

## **Report: Current Cohort CCE & CSE**

**Author: Complex Safeguarding Lead**

### **The Complex Safeguarding Profile**

**Complex Safeguarding Team commenced Sept 2019.**

1 x Service Lead

1 x Advanced Practitioner (AP)

2 x SW-positions currently available

#### **Vision**

To develop a strong and cohesive response to the issues of complex safeguarding effecting children and their families, with the ultimate aim of reducing the risks to young people affected. We will aim to do this by ensuring that the workforce have the skills, knowledge and experience to drive forward effective care planning to improve outcomes and reduce risk. Establishing effective partnerships and working cohesively will be a key driver to promoting better outcomes for children their families affected by complex safeguarding.

#### **Journey so far**

##### **Recruitment.**

The interim complex safeguarding lead commenced in post in Sept 2019. Unfortunately, several attempts have been required to recruit to the posts, although positively we can now confirm we have recruited permanently to the safeguarding lead post with a start date hopefully due by the end of June.

Unfortunately, we have been less fortunate recruiting to the advanced practitioner post despite 3 external adverts. The plan is to now to advertise an internal secondment to see if this will provoke any interest

JD/PS have now been created for the social work posts which are due to be advertised imminently.

##### **Implementation of process.**

The Complex Safeguarding lead and AP is situated in the MASH team, where they support the screening of what currently is the CE 1 referrals for complex safeguarding.

A clear CE pathway is in place, which has been distributed across the teams working with children and acts as a guideline to all social workers. The safeguarding lead has attended team meetings and offered support to managers and social workers in developing practice and responses to complex safeguarding and ensuring the process is followed.

A morning meeting is now an established daily multi agency meeting with attendance from YPDAAT, YOS, Safeguarding Unit, Police, Catch 22 and Safer communities chaired either by the Lead or Advanced Practitioner (AP) within the Complex Safeguarding team. There is currently, due to a vacancy, an absence from Health. There is also room for an Educational rep to be part of the meeting. This requires further exploration/discussion. Each morning themes/areas of concern/adults of concern/ YP perceived at risk of exploitation coupled with reported missing are on the daily agenda. The initial CE2s are arranged at the morning meeting and scheduled within a 5 day period, the social worker and other relevant agencies will be sent the invite. There is some flexibility within this to ensure agencies can attend.

Regular consultation is provided to agencies and to social workers who are encouraged to ring the Complex Safeguarding team to discuss concerns they may have prior to completing the CE1 form, its hoped this will assist with strengthening agencies/professional knowledge and confidence.

A review of the Pan Merseyside CE Protocol has recently been approved by St Helens board. The Complex Safeguarding Lead will take a key role in developing this for St Helens and leading on developing the systems to support the new protocol. The first phase will be to develop the liquid logic system to support the CE process, the implementation will also then move to ensure communication with partners regarding making referrals via the current service user request form and deleting the CE1 process. The review will also take into consideration the implantation of the updated CE 2 assessment and MACE template. Oversight and assurance of this work will be taken through the CARE group to involve key partners. Knowsley and 2 other regional LA's are currently piloting the new protocol with a review scheduled in Sept 2020.

As it currently stands in the absence of the Complex Safeguarding social worker, the lead or the AP will routinely undertake joint visits with the Police or the primary social worker to capture the young person's voice/journey and vulnerabilities to exploitation. It is envisaged that the social workers will not case hold but will support complex casework with allocated social workers in managing high risk complex safeguarding issues and supporting effective care planning.

Mapping meetings are held when Young people's association are of concern. Again this is a multi-agency response with a clear focus on risk reduction and safeguarding. More recently we are cross cutting with other authorities and Police forces in an attempt to gain a greater understanding of the risk/exploitation involved for our young people of St Helens.

## **Performance**

The lead has further developed a performance dashboard which enables the lead, and managers to have clear oversight of care planning for young people who are missing and part of the CE process to have better oversight of drift and delay which was apparent.