



DORSET POLICE & CRIME PANEL – 11 DECEMBER 2024

CHILD EXPLOITATION

REPORT BY HEAD OF VIOLENCE REDUCTION AND PREVENTION

PURPOSE

This paper provides the panel with an overview of child exploitation in Dorset. This paper also seeks to address the following five Key Lines of Enquiry as provided by the Dorset Police and Crime Panel:

- I. What data is there to illustrate the scale of this nationally and how Dorset compares?*
- II. How are the PCC and the police working with the Local Authorities, schools, and local communities around prevention measures?*
- III. How do we ensure that young people are central to prevention measures with their voice heard including through lived experience?*
- IV. How does this work in practice and which agencies are involved in shaping prevention messages and disseminating them?*
- V. What are the biggest opportunities and challenges in this area for the PCC and Dorset Police?*

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Child abuse, in all forms, is an abhorrent crime, and its prevalence is still largely unknown. Child abuse can be grouped into four categories: neglect; emotional abuse; physical abuse; and sexual abuse. This paper will focus on Child Criminal Exploitation and Child Sexual Exploitation which are generally forms of child abuse experienced outside the family home, perpetrated by peers and people perceived by the victim as trusted adults.
- 1.2. Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) is described as “when an individual or a group manipulates, deceives, coerces, or controls someone under the age of 18 to take part in any activity which breaks the law. All children are at risk of criminal exploitation, including girls¹”. A form of CCE commonly referred to by police and the media is ‘County Lines’ which is when a child is manipulated into dealing drugs or other activities across geographical areas.
- 1.3. Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) “happens when a child or young person is coerced, manipulated or deceived into sexual activity in exchange for things that they may need or want like gifts, drugs, money, status and affection²”. Cases such as those within Rochdale and Rotherham have put a national spotlight on this form of child

¹ Barnardo's, 2024

² NSPCC, 2024

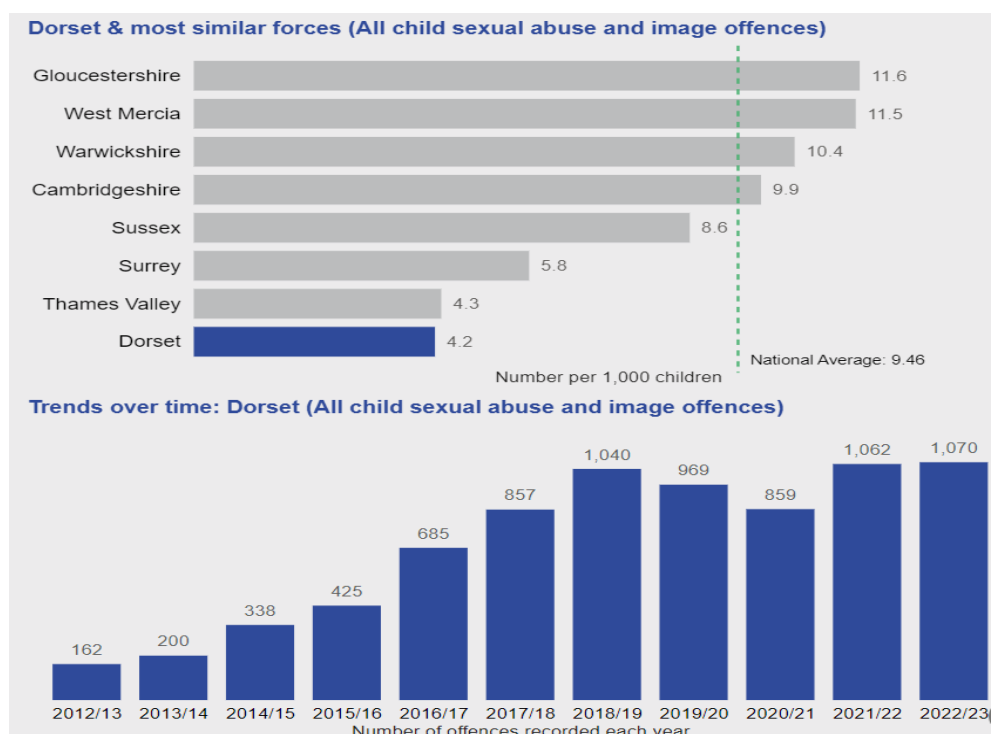
abuse which happens in all communities across the UK often in plain sight of authorities.

- 1.4. The consistent theme with both CCE and CSE is the grooming process a child goes through before the abuse begins. At first, they are led to believe the abuser is a friend and the only person that understands them. The abuser might appear to trust the child to look after an item or keep a secret, they might buy them gifts or give them money. Another common tactic is exposing the child to violence, knives, and drug use. They may also expose the child to pornography that shows violent sex and rape. The exposure to violence and rape alongside the suggestion that this is 'normal' means that when a child first experiences criminal or sexual exploitation, they are less likely to question it or identify it as abuse. The child is unable to see the abuser as a risk, as this person is everything that has been missing in their life.
- 1.5. All children are at risk of CCE/CSE as perpetrators of this crime are skilled and able to adapt their approach depending on the child. That said, some children are at heightened risk of being targeted. Anything within a child's life which can support the abuser to create an imbalance of power is utilised. Children who have had an unstable home environment due to child abuse or another form of Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) are at a heightened risk. Children who are socially isolated and as a result lack a network of supportive safe adults within their community are also at a heightened risk. This isolation could be due to homelessness, mental health issues, being a care leaver, exclusion from mainstream education or having an insecure immigration status. Social isolation and having lived experience of ACEs can often result in the child mistrusting services that should be there to protect them.
- 1.6. Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) often have considerably more resources available to them to aid the exploitation of children than professionals have to safeguard. OCGs are often dynamic to new trends and innovate new methods to target children, while the legal system can struggle to legislate quickly enough to keep apace and protect the public. A current example is that of artificial intelligence (AI) generated child abuse images. AI generated films and videos are created and used to threaten and coerce children into CCE and CSE. As a result of the recent rapid growth of AI tools, there is some broad confusion about the legality of artificially generated child sexual abuse material. This period of confusion amongst professionals, parents and the wider community creates an opportunity for OCGs to continue effective use of this tool.
- 1.7. No one knows the true extent of CCE and CSE in Dorset due to under reporting – and for reasons such as those outlined above – but there is a good understanding of the devastating impact on its victims.
- 1.8. In recent years, the development of research related to ACEs has provided a helpful narrative to better understand the lifelong impact of early adversity, including child abuse. The harm caused by ACEs alone provides a strong justification for implementing strategies to prevent and mitigate them. Adults who experience four or more ACEs (9% of the population) are 4.5x more likely to develop depression and 2x more likely to receive a diagnosis of liver disease. Adults who lived with six or more ACEs are 46x more likely to become an intravenous drug user and 35x more likely to attempt to end their life by suicide³. The predictable poor outcomes for adults who have lived with ACEs adds even more weight to the importance of early identification and swift effective safeguarding responses to children experiencing CCE and CSE.

2. Background

³ Bellis, 2014

- 2.1. Understanding the true picture of CCE and CSE in Dorset is complex due to the ways in which it is recorded. This report has made use of relevant data sets for recorded child sexual abuse, recorded violence against the person where the victim is under 18, Child Abduction Warning Notices (CAWNs) and referrals to the National Referral Mechanism. For the purposes of this document, reports of historic child sexual abuse have been excluded from the data set.
- 2.2. According to the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) 2016, one in five adults aged 18 to 74 experienced at least one form of child abuse before the age of 16. Around three in four victims had not told anyone about the abuse at the time it happened, and the most common reasons cited for not disclosing the abuse were embarrassment or humiliation or thinking that they would not be believed⁴.
- 2.3. Nationally, under-18s make up one-fifth of the population but two-fifths of victims of recorded sexual offences⁵.
- 2.4. In 2022/23 52 children were placed on a child protection plan due to sexual abuse in Dorset, 615 children were assessed as 'at risk of child abuse' (including CSE), 1,070 child sexual offences were recorded by police, and it is estimated that 12,160 children were sexually abused in Dorset⁶.
- 2.5. The table below shows Dorset's reporting rates compared to the most similar force areas. This table includes sexual abuse and image offences where the victim is under 18. Dorset's reported child sexual abuse rates remain low in comparison to other similar areas, but a point of caution should be held here, as explained in section 2.2 within this report, as there remain high numbers of unreported offences.



⁴ ONS 2016

⁵ The Centre of Expertise on Child Abuse, 2024

⁶ The Centre of Expertise on Child Abuse, 2024

- 2.6. There has been a significant increase in reported offences since 2013 which is mainly due to the increase of image offences. There has been a national and international co-ordinated response to identify adults creating, distributing, and downloading child abuse images. This has been responsible for a 14% increase in the recording of child abuse image offences nationally⁷.
- 2.7. As a result of this national and international action, there has been an unprecedented demand on all UK forces, including Dorset Police, as the responsibility falls to the service to determine whether there has been a contact offence and/or whether the suspect has created the child abuse images or downloading them from elsewhere. Similarly, it is crucial to establish whether the pictured victim is a child living within Dorset or not. Upon arrests, suspect's computer equipment is seized to allow for a forensic examination to be completed. Previously this process has created a backlog in crimes not allocated for investigation. Although this backlog has now been cleared, demand is likely to increase going forward as the international effort continues to identify UK residents downloading child abuse images.
- 2.8. The table below shows the top 10 offences reported to Dorset Police in which the victim is a child (Under 18).

Offence Description	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Sexual assault on a female aged 13 and over	76	87	121	137	129	550
Assault without Injury	119	105	90	92	92	498
Assault with Injury	71	84	90	95	108	448
Sexual activity involving a child under 16	62	81	78	91	76	388
Sexual assault on a female child under 13	74	63	72	64	92	365
Rape of a female child under 16	61	32	56	75	64	288
Sexual activity involving a child under 13	53	51	64	60	55	283
Cruelty to children / young persons	94	51	44	28	18	235
Sexual grooming	44	36	48	26	48	202
Rape of a female aged 16 and over	19	33	27	26	19	124

Table 1: Top 10 Offences – Victim under 18.

- 2.9. Although sexual grooming is an offence directly linked to child exploitation, a number of other offences listed here will have taken place in the context of an exploitative relationship. The following table shows the relationship between the suspect and the victim of these offences:

⁷ The Centre of Expertise on Child Abuse, 2024

Offender/Victim Relationship	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Friend/acquaintance/colleague	129	138	114	139	127	647
Family - father	133	96	128	102	119	578
Family - mother	126	93	89	77	60	445
No known relationship	74	59	59	79	88	359
Complete stranger	53	71	78	60	62	324
Other relationship (misc)	63	49	63	63	78	316
Family - other family member	56	63	35	44	41	239
Educational relationship	21	25	59	58	68	231
Online/internet/social media	23	36	56	55	54	224
Ex spouse/cohabitee/partner	33	26	50	41	43	193
Spouse/cohabitee/partner	12	19	20	17	16	84

Table 2: Offender/Victim Relationship

2.10. Child safeguarding risks have traditionally been associated with the family home environment and linked to parenting capacity. However, the table above shows the increased risk posed by people outside the family home. This is referred to as *extra-familial harm*, where risk of harm comes from other sources, or contexts, including, for example, from drugs, gangs, youth violence, bullying, missing from care or home, radicalisation, trafficking, modern day slavery, sexual and criminal exploitation.

2.11. The final table below outlines the outcomes for the offences detailed above:

Status	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Victim declines/withdraws support - named suspect identified	150	156	202	231	226	965
Other body/agency has investigation primacy	253	193	200	155	150	951
Police - named suspect, victim supports but evidential difficulties	114	117	127	99	135	592
Victim declines/unable to support action to identify offender	86	73	89	90	100	438
Investigation complete no suspect identified	65	59	69	79	70	342
Charged	28	29	30	26	22	135
Summoned/postal requisition	20	26	37	24	13	120
Police - named suspect, investigation not in the public interest	20	19	24	24	22	109
CPS - named suspect, victim supports but evidential difficulties	17	25	7	10	9	68
Police - formal action not in public interest	10	10	12	16		48

Table 3 : Offence Outcomes for Table 1

2.12. The high number of crimes where the outcome is 'Victim declines/withdraws support' is an area of concern. Nationally, there has been a charge in around 11% of child sexual abuse cases. Of the reported offences in Table 1 which related to sexual abuse of a child, no more than 6% have resulted in a charge. Cases where another "Agency has investigation primacy" generally relates to cases where the safeguarding of the child is the priority. In these cases, Children's Social Care become the lead investigation agency, supported by Dorset Police.

2.13. Child Abduction Warning Notices (CAWN) are a non-statutory notice that is issued to disrupt an adult's association with a child and to warn the adult that the association could result in arrest and prosecution. When Dorset Police becomes aware of a child spending time with an adult who they believe could be harmful a CAWN is a key tool to disrupt this relationship. In 2022 Dorset Police issued 25 CWANs, in 2023 29 were issued, and in 2024 so far 19 have been issued at the time of writing.

- 2.14. Human trafficking involves the recruitment or movement of people for exploitation by the use of threat, force, fraud, or the abuse of vulnerability. Human trafficking is often associated with the movement of people across borders but in the context of CCE and CSE, the Police would consider a child being moved from one address to another as Human Trafficking. Police and Local Authorities are the only local 'First Responders' able to refer into the National Referral Mechanism (NRM). The NRM is the national framework for identifying and referring victims of modern slavery and trafficking. When Dorset Police identifies a child who they believe is being trafficked as a victim of CCE or CSE, they will complete an NRM which is administered by the Home Office. The Home Office will then investigate any child referred to the NRM who is at least 100 days from their 18th birthday to determine if they are a victim of trafficking.
- 2.15. If it transpires that a child was coerced to commit crimes because of their exploitation, they may not be subject to prosecution for certain crimes, known as a Section 45 defence. Other outcomes of a successful NRM referral may include recognition amongst professionals that the child may be subject to certain vulnerabilities or have certain support needs, improving their support. It may also counter unconscious bias in professionals about a child's presentation. A successful referral may also support a positive transition from child to adult services. In other areas, the child would also have access to the Independent Child Trafficking Guardian service, currently not offered to Dorset residents.
- 2.16. The below table provides the numbers of referrals to the NRM made by Dorset Police:

Financial Year	Number of Referrals	Exploitation Type
20/21	17	Criminal
21/22	22	Criminal 18, Sexual 1, Multiple 1, Unknown 2
22/23	22	Criminal 15, Sexual 2, Multiple 2, Labour 2, Unknown 1
23/24	35	Criminal 28, Sexual 1, Multiple 2, Labour 1, Unknown 3

Of note from the table above is the higher level of referrals due to criminal exploitation. There is a noticeable difference between the County and BCP localities in the exploitation type most identified. The County area is more likely to identify sexual exploitation whereas the BCP area are more likely to identify criminal exploitation.

3. Prevention Measures in Dorset and BCP

- 3.1. Earlier in this paper, the long-term negative outcomes for adults who have experienced ACEs was outlined. It is by no means set in stone that a child who has experienced adversity will have a life of adversity ahead. It is important to note that a high proportion of children who live with adversity are supported to build resilience through positive activities, positive relationships with safe adults, build aspirations, feeling part of a community and building skills to manage emotions and impulsivity. A high proportion of the work force supporting children at risk of CCE and CSE are adults who have lived experience of ACEs who have been able to build resilience and skills which equips them to deliver high quality impactive interventions for some of our most vulnerable children and to deliver prevention education.

- 3.2. Although Dorset Police is a pan-Dorset service, the organisation supports the location-based response in place which is led by the two local authorities. Both local authorities use a risk assessment tool which evidences a child as being at emerging risk, moderate risk, or significant risk of exploitation. Children assessed as moderate or emerging risk are managed at a local level by the Neighbourhoods teams. Children assessed as 'significant risk' are managed by the Safeguarding Team who have specialist knowledge and training of child exploitation. As well as being open to the Safeguarding Team, children assessed as 'significant risk' are referred into a multi-agency meeting to support the creation of a multi-agency management plan. Both in Dorset and BCP multi-agency settings, the voice of the child is central to safeguarding decisions and risk management plans.
- 3.3. BCP host a partnership meeting called the Missing, Exploited, Trafficked (MET) panel chaired by BCP Children's Social Care. The MET panel consists of a multi-agency group with a knowledge of the child at risk. This group meet fortnightly to consider concerns about all forms of child exploitation, particularly focussing on identifying the links between children, places they go to and the people who exploit them. Children discussed here have been assessed as high risk following the completion of the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation Screening tool.
- 3.4. Dorset County host the Extra Familial Risk and Harm Panel, a partnership meeting, hosted by Dorset Council Childrens Social Care. This multi-agency group meet weekly with a rolling locality agenda. The Dorset risk assessment tool is different to that used by BCP so the cohort of children discussed can differ. This can mean that due to a child's lived experience of ACEs or their current mental health they are assessed at 'significant risk' even when there is no clear evidence the child is currently being exploited. This is commendable practice in terms of early intervention, but this does result in the Safeguarding Team discussing cases that will be managed by Neighbourhood Teams in the community.
- 3.5. Dorset Police is a key partner aiding the positive outcomes for children discussed within both multi agency meetings. Dorset Police not only focuses on the safeguarding of the victim but also develops disruption plans to target known offenders and locations of concern. Disruption plans will utilise police powers specifically designed to target perpetrators of child exploitation such as CAWNs, but will also involve creative deployment of other policing teams such as Traffic who can target offenders for other offences such as driving drunk/drug driving, driving without a licence or without insurance.
- 3.6. Research consistently tells us that victims of sexual abuse are unlikely to disclose to services, note 2.2 of this report. Understanding this, Dorset Police has developed the [Community Partnership Intelligence](#) scheme. By visiting this link, professionals are able to share intelligence related to adults of concern, locations of concern and children of concern. Dorset Police is promoting this across all partner organisations, to build confidence in reporting information, however insignificant it may seem, to help create the local picture. The Community Partnership Intelligence scheme is a tool for all professionals to support building the local intelligence picture which is crucial to aid the long-term reduction of CCE and CSE. This approach puts the onus on the professionals to disclose the risks rather than waiting for a child to make a disclosure.
- 3.7. Operation Makesafe is a national initiative focused on making sure that the public and people working in the business sectors are aware of the early warning signs of child exploitation and know how to report concerns to the police. The Safeguarding

team from Dorset Police attends quarterly meetings to support the national coordination of this operation.

- 3.8. In 2020, the OPCC developed education videos for hotels and other business venues that perpetrators may use to facilitate CCE and CSE. The videos educate on the warning signs that a child is being exploited and gives helpful guidance on appropriate safeguarding responses. These videos were launched as part of planned activity under Op Makesafe in 2020. Raising awareness of CCE and CSE within the business community creates a shared responsibility to safeguard children.
- 3.9. Hotel watch is a scheme co-ordinated by Dorset Police. The scheme is used to educate the hotel community about CCE and CSE as well as other related safeguarding matters such as County Lines. As well as promoting educational messages to hotels, including the videos described above, hoteliers are able to share intelligence, and Dorset Police use the scheme to support the location of missing people and people of interest.
- 3.10. The Safer Schools and Communities Team (SSCT) is a partnership between Dorset Police, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Dorset Combined Youth Justice Service with a remit to provide targeted interventions to prevent and reduce anti-social behaviour and crime amongst children and young people and help keep them safe in a digital world. The capacity for the Safer Schools team to deliver these vital sessions has reduced in recent years. As a result, the team has collated several of their own produced resources and those from national and local services to offer specialist support and advice on a wide range of needs, concerns, and topics. These resources can be accessed and downloaded by schools via the Dorset Police website to aid the delivery of consistent education and harm reduction. Specific sessions are available covering the topic of CCE and CSE. These sessions explain the grooming process, describe what a healthy relationship should look and feel like and advice on spotting the signs of CCE and CSE within participant peer groups.
- 3.11. A consistent driver for young people choosing to carry a knife is fear of serious violence. According to a recent report by the Youth Endowment Fund, 67% of children aged 13-17 are worried about becoming a victim of violence. The same report highlights that *“violence is most concentrated among children who are persistently absent, excluded from school, have special educational needs, are supported by social workers, or are at risk of exploitation⁸”*.
- 3.12. Firearms and Knife Education (FAKE) is an education session, delivered by the Firearms Unit, to challenge the notion that carrying a knife is normal and acceptable. The session is also designed to reduce the fear amongst children which will help reduce the chances of them choosing to carry a knife. Children participate in an interactive session during which they learn the law related to carrying a knife, the impact of knife crime on the victim and wider community, and what to do if someone they know is stabbed. All participants are left with the clear message that you are at greater risk of being stabbed by your own knife if you choose to carry one. The OPCC has created four films which feature in this session providing insight into knife crime from different perspectives including an Emergency Department Consultant; a police officer who was the first responder to a fatal stabbing; the mother of Cameron Hamilton; and the perspective of a young man who used to carry a knife when involved in county lines. The session is extremely impactful and engages the audience in a difficult conversation. During November, as part of Operation Sceptre,

⁸ Youth Endowment Fund 2024.

this session was delivered to 3,156 children across schools and alternative education provisions in Dorset.

- 3.13. As part of the Serious Violence Duty, each Community Safety Partnership (CSP) has completed a needs assessment to better understand the local drivers and causes of serious violence. The OPCC is the Convening Authority of the Serious Violence Duty Fund that each CSP has been allocated to respond to the identified drivers for serious violence. BCP CSP, in partnership with the OPCC, planned and delivered a Knife Crime Month of Action which provided a range of activities to raise awareness of the dangers of knife crime. BCP CSP have also funded a mobile youth café which is deployed to hotspot areas to provide a safe space for young people to engage with positive role models and engage in activities to build their pro-social values. Dorset CSP have funded a youth project to target boys and young men at risk of carrying a knife. This program covers a range of topics with the aim of building young men's pro-social identity.
- 3.14. According to research commissioned by the Home Office, there are two consistent drivers to serious violence – drugs and vulnerability⁹. In September 2022 the Dorset Combatting Drugs Partnership Board was established, chaired by the Dorset PCC. This partnership approach to tackling drugs within Dorset has three key areas of work – enforcement; prevention; and treatment and recovery – and targets the driver to serious violence related to drugs. Some of the key achievements of this group in the last 12 months have included establishing drug testing on arrival to custody for suspects of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) offences; the development of a Synthetic Opioid Preparedness plan to deal with the growing risk related to nitazines entering the drugs market; and the successful engagement of 99 young people to support the development of prevention education resources.

4. Co-Creation with Young People

- 4.1. The OPCC is committed to listening to children and young people and co-creating our response to CCE and CSE. It is understood that there are a number of barriers for some communities of children and young people to feel safe and enabled to participate in conversations with public bodies. Since coming into post, the OPCC's Violence Reduction and Prevention team have been scoping an approach to create meaningful participation opportunities for children and young people across Dorset.
- 4.2. The PCC and his Office are committed to getting things right and so will ensure that approach is carefully developed, allowing time for regular evaluations and improvements. The OPCC approach will be broken down into three main areas of development to ensure that a wide breadth and depth of voices are heard.
- 4.3. Firstly, the OPCC is working with organisations already supporting youth participation such as the Children's Rights and Engagement team in BCP, the Targeted Youth Service in Dorset, Dorset Police Cadet, the Youth Justice Service and Community Action Network (CAN). The OPCC is developing a participation pack which can be used by these 'community assets' to facilitate safe and meaningful participation.
- 4.4. To ensure the OPCC's Youth Participation Strategy is meaningful for young people, capturing 'voice' is not enough. The Office needs to facilitate a two-way ongoing conversation through which young people can see their influence on decision making. As the partnership builds trust with young people through the community asset-based participation in year one, the OPCC will seek young people's views on the ideal

⁹ Sarah Kincaid, 2021

approach to a youth voice network. To start with: is this something young people want? If so, what is the best model to adopt?

- 4.5. The third area of youth participation relates to targeted projects where the OPCC and partner agencies may want to hear from children and young people with a particular lived experience. This area of participation would be delivered through interviews or focus groups, facilitated by a skilled practitioner.

5. Opportunities and Challenges Ahead

- 5.1. Dorset is not a funded Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) area, but the PCC has committed funding to lay the groundwork and build on the positive progress made by our local CSPs, as part of his commitment to tackling serious violence as detailed within his Police and Crime Plan. The foundations for a VRU are Multi-Agency working; data sharing and analysis; engaging young people and communities; and commissioning evidence based interventions. The Youth Participation strategy detailed above will be supported by a needs assessment which will pull together all relevant data sets to help the OPCC better understand local trends and drivers for serious violence.
- 5.2. As highlighted in this paper, there is significant research and evidence which indicates what may increase a child's vulnerability to CCE and CSE. The ambition is that the OPCC VRU and Prevention team will work with partners to create and commission early interventions that are accessible to children, before they are targeted and groomed, before they are carrying a knife or become a victim of sexual abuse. This approach will be impactful in preventing a number of ACEs and ultimately support positive outcomes for the children and young people of Dorset.
- 5.3. Research from the US has highlighted that the long-term impact on serious organised crime is significantly improved when you take a 'Place Network Investigation' (PNI) approach. This not only takes into consideration the hot spots of reported crime but also looks at social networks, how offenders create links with children and crime infrastructures, the venues used to facilitate CCE and CSE¹⁰. Dorset Police has already embedded a 'Hotspot' policing model. Building on the progress made here, the Community Partnership Intelligence scheme is a tool that could be utilised to support the local partnership to build a PNI approach supporting long term consistent reductions in serious violence and exploitation of Dorset children.
- 5.4. The Serious Violence Duty Guidance is currently under review, a refreshed version due for publication in March 2025. The refreshed guidance will include 'Prevention Partnerships' which is a partnership response to children at risk of CCE, CSE and other forms of serious violence. Section 3.2 of this paper highlighted the frameworks in place to safeguard children assessed as a potential victim of CCE and CSE. Although there are robust multi-agency responses in place for children assessed as at 'Significant' risk, there is more that should be done for those children assessed as at 'emerging risk'. A Prevention Partnership is a multi-agency group that focuses on those children at emerging risk and will create accountability at the earliest possible opportunity. The details and financial support for the establishment of a Prevention Partnership is still unclear, but this provides an opportunity and a framework to consider prevention intervention for children identified as vulnerable.
- 5.5. A key challenge is the uncertain financial investment from central government. All agencies working to safeguard our children are dealing with financial hardship. The

¹⁰ Herold, 2010

PCC is working hard to lobby government to deliver long term sustainable funding to continue our fight against CCE and CSE. The PCC and his Office are also working to build better collaborative relationships with partners to ensure that the funding that is available is best put to use to provide the best possible service for Dorset.

- 5.6. CCE and CSE are complex issues that impact people, communities, and services across our society, spanning health, housing, social care, the Criminal Justice System, voluntary sector and beyond. Agencies and organisations are often responding to one aspect of the issue and/or the same problem from different angles. These same agencies also have their own, sometimes conflicting processes, responsibilities, and measures of success. An opportunity and a challenge relate to a co-ordinated community response in which victims of CCE and CSE receive a whole system response. By looking to communities and voluntary sector partners to a whole system approach can be co-created which will improve access to services and reduce the pressure on statutory providers.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1. Members are asked to note the report.
- 6.2. Members are further asked to raise awareness of the Community Intelligence Scheme within their wards.

RACHEL YOUNG HEAD OF VIOLENCE REDUCTION AND PREVENTION

Members' Enquiries to: Adam Harrold, Director of Operations (01202) 229084

Media Enquiries to: Susan Bloss, Head of Communications & Engagement (01202) 229095