

Manchester Complex Safeguarding Hub

Annual Report 2021/2022

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Complex Safeguarding Hub

- Overview of the Complex Safeguarding Hub
- Partnership Arrangements
- Governance, Accountability and Assurance Arrangements
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Complex Safeguarding Hub

- Multi agency co-located hub: Children's Social Care, Police, Health, Trusted Relationship Children's Psychologist, Adult Social Worker, Early Help Team, Missing teams, Probation, virtual links to Youth Justice, Education and Youth Providers.
- Provides joined up response to child sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation and county lines, serious youth violence and links to organised crime and children missing from home and care.
- The hub is intelligence led and provides joint work in managing the response to complex safeguarding and demonstrates good multi agency coordination and planning in response to emerging safeguarding threats.
- Daily risk meetings, mapping, safety planning, joint operations, specialist knowledge and expertise.
- Links into wider social work teams, and multi-agency partnerships
- Trusted relationship model and understanding of vulnerabilities and harm underpins the approach

Governance, accountability and assurance arrangements

- Multi-layered and effective governance arrangements driven by the Complex Safeguarding Executive Partnership Group and Manchester Safeguarding Complex Safeguarding Subgroup.
- Learning from policy, practice, peer reviews, joint governance meetings, audits, feedback and performance information
- Scrutiny and accountability thorough the partnership arrangements.

GM Peer Review

- **Peer review feedback August 2022**
- Four young people's records selected and included an audit of records and conversations with key staff.
- **Findings:**
- Strengths
- Overall positive feedback regarding the strength of the partnership work.
- Good examples of joint working in relation to disruption and support.
- Flexibility and ability of the hub staff in supporting complex vulnerabilities.
- Timely response to health needs and 'think family' approach.
- Areas for further consideration:
- Capacity issues for the CS Specialist Nurse- a proposal paper to increase capacity is being considered.
- Timeliness and improving assessments by social workers - a renewed focus on timeliness of assessment by team managers is delivering improved performance.
- Use role of Trusted Relationship Psychologist more frequently – capacity now increased to offer more frequent case formulation
- Develop contextual approaches – mapping, places and support networks, contextual safeguarding pilot is underway.
- Mapping has influenced the SYV strategy and Engage panels will offer opportunities for further mapping in localities.

Profile of Referrals

- Demand for a service from the Complex Safeguarding Hub remains high, 240 children were referred to the hub in 2021/22
- 54% related of referrals were concerns of child criminal exploitation
- 22% related to concerns of child sexual exploitation.
- The remainder is a combination of multiple exploitation including Threats to Life and harm caused because of serious youth violence
- Gender disparity with 72% of referrals related to boys and 28% related to girls, reflecting the higher number of concerns for CCE and SYV.
- Almost half the children referred into the Hub are aged 15/16 years and almost a quarter aged 17/18 years.

Profile of children open to the Hub

- There were 102 children receiving interventions from the complex safeguarding hub at any one time throughout the year.
- Most children were living at home with family, providing the opportunity for preventative support and reduction in numbers of children becoming cared for.
- Over half of the children the CS Hub are being supported via Child in Need Plans and just over a quarter are 'Our Children'.
- 41% of children referred to the hub have additional needs including special educational needs and learning difficulties.
- Analysis of data demonstrates disproportionality in terms of referrals in relation to young people from Black and minority backgrounds.

Missing from home and care

In 2021/22 there were 4,277 missing episodes reported that related to 1,350 children

- There were 2,684 Independent Return Interviews carried out during 2021/2022
- In August 2021, we held a focus group for young to establish their views on Return Home Interviews to help shape our service. This informed citywide briefings delivered to reduce repeat missing episodes.
- A parenting offer from the Children's Society has supported 47 parent/carers when children have gone missing.
- Subsequently, 92% of parent/carers reporting they are more confident in their parenting following support..
- Support for foster carers has included workshops from the Children's Society to 37 foster carers and residential staff, to raise awareness of the risks of missing from home and the indicators of exploitation

Impact and outcomes

- **Education, Training and Employment - Proportion re-engaged**
 - Where applicable, 66% of children and young people had re-engaged with education, training and employment).
 - **An increase** when compared to 60% in 2020-21.
- **Stable living arrangements**
 - 92% of children and young people were deemed to have a stable living arrangement/accommodation setting)
 - **An increase** when compared to 86% reported in 2020-21
- **Trusted Relationships**
 - 84% were reported to have made at least one trusted relationship during the time they were working with the team .
 - **An increase** when compared to 75% reported in 2021-21.

Impact and outcomes

- A whole family approach is well embedded within the hub with the Complex Safeguarding Early Help team delivering support and interventions to 41 families in the year.
- CSE Nurse has delivered 128 consultations in relation to children in the daily briefings and ensured there was robust information sharing across the health sector in relations to 870 children.
- **Impact statement: The complex safeguarding hub achieves improved safeguarding, and good outcomes for children and young people.**

Case study Operation Swing

- G is a 13-year-old girl referred to the CS Hub, she had been groomed and sexually exploited by a man who had previously been in a relationship with her Auntie who was a young adult. The man had groomed the family into believing he was a trusted adult
- Investigations evidenced a pattern of behavior across several Local Authorities .
- Operation Swing coordinated the investigation across the various councils ensuring a joined-up approach to the victims and evidence gathering.
- A whole family approach has ensured Early Help and Adult services have supported G Mother and Aunt.
- G has developed a trusted relationship with her CS social worker and is now re-engaged with education. The family are supporting the prosecution and the perpetrator has been arrested.

Disruption, prevention and enforcement

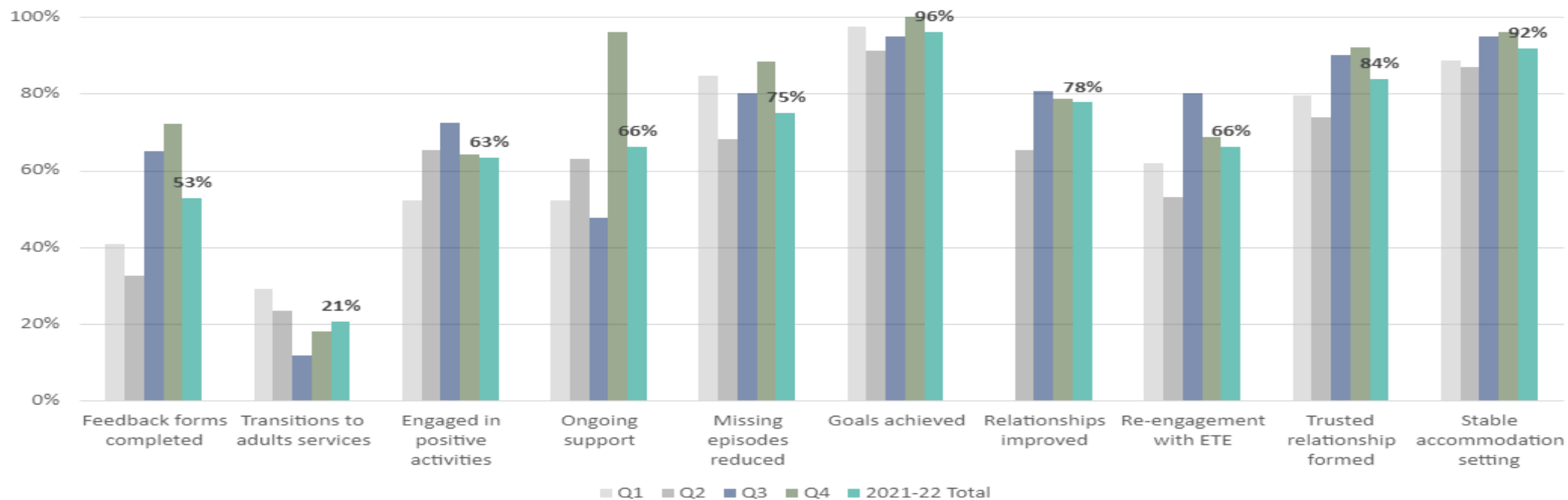
The complex Safeguarding Hub continue to deliver prevention, disruption and enforcement activity in relation to child exploitation and organised crime through joint operations.

- **CSH OPERATIONS**
- Op Luka: City Centre CSE
- OP Chalk: CSE investigation in Piccadilly Gardens
- OP Swing : CSE investigation involving multiple LA's
- OP Brock : CSE
- OP Darrowby: CSE
- OP Makespace: City Centre Policing Operation raising awareness/ training with hotel sector.

Prosecution

- In December 2021 an adult male was sentenced to 7 1/2 years for 4 counts of Sexual Activity with a Child.
- The perpetrator met his 14-year-old victim in Piccadilly Gardens in February 2020 and took her back to his flat where he committed several sexual offences against her.
- During the sentencing, the judge described him as a "sexual predator" who used his "manipulative behaviour to gain access to a vulnerable child for sexual purposes".
- The perpetrator was also given an indefinite Sexual Harm Prevention Order and will face deportation upon his release.
- The complex safeguarding social worker and police officer were both awarded commendations for their joint work and diligence in securing prosecutions.

Outcomes recorded on closure to Complex Safeguarding Teams 2021-22



Case closures 2021/2022

Outcomes recorded upon case closure to the complex safeguarding Hub

Summary

- The annual summary on the CS Hub demonstrates the work of the hub is complex and the model of partnership delivery is effective in preventing, protecting and disrupting exploitation.
- The trusted relationship model, the culture and approach in the hub are effective in achieving engagement and improved outcomes for children and their families.

Priorities 2022/2023

- **Evidencing Impact:** Throughout 'Our Year' the hub will increase participation to ensure we can demonstrate impact and outcomes of our work including young people's experiences.
- **Equity, Diversity and inclusion** we will disparity in referrals for children from minoritized groups, children with additional needs and gender in balance.
- **Transitions:** joint work with colleagues in Adult Social Care, GMP and Health to develop a stronger offer for young people aged 18 at risk of exploitation. We will capture the 'voice of the young person' to inform the service delivery.
- **Achieving Change Together:** develop the ACT model to reflect a whole family approach.