

REPORT TO: Safer Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 9th November 2021

REPORT OFFICER: Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources

PORTFOLIO: Community Safety

SUBJECT: The Children's Society – National Prevention Programme

WARDS: Borough Wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Board Members about the work of the Children's Society National Prevention Programme in relation to preventing Child Sexual Abuse (**CSA**) and Exploitation (**CSE**), Child Criminal Exploitation (**CCE**), Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking on a regional.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **That the report and presentation be noted.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 The national Prevention Programme is funded by the Home Office. The Programme works nationally to tackle and prevent Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) and Exploitation (CSE), Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE), Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking on a regional and national basis across England and Wales.
- 3.2 The Prevention Programme raises awareness about the prevalence of exploitation, abuse, and trafficking, and how it manifests or presents within a young person's experiences.

It raises awareness with professionals, communities, and the public about issues linked to exploitation in all its forms. Through learning interventions, campaigning, and information sharing, the Programme enables these groups to understand how grooming and coercion are used to control children and the traumatic impact of this harm. The Programme enables professionals and communities to recognise exploitation, consider their role in preventing it, and changes perceptions about victimhood. This is a necessary step on the process towards changing system responses to exploitation in all its forms; to disrupt and prevent it occurring in future.

3.3 The Programme is made up of a national network of Prevention Officers across England and Wales. The Programme acts as a catalyst to drive forward and accelerate new strategic responses to prevent and disrupt child exploitation and abuse. It does this by building bridges and making connections across sectors and geographies, bringing partners together to collaborate. The Programme works closely with policing regions to ensure that tasks are guided by emerging insight and intelligence. Drawing on evidence from frontline practice across the country, and emerging strategic insight, the Programme is an agile resource that enables partners to develop and own alternative approaches to preventing CSAE, CCE, Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking.

3.4 Juliette Baldwin from the Childrens' Society will attend the Board and give a presentation to members on how the programme operates and the role of each partner organisation.

4.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 **None**

5.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

5.1 **Children and Young People in Halton**

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the health, safety and well-being of young people.

5.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**

None

5.3 **Healthy Halton**

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

5.4 **A Safer Halton**

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

5.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None

6.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

None

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.