commissioned HMIC (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary) to assess the effectiveness of the force's approach to protecting children from sexual exploitation and to develop recommendations for improvements. Its report, '*South Yorkshire Police's Response to Child Sexual Exploitation*' is published today (Monday, November 11)

Inspectors say the force is committed to tackling child sexual exploitation but an inconsistent approach across the force area gave them '*serious concern*' about the quality of protection children receive. Among the areas for improvement, the report says that the leadership provided by the Chief Constable for child sexual exploitation was '*unclear*' to many police officers and staff.

HMIC says that '*as a matter of urgency*' the force must put the strategic priorities of the PCC in the area of child sexual exploitation into operational delivery on the ground, adding 'This situation must not be allowed to continue.'

Mr. Wright said today that whilst he was pleased the report recognised the commitment and efforts of front line staff, he was '*extremely disappointed*' that the force had failed to translate his strategic priority into operational effectiveness. He said the Chief Constable must now 'act immediately' to introduce the recommendations detailed in the report. He has also written to HMIC requesting the provision of specialist assistance to support the Chief Constable to deliver all the improvements and recommendations in the report.

The Commissioner says today:

"This current situation has to change. The report makes a number of recommendations, with the most urgent to be implemented immediately and others within three and six months. I fully support the recommendations and have instructed the Chief Constable that he must ensure they are in place within the time frames set out by the inspectors."

"The commitment and effort of officers and staff on the front line of this most heinous of crimes is fully appreciated by me and rightly recognised by the inspectors. However, there is

clearly a failure of management to turn my, and the public of South Yorkshire's, key strategic priority into operational effectiveness uniformly across the whole force area.

Inspectors said that both the Commissioner and the Chief Constable had made it clear that preventing and responding to child sexual exploitation is a top priority of the force. Between January and March 2013 all of the force's 1,700 front line staff received specialist training and the report says they were all, '*deeply committed*' to their work; and were '*conscientious, enthusiastic and focussed on achieving good outcomes for children.*'

Although the force was found to have made '*considerable efforts*' to improve its response to child sexual exploitation, with '*pockets*' of good and effective practice, the approach varied significantly across the four districts.

The protection of children from sexual exploitation was one of the key objectives set by the Commissioner in his Police and Crime Plan published after his election a year ago. Among measures introduced to support that objective was the provision of an additional £0.5 million investment, provided by a council tax increase, to fund an extra 10 Public Protection Unit officers, specialist training and the establishment of a countywide CSE Forum to ensure the sharing of best practise and collaboration between involved agencies.

Between January 1 and September 30, 2013 police across the force were involved in 425 investigations into child sexual exploitation. There have been a number of high profile prosecutions and convictions with further cases due to reach court early in 2014.

The 40-page report examined and makes recommendations in 11 areas; leadership, strategies, management, training, structures, processes, intelligence gathering, innovation, benchmarking, compliance with national guidance and the robustness of partnership working arrangements

ENDS

Note to editors: The full report is available on the website of the Police and Crime Commissioner – www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk