



Feedback on CSE Strategy Consultation November 2015

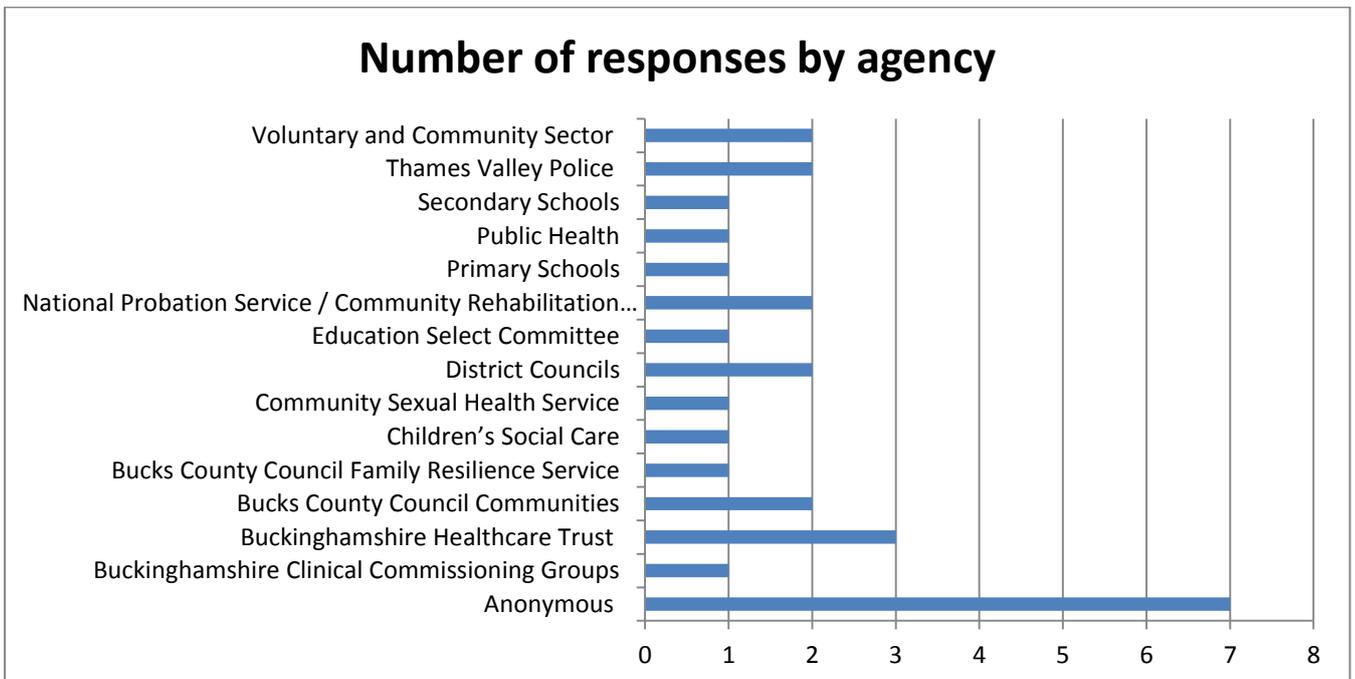
A Introduction

A consultation on the draft Buckinghamshire CSE Strategy ran from 28th September 2015 to 2nd November 2015. There were a total of 28 responses. Some were from individuals and others were providing feedback from a wider service / sector.

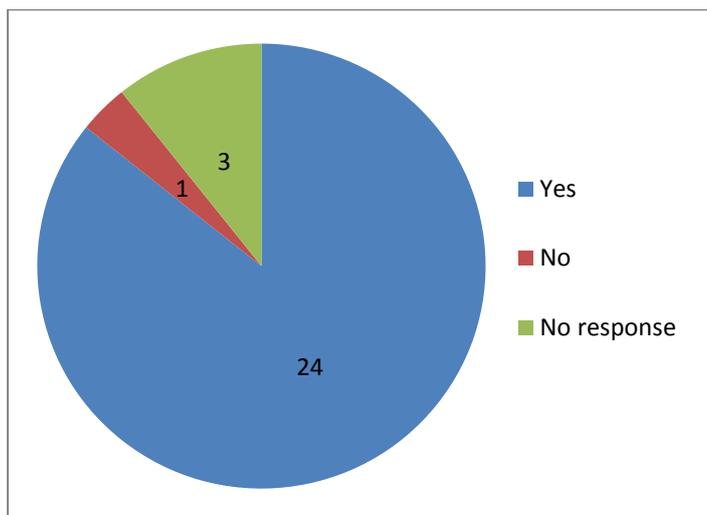
Responses indicated overall support for the strategy with a number of helpful suggestions for strengthening the document. This paper provides an overview of the responses received. A number of wider comments proposed minor amendments to wording and these will all be made in agreement with the CSE Sub Group.

The BSCB has agreed that the CSE Sub Group will work on updating the draft strategy to reflect the consultation feedback, with a view to this being ready for sign off early in the new year.

B Summary of Consultation Feedback



1 Do you feel the strategy sets out a clear vision for tackling CSE in Buckinghamshire?



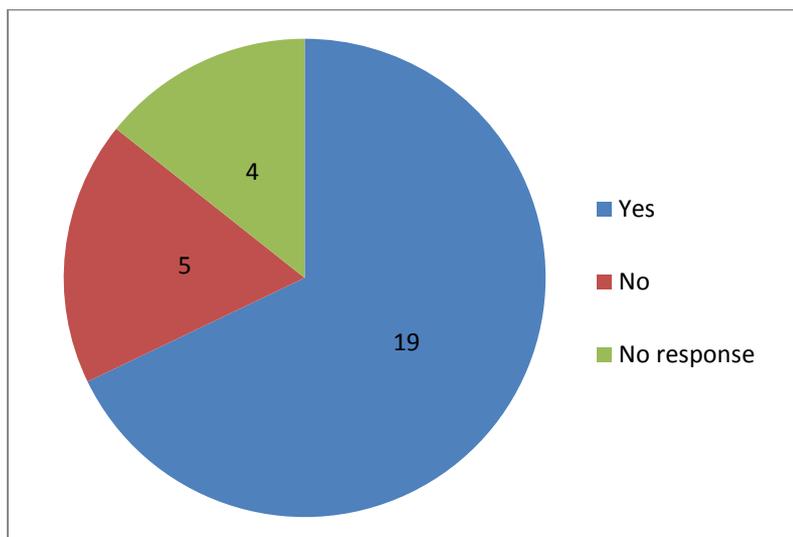
What people liked

- “There is a clear vision and definition, which is helpful. The three P’s framework is helpful.”
- “3 areas of Prevent, Protect and Pursue is a useful way to break down the strategy particularly as for many professionals they may only be involved in the ‘prevent’ part so focus can remain on their responsibilities. “
- “It’s useful to define our CSE Strategy in 3 strands, and make the action plan correlate to these. By doing this it makes the document very clear and easy to follow”

Areas for Improvement

Feedback	Response
1) Could have a further ‘P’ around Promote – positive attitudes to healthy relationships; access for children and young people to support networks within schools, health services and voluntary agencies; support for parents who have concern about their children’s behaviour; safe recruitment practice across agencies; internet safety. This would recognise the need to promote factors that increase children’s resilience which in turn may help to prevent them getting into risky situations.	There is a risk that adding a 4 th ‘P’ would confuse the simple framework. However, we will incorporate stronger elements around building resilience into the ‘Prevent strand. This will include building links to some of the work being undertaken in other BSCB Sub Groups, for example around E-Safety and safer recruitment.
2) Prevent, Protect, Pursue structure does have the potential to give a clear strategic framework, but some issues are not addressed. There is no mention of the role of adult presentations and the resourcing friction between the reports of historical abuse and CSE that is happening today.	We will strengthen the reference to adult presentations including amending the action plan so there is a clear strand of activity around ensuring that adult victims receive appropriate services and support.
3) The role of the Swan Unit is not defined along the lines agreed by agencies at a tactical level.	This will be amended.
4) The Strategy does not help promote consistent information sharing procedures between agencies, or address the anxiety some agencies have about sharing specific information which is not a direct report of CSE but raises concerns. This could be a key area to clarify issues of underage contraception, pregnancy etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will update the strategy to include a section on information sharing. • We will include further information around underage contraception and pregnancy as part of the risk factors and behaviours section on p11.

2 Does the strategy set out clearly enough the roles and responsibilities of different organisations in Buckinghamshire



What people liked

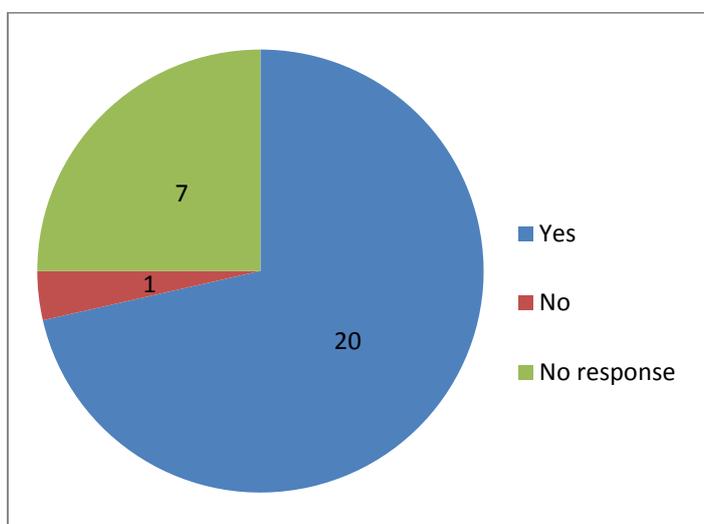
- “I work for a District Council and am clear about our role as set out in this Strategy.”
- “The Safer and Stronger Bucks Partnership Board will support the ‘Pursue’ actions.”

Areas for Improvement

Feedback	Response
1) There were a number of suggestions for amendments to the wording around individual agency responsibilities – either to add clarity or additional dimensions to their role.	We will amend the wording in consultation with individual agencies and the CSE Sub Group.
2) The ‘Prevent’ strand is dependent largely on willingness to access information and training. In many services you may have a lead role for safeguarding. Could the action plan be more specific on how information will be disseminated to all staff? Could there be a mandatory element to attending training for front line staff as there has been for our service regarding ‘radicalisation’	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will update the action plan to be clearer around how information is disseminated and make stronger links to the BSCB Communications Strategy which sets out the roles and responsibilities of Board partners around communication. • The BSCB recommends that frontline staff should have a level of CSE training that is relevant to their role, but we cannot impose a decision across all agencies that this is mandatory. Recently we have been seeking information from agencies on the CSE training they provide. Once we have collected sufficient information we will challenge agencies which do not have sufficient training in place. The Strategy also sets out that the BSCB will undertake quality assurance activity around CSE training and as a result of this we will also challenge where the quality of training is not sufficient.
3) The Strategy seems more reactive, it does not include identification of perpetrators or people who may be at a future risk of perpetrating CSE.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will incorporate additional elements around identifying perpetrators. The Safer and Stronger Bucks Partnership Board (SSBPB), via an Officer from Bucks County Council Community Safety, are setting up a task and finish group to improve the ‘Pursue’ strand of the action plan, and this work can be included in that.

<p>4) The Strategy does not mention the work that Select Committee has been doing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The BSCB recognises the value of the Select Committee enquiry. However, given that their report is a discreet piece of work it does not seem appropriate to reference this specifically in a long term strategy. However, we will update the Strategy to reflect that that two of the Buckinghamshire County Council Select Committees have within their remit responsibility for oversight and scrutiny of safeguarding for children and adults (Children’s, Social Care & Learning Select Committee and the Health, Adult Social Care Committee).
--	---

3 Is the diagram on p15 helpful in terms of clarifying how CSE is managed at both a strategic and an operational level?



What people liked / commented on

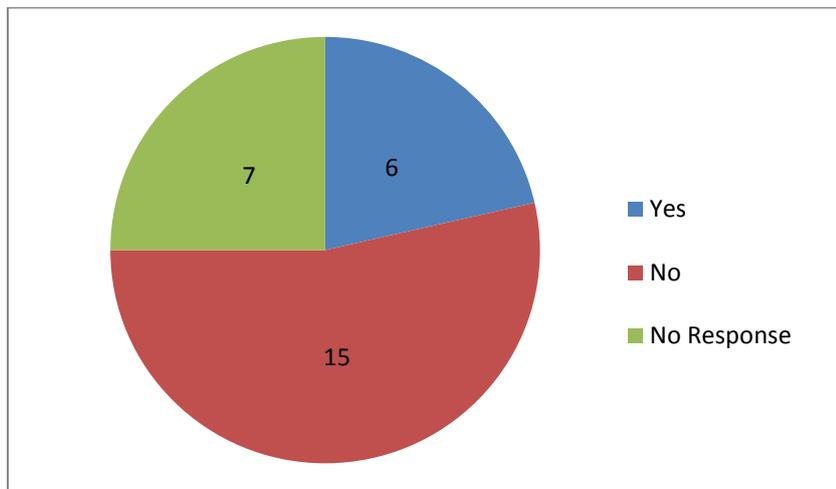
- “I think it is a clear response, but it would be useful to review this annually in the CSE Sub Group, as the picture will be evolving.”
- “The diagram is accurate but reflects a slightly unsatisfactory arrangement.”

Areas for Improvement

Feedback	Response
<p>1) There were some comments relating to how the diagram represented single agencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some services (eg Youth Service, Youth Offending Service and Probation) are not shown on the diagram but are in the list of organisations. Should Children’s Social Care read Children’s Services to incorporate other services such as Family Resilience? There are too many boxes – all the operational services could be placed together in a single box. This would also reduce the number of lines and arrows and therefore make it clearer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The diagram is perhaps too victim focused, including in terms of the organisations that are listed. This can be amended. An attempt was made to put into the diagram those agencies for whom tackling CSE is part of their primary purpose, as opposed to organisations whose key responsibility around CSE is to spot and report concerns. However, this approach does need some further thinking. We will work through the CSE Sub Group to test the various ideas suggested by respondents to identify the clearest way of representing this information.
<p>2) It is not clear how this relates to a single front door –comments related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not clear how Swan Unit will relate to First 	<p>This is an area that needs to be clear in the diagram.</p> <p>Work is underway through the Swan Unit to create a</p>

<p>Response as front door.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not clear how SERAC relates to front door – which do people refer to? • Needs to be clarification around single front door for safeguarding and where the filter applies for CSE 	<p>Swan Unit operating procedure. In addition the SERAC operating procedure is currently under review. These documents need to be clear and consistent with each other and with the CSE Strategy so that any confusion is removed.</p>
<p>3) Some relationships are not clear, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relationships that strategic and multi-agency groups have with single agency services – these appear to all be one way. • There is no down arrow showing strategic guidance / relationship from the strategic groups down to the CSE Sub Group. 	<p>This will be amended.</p>
<p>4) Connecting for Children should be re-branded as a tactical meeting for the BSCB main board and on the diagram sit below the main BSCB. That group should review the strategy of the BSCB and make tactical arrangements and plans to ensure it delivers on the ground. These arrangements can be scrutinised by the Board and reviewed against a developed performance regime.</p>	<p>In relation to the CSE Strategy, Connecting for Children will be removed from the diagram. Individual cases being discussed through SERAC, MARM or the Swan Unit are managed through the usual case management arrangements. Alongside this the CSE Sub Group (and ultimately the BSCB) will monitor and where appropriate challenge the performance of these groups. Given this it is suggested that there is no clear role for Connecting for Children in this arrangement and that they add an extra layer of complexity.</p>
<p>5) There is a gap in the link with drug and alcohol services. It is implicit in the links to the VCS but it would be useful to explicitly include it within the diagram and list of organisations. As drugs and alcohol is such a big factor with CSE, it would be useful to include it within the responsibilities of the SSBPB and HWB as well.</p>	<p>This will be reflected in the updated version.</p>
<p>6) Diagram needs to show links to other groups where young people may be discussed such as G-MAP (for gang activity) and MARAC.</p>	<p>We will ensure that the new section we are adding on information sharing is clear about the importance of professionals sharing relevant information.</p> <p>There are currently ongoing partnerships discussions about how we can ensure there are effective links between different groups discussing young people and we will assess whether it is relevant to add further detail to the Strategy once this has progressed.</p>
<p>10) Could there be an appendix that lists all the agencies that sit on the strategic groups in the diagram?</p>	<p>The CSE Sub Group will consider the available options. Adding appendices risks making this document too long, but it may be possible to provide links to further information on these groups.</p>

4 Are there any significant gaps in the outcomes and areas of work in the action plan?



Areas for Improvement

Feedback	Response
1) The Pursue actions need more development.	We recognise this. A lead from within BCC Community Safety is currently bringing together a task and finish group to work on this.
2) More intervention and support for parents where a child’s vulnerability and perhaps lower level potential risk has been identified, but no disclosure or evidence obtained. Who works with the family to help them be a strong protective factor at that time? Some cases do not open to Children’s Social Care and no consideration for Early Help referral is made. Is this a potential gap in meeting the needs for the whole family and an opportunity to empower the family to keep the child safer? Leaflets and awareness are helpful to a point, but hands on interventions for the parents to develop strategies would be more helpful at the time.	This links to comment 3 in the next section. The Sub Group will look at how we can incorporate this into the Protect strand.
3) Does not mention night time economy and children missing from education.	The night time economy is included in the action plan through work with specific employment sectors. However, we will make sure this is clearer. Missing education (as opposed to missing from education) is already highlighted as a particular risk factor. However, we will look at how we can incorporate something around missing from education into the action plan. Initially this may be around clarifying the links to CSE.
4) No reference to resources.	This will be added.

Any other comments?

Feedback	Response
1) There is a discrepancy between findings that show the youngest victim identified was 10 and the RU Safe Service which is commissioned for ages 11-18 (25 for children with disabilities). Where would the 10 year old go for support? Should the condition of contract be changed with Barnardos?	Barnardos will work with younger children and therefore there is not a service gap. However we will feed back to the Commissioning Team the suggestion that the contract wording may need to be changed.
2) Are we clear who the target audience is for this document? I am not sure frontline practitioners would take the time to read it.	<p>We will add a paragraph in the introduction to specify the audience. The strategy is designed for staff at all levels, from Chief Executives and strategic managers down to frontline operational staff. We recognise that front line staff may not always pick up and read a strategy, and this document will be well supported with procedures and practice guidance that can be applied more practically in an everyday working environment. However the strategy will also be clearly linked from these documents to allow anyone to follow the golden thread up from practice through to the overarching strategy.</p> <p>Although there is clearly some work still to be done, we would also hope that this document is presented in a way that is clear and accessible to staff at a variety of levels.</p>
3) I wonder if there is a way to promote resilience and the strengths of young people to help themselves. It feels a very deficit, organisational document where we as agencies are supporting victims instead of recognising strengths and promoting a positive approach. I'd like to hear what young people feel would be helpful to them both in the way of prevention and also as victims.	See comment 2 in the section above – this is something we are keen to address through the Protect strand.
4) The recognition of young people as potential perpetrators at the start of the document isn't threaded through the remainder of the strategy yet - for example identified as a responsibility for children's social care or youth offending, and with reference to the harmful sexual behaviour service in the area	This will be improved in the final version.
5) Risk factors and the sections on the national/local profile only provide an account of individual characteristics and would benefit from being more contextual - for example - making reference to the localities in which CSE occurs and how young people in these vicinities may be at risk.	This will be improved in the final version. We do have this information via the local problem profile, which needs to be reviewed on a regular basis.
6) It may help to tie some the MsUnderstood actions into the delivery table at the back of the document and	This will be done in the final version.

I can help you identify where to do this	
--	--

Further information:

- Contact Matilda Moss, BSCB Business Manager (mmoss@buckscc.gov.uk)

Many thanks to everyone who responded to the survey – your feedback is helping us to improve the strategy.